NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

VOL. II—No. 1 | January 2, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

LABOR BOARD REPORT RAPS BETHLEHEM STEEL

Clothing Workers To Give $250,000 To Refugees

NEW YORK—CIO clothing workers here have decided to show their feelings about Nazi terror against Jews, Catholics and other minorities in a thoroughly practical way.

Thirty thousand of them represented in the Joint Board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers have voted to donate a day's pay to aid European refugees of all faiths.

Louis Hollander, leader of the Joint Board and City Councilman, announced that the sum collected would exceed $250,000.

Threaten Taxi Strike In Gotham

NEW YORK — Leaders of the Transport Workers Union this week threatened a city-wide taxi strike on New Year's eve unless operators change their position and agree to renewal of the union's contracts, which expire at the year's end.

A cabmen's strike would halt the rolling of thousands of cabs and would affect about 11,000 men in the industry, including drivers and maintenance workers.

The large fleet facing the possibility of union action include Parmalee, Terminal, Sunshine, Bell and Atlas.

Eugene Connolly, head of the TWU taxi division, said the union is pressing for "substantial wage increases and improvement of working conditions.

"We are demanding stronger contract enforcement, and particularly safeguards against racketeering elements within the industry."

The District Attorney's office, he added, has only scratched the surface of racketeering in the industry. Though the public has been told of bribery and political racketeering, he asserted, "vicious strong-arm rackets still exist and must be wiped out."

Aetna Life To Rehire CIO Member

New York — CIO insurance workers in the Aetna Life Company here have won a completely satisfactory settlement of their complaint filed with the National Labor Relations Board.

Aetna has agreed to reinstate a worker fired for activity in the CIO United Office and Professional Workers with back pay, and to post a promise never to coerce, intimidate or discriminate against workers who join the union.

The Aetna company is one of the largest in the field, with assets of close to half a billion dollars.

ASK OBSERVER

At the same time the Industrial Insurance Agents Union, affiliated to the Office and Professional Workers, moved to secure investigation of monopolistic practices of Metropolitan Life, asking the U. S. Monopoly Committee to send an observer to forthcoming State Labor Board hearings in New York.

The request was made on the basis of a complaint by the State Board that Metropolitan, a five-billion-dollar outfit, was using policy-holders money to support a company union and for other forms of anti-labor activity.

Since Metropolitan is a mutual concern, all its funds theoretically are under the control of the policy-holders, Leon W. Berney, organizer for the insurance agents union, pointed out.

Company Union Under Attack; 100,000 Affected

(See Story Page Three)

WASHINGTON — The National Labor Relations Board made it four straight against the anti-union employers of Little Steel this week, as a trial examiner's intermediate report found the Bethlehem Steel Corp. guilty of violating the Wagner Act.

Trial Examiner Frank Bloom recommended to the Board that it order Bethlehem's company union dissolved and that it force the corporation to enable its workers to join legitimate labor organizations. His report, affecting 100,000 workers, was based on hearings held in Johnstown, Pa., between September, 1937, and July, 1938.

The report was sharply critical of Bethlehem's activities during the 1937 strike. It condemned the corporation's contributions to the the Citizens' Committee formed in Johnstown for strikebreaking purposes, and to Mayor Daniel Shields of Johnstown.

Unless the corporation makes fundamental changes in its labor policy, 1939 will be an unhappy year for the firm, second largest steel producer in the nation, it is expected.

In addition to the Labor Board action, the Department of Labor is preparing to name minimum wage rates for firms holding government steel contracts of more than $10,000. If this rate is set at 62½c an hour, as the public contracts board recommended, Bethlehem will be forced to raise its wage rates by more than 10 per cent.

Meanwhile, the CIO will press the new session of Congress to adopt legislation barring government contracts from firms which violate the Wagner Act. This bill, prevented from passage last year only through the actions of a reactionary House Rules Committee, will receive strong backing from CIO unions and progressive forces throughout the nation.

CIO Union Certified In Two Plants

Washington—The United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, CIO, won certification as sole bargaining agency in two important plants last week, in orders isued by the National Labor Relations Board, covering workers at the Chicago Westinghouse Co. and the White Sewing Machine Corp., Cleveland.

At the Hatfield Wire and Cable Co., Hillside, N. J., an order and stipulation announced by the Board required the reinstatement of 87 employes with back pay totaling $15,000. The workers are members of Local 403, UERMW.

The company also agreed to bargain collectively upon request with the CIO union as sole representative of its employes at its Hillside and Hackettstown plants.

The Board's action in the Westinghouse and White Sewing Machine companies, was based on a comparison of union membership cards with the companies' payrolls.

Fight Hague Court Appeal

The U. S. circuit court of appeals, sitting in Philadelphia, heard defense counsel fight Mayor Frank Hague's appeal from an injunction restraining the Jersey City czar and his henchmen from interfering with the rights of the CIO. Left to right: Charles Herschenstein, Dean Spaulding Frazer of Newark University law school, David Stauffer, Morris Ernst and E. J. O'Marra. Frazer and Ernst are counsel for the CIO in the case.

Auto Union Wins Three Board Cases

Washington.—The United Automobile Workers, CIO, has won three recent victories under rulings of the National Labor Relations Board.

The Muncie Gear Works, Inc., Muncie, Ind., by an order and stipulation was required to give up its company union, to stop interfering with UAW Local 459 and to reinstate two employes with reimbursement of $200 each.

At the Electric Auto-Lite Co., Toledo, Ohio, UAW Local 12 was certified as sole bargaining agency for production and non-production factory employes, following an election won by the CIO union, 2,749 to 218.

In a third case, the Labor Board announced an order and stipulation requiring the Radcliff Motor Co., Kansas City, Mo., to reinstate with back pay and full seniority 15 employes admittedly discharged for membership and activity in UAW Local 447. The back pay awarded to the workers totaled $4,000.

Canadian Labor Congress Clings to Unity Course Despite AFL Threats

By WILLIAM THOMAS

TORONTO, Canada—If there is to be expulsion of CIO unions from the fold of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada it must be done directly by the executive council of the American Federation of Labor and will not be undertaken by the Canadian Congress, R. J. Tallon, Congress secretary, declared on his return from an interview with federation chieftains in Washington.

The threatened ouster of CIO unions from the Congress as demanded by leaders of the AFL remains undecided, Mr. Tallon reported.

"The AFL has absolute authority over jurisdictional disputes between its affiliated unions both in the United States and Canada, but the AFL never has had legislative authority over the Congress," Mr. Tallon explained, referring to the decision of the AFL Houston convention which deprived the Congress of its chartering powers.

"The Congress has complete authority over legislative affairs, including local trades councils," the Congress secretary emphasized.

AFL President William Green had already ordered CIO unions ousted from several Canadian trades councils (Central Labor Councils), the Toronto District Labor Council having received the third or fourth order but recently.

FIGHT SPLIT

In each case the councils in reply have passed resolutions urging the AFL to respect the autonomy of the Trades and Labor Congress and the Canadian labor movement and protesting against any moves to create division in its ranks.

According to the Congress secretary's report the AFL will probably undertake expulsion proceedings against CIO unions through its international affiliates which will order their Canadian locals to withdraw from existing central labor councils.

The Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and the International Association of Machinists have already threatened to withdraw their locals from the Congress. Local reactionary officers of the Musical Protective Association have also threatened withdrawal.

Since the AFL expelled CIO internationals in the United States in 1936, leaders of the Trades and Labor Congress and local unions have managed to maintain a united movement in the dominion with the exception of Hamilton, Ont., despite great pressure from the AFL Executive Council.

However, there is a determined drive by AFL leaders from the United States and some of their representatives here to expel the CIO unions. Since their attempts have proven fruitless in the face of a determined demand for unity it is believed they will try to force withdrawals of their own locals from the Congress and central councils in an effort to weaken them.

If all CIO-affiliated Canadian locals are expelled from the Congress, it will lose over 30,000 members, Mr. Tallon estimated, and that number will offset the gain of 30,000 members reported at the September convention of the Congress in Niagara Falls.

WITHDRAWAL SEEN

In addition, should a split be forced, there are various unions with AFL affiliation which might consider withdrawing in protest against the action.

Mr. Tallon was accompanied to Washington by Vice-Presidents Raoul Trepanier and Percy R. Bengough. They conferred for two days with President William Green and a committee of the AFL executive council.

Chinese Drop Picket Line Around Boat for Japan

SAN FRANCISCO — (FP) — To avoid inconvenience to unions and to prevent closing of the port with repercussions along the entire west coast, Chinese demonstrators have abandoned picketing of the Greek freighter Spyros, loading scrap iron for Japan. Leaders will undertake a nationwide campaign for a Japanese embargo.

Before disbanding the pickets marched past the hall of the International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union, CIO, singing and shouting, "Thanks, longshoremen!"

The union men had refused to cross the Chinese picket lines.

Textile Union Leaders Rap Gorman in Charges

WASHINGTON—Charges of anti-union activity, dual unionism, and violation of contract between the Textile Workers Organizing Committee and the United Textile Workers of America have been filed against Francis Gorman, former member of the TWOC Advisory Council.

The charges were filed with James Starr, Secretary-Treasurer of the United Textile Workers, by George Baldanzi, UTW vice-president, and Frank Benti, vice-president, Dyers' Federation.

Starr announced that he had called a meeting of the Executive Council of the United Textile Workers, of which Gorman was formerly president, in New York for Wednesday, January 4, at which Gorman will be invited to hear the charges against him.

THREE POINTS

Starr also announced that the charges would be based on three main points:

1. Sponsoring dual unionism in attempting to withdraw the UTW from the TWOC, and in announcing his own membership in the AFL.

2. Violation of the UTW constitution in attempting to remove the Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer from office.

3. Repudiation of the contract between the TWOC and the UTWA, entered into in good faith by the Executive Council of the UTW at the time of signing, and supported whole-heartedly by the UTW since that time.

On the third point, Starr explained tht Gorman had signed this contract himself when the TWOC was formed, that the contract was made on his initiative and that his attempt to violate it now on the pretense that a court decision in Providence, R. I., had set it aside was clear evidence of anti-union activity.

Starr pointed out in addition that the calling of a hearing on the charges against Gorman at which he was invited to be present was in sharp contrast to Gorman's undemocratic action in attempting to dismiss the officers of the UTW without any attempt at a trial.

CIO Textile Union Signs 21 New Pacts

New York — Contracts signed with 21 firms employing 600 persons and three National Labor Relations Board victories were announced this week by Emil Rieve, executive director of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee.

Agreements have been concluded with the Columbus Yarn Company, West New York, N. J., the Long Life Elastic Manufacturing Company, Haverstraw, N. Y., and the Crown Products Company, Philadelphia.

NEW JERSEY PLANTS

In addition, 15 manufacturing companies in the bias binding industry of New York City and three silk weaving companies in Paterson, N. J., signed up with the union. Other new agreements are being negotiated in every section of the country.

The Labor Board victories include the decision by the NLRB that the Western Felt Works, Chicago, must abolish its company union, reinstate 80 workers with back pay and sign an agreement.

Company unions in the Oneita Knitting Mills and the Atlas Underwear Company, Richmond, Ind., were also disestablished.

Unity

Seattle—A substantial step for unity with organized workers regardless of affiliation has just been taken by the CIO Longshoremen and Warehousemen in this city.

They have opened the doors of their union hiring hall, won through bitter struggle in 1934 and again in 1936, to a local of the AFL Teamsters for extra work. Already more than 100 Teamsters have been dispatched from the Longshoremens' hall.

New Homes For Old

A department dealing with the need for better housing and how to obtain it, conducted by the CIO Committee on Housing.

By THOMAS HUMPHRIES

"Why so much fuss about housing?"

It was a young CIO'er speaking. He laughed as he asked the question.

"Of course, we're for a larger housing program. Of course, we want more housing projects. Of course, we have to put our shoulders behind the movement to have Congress increase the USHA program. . . . .

"But isn't that enough? Why must we have housing drummed into our ears so much? Why must we have so many housing pamphlets, housing columns, housing speeches? Why?

In answering this question, there is little need to point out the value of a large-scale housing program to CIO people.

Any CIO'er realizes that more low-rent housing would mean less slums. Everyone knows that more housing means more jobs, that government-subsidized housing should become the foundation of any long-term public works program.

SUPPORT NECESSARY

But what everyone doesn't realize is this: without active, intelligent support of housing in every city and town the odds will be against public housing's developing successfully.

Under the USHA program, housing is entirely a local matter. The government can't just come in and tear down a slum area and replace it with a beautiful new housing project.

Before any slums can be torn down or any projects can be built, there must be a state housing act (as there already are in 33 States) and a local housing authority. These are the first problems that must be faced by the local trade unions.

The CIO stands for a housing enabling act in every State, a housing authority in every city and town, and at least one union man on every housing authority.

Often, to achieve these objectives, a prolonged fight is necessary. In Illinois the labor movement has long been trying to get a workable state housing law—but has not yet suceeded. In Portland, Oregon, in Indianapolis, in Providence, in Richmond, in Wilkes-Barre—to give a few examples—there are still no housing authorities.

In important industrial centers such as New York, Detroit, Birmingham, Toledo and San Francisco, there is no CIO representation on the local housing authorities—as yet.

STAFFS, SURVEYS, SPEED

But getting a good housing authority in your town is only the first step.

The authority must also hire a staff to prepare its plans. To do this, it must usually get money from the city—as a gift or a loan. In Scranton, Pa.—to cite one of the worst examples—plans for a $1,000,000 project have gone up in smoke because City Council refused to advance enough money for a small staff.

In many towns housing surveys are necessary. Yet San Francisco's city council is holding up approval of a WPA survey—merely because there isn't yet strong enough public support for such a survey.

In other towns there are other obstacles to cut down the speed of the housing program. In some places the enemies of better housing oppose local housing projects because they would be tax exempt. In some places opposition comes from the banks with heavy investments in the slum areas.

In Los Angeles the city administration has held up a $25,000,000 housing project on the fictitious excuse that it would conflict with a certain clause in the city charter. On occasions such as these it is time for all good union men and true to rally to the cause of slum clearance and better low-rent housing.

Rathborne Re-elected

New York — With reports in from the marine unions, final results of the national referendum conducted by the American Communications Association have been announced by the CIO union.

Complete returns from all divisions of the union showed that the new constitution was ratified by a vote of 3,134 to 886, receiving a substantial majority in each division.

Mervyn Rathborne, who ran unopposed for national president, received 3,822 votes, while Chester H. Jordan won the vice-presidency of the Marine Division over Roy A. Pyle by only one vote.

Resolution 27 in support of "our trade union brothers" in Loyalist Spain was adopted by a vote of 2,118 to 1953.

Total valid votes cast by all divisions numbered 4,366. The ACA is composed of the following divisions: Broadcast, Marine, Point-to-Point Radio, Cable and Aviation, and Telegraph.

UAW GIFTS

Detroit—Some 10,000 copies of Upton Sinclair's book, The Flivver King, a story based on the biography of Henry Ford, were handed out as Christmas presents to Ford workers by the United Automobile Workers, CIO.

Lumber Firm Told to Stop Vigilantes

Washington. — The Red River Lumber Company, $3,500,000 concern operating in Westwood, California, has been ordered by the Labor Board to stop organizing vigilante gangs to break up the union among its employees. The majority of the workers belong to the International Woodworkers of America, CIO.

The Board's order is based on a stipulation under which the company agreed to discourage any "invasions of the civil rights of its employees" or their families on account of union affiliation; to stop hindering membership in the IWA, and to refrain from aiding the AFL Brotherhood of Carpenters.

Under the terms of the stipulation, the company and its agents are directed to stop "urging, persuading or warning" its employes to form any kind of labor organization, to refrain from making a closed shop union contract without majority representation, and to stop contributing "financial or other support" to the local of the Industrial Employes Union, Inc., an outgrowth of the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen.

Fishermen's Council Ratifies Decision To Join CIO

SAN FRANCISCO — The Federated Fishermen's Council, representing 20,000 Pacific coast fishermen, voted almost unanimously at its convention held here to ratify acceptance of a CIO international charter. There was only one dissenting vote.

The new CIO union will be known as the International Fishermen & Allied Workers of America, and will have jurisdiction over all fishermen and workers "engaged in catching, transportation and shore-side and off-shore work in the fish industry with the exception of fish processing."

Jay Jurich of Seattle, was elected president of the Pacific Coast division of the new international, and Martin Olsen, Oakland, Calif., was elected secretary-treasurer.

Bellingham, Wash., was chosen as the 1939 convention city.

AFFILIATES JOINED

The two largest affiliates of the former Council, the Alaska Fishermen's Union and the United Fishermen's Union of the Pacific, had previously joined the CIO. The UFU was granted three provisional charters in November 1938, covering the headquarters, the Puget Sound, and the California districts.

The Alaska Fishermen began a referendum on affiliation in March 1938 which was completed in October, with a vote of 1,772 to 929 in favor of the CIO.

League Issues Pamphlet On Wagner Act

Washington. — Labor's Non-Partisan League has issued a 40-page pamphlet summarizing reasons why the Wagner Act should not be amended.

Title of the pamphlet is: "Protect the National Labor Relations Act — It Protects You."

Copies are being distributed through League branches and affiliates, or may be ordered from the national office of the League, 1037 Earle Building, Washington, D. C.

Bethlehem Steel's Fake Union Faces Axe After 20-Year Career

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON — A National Labor Relations Board trial examiner's report this week recommended that the Bethlehem Steel Corp., largest and most important of the Little Steel concerns, dissolve its 20-year-old company union and stop interfering with the rights of its 100,000 employes to join a labor union of their own choosing.

The recommendations were made in the form of an intermediate report filed by Trial Examiner Frank Bloom, who had presided at hearings which stretched over a 10-month period.

If the Board upholds his recommendations, all of the corporations involved in the Little Steel strike of 1937 will have been found guilty of violating the Wagner Act. Cases against Inland Steel, Republic Steel and Youngstown Sheet and Tube are already in the courts, following Board decrees ordering dissolution of company unions and an end to opposition to bona fide labor organizations.

The Bethlehem company unions were formed in 1918 and have been maintained ever since at the corporation's plants in Johnstown, Bethlehem, Steelton, Lebanon, Rankin and Leedsdale, Pa.; Lackawanna and Blasdell, New York, and Sparrows Point, Md.

LOWER WAGES

How the company union outfits worked was demonstrated at hearings before the U. S. Department of Labor's Public Contracts Board last summer. At that time Philip Murray, chairman of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, pointed out that Bethlehem's wage rates were lower than those of most of its competitors, in some cases almost 10c an hour lower.

The Department of Labor is taking under consideration at the present time demands that it rescind a preliminary order fixing 62½c-an-hour as the minimum pay for work on government contracts. If the ruling, made under the terms of the Walsh-Healey Act, is allowed to stand, Bethlehem's wage bill will be increased by millions.

WENT THROUGH MOTIONS

The Labor Board official maintained in his report that the company had merely gone through the motions of making its fake union seem "independent" after the validation of the Wagner Act by the U. S. Supreme Court.

He noted that Pres. Grace of the corporation referred to the employes' representation setup as "your plan" in an article written for a company house organ early in 1938. But, he showed, in 1933 the company had referred to the company union as "our plant" in a statement which declared that "our plan" is an "integral part of our business."

Amendments to the company union constitution to make it appear as a legal organization were drafted by the companyq's representatives, who had previously been advised by the company's legal staff.

FOUGHT SWOC

The company union was used, Trial Examiner Bloom reported to the Labor Board, "to prevent organizational growth of other unions in their plants." Early in 1937, as the SWOC drive grew, Pres. Grace's letters to the employes were supplanted by the use of posters and "to more direct warn-

Continued on Page Five

Denver AFL Supports Wagner Act

Denver, Colo.—Defying the dictates of AFL reactionary top leaders, the Denver Trades & Labor Assembly, AFL, this week called upon the Colorado congressional delegation to oppose any changes in the act and to resist any curtailment of appropriations for the board.

"The weakening of the act and the impairment of the board's effectiveness will result in great injury to the cause of labor in the United States," the resolution said.

The resolution, introduced by the typographical union and the stagehands' union, praised the National Labor Relations Board for its "full and vigorous protection" of the rights of labor.

Agricultural Union Wins Arizona Poll

Phoenix, Ariz. (FP)— Election of the CIO farm workers' union as the bargaining agent for Salt River valley lettuce shed workers may lead to the hiring hall system in future harvesting seasons, spokesmen for shippers declare.

Shed workers recently voted 760 to 252 in favor of Local 78, United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers, CIO.

Salt River valley shippers have joined the Western Growers Protective Association in appealing the ruling of the Labor Board that shed workers come under its regulation. The growers contend they are agricultural workers and therefore not affected.

Demand Grows For Funds to Halt Closing of WPA

WASHINGTON—Indications that the new Congress, which convenes at the Capitol on January 3, will be snowed under with a barrage of demands for an immediate appropriation to prevent the closing of WPA by February 7 were evident here this week.

Response to CIO Pres. John L. Lewis's demand for a million dollar appropriation for work relief funds came from all parts of the nation, from both CIO and AFL unions.

At Toledo CIO unions on WPA projects are planning a mass meeting next week to express their stand on the emergency confronting the nation's workers.

In New Jersey, Labor's Non-Partisan League has advised the state's Congressional delegation of the unions' demands, and League units throughout the state are passing resolutions and forwarding them to the Congressmen.

"Unless we act immediately, there is a distinct danger that the WPA will be abandoned and New Jersey's project workers thrown on the breadlines," Carl Holderman, state chairman of the League warned. "We cannot allow the New Year to bring nothing more than misery and starvation to thousands of unemployed and WPA workers."

TO CONSIDER PLAN

In Washington, Rep. Edward Taylor, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee announced that a deficiency bill will be discussed soon after Congress convenes.

At Cambridge, Mass., 69 leading economists from a score of universities issued a blunt statement that elimination of WPA at this time would "constitute a severe threat to the continuance of the present economic recovery, and might even cause a serious setback in business activity."

THREAT TO RECOVERY

"The expansion of the spending program was the chief governmental weapon used in fighting the recession and stimulating the recovery," they said.

"Furthermore, during those six months, the major channel for the disbursement of new purchasing power has been the WPA, and we believe that WPA should continue to perform this function until private industry clearly demonstrates its capacity to absorb all those released from relief rolls."

Signers of the statement included such authorities as Prof. S. E. Harris of Harvard, Prof. Paul Douglas of the University of Chicago, Prof. Colston E. Warne of Amherst, and Prof. Robert Brooks of Williams.

Labor Board Cites New York Times

Washington. — A complaint against the New York Times based on charges filed by the Newspaper Guild of New York, CIO union, was isued last week by the National Labor Relations Board.

Discrimination against four CIO union members was listed in the Board's complaint which accused the Times of discharging two employes and transferring two others to inferior positions for which they were not qualified by training or experience.

The Board charged that the Times was motivated by the fact that the employes joined and assisted the Newspaper Office Guild of New York, and the Newspaper Guild of New York.

New York CIO Heads Present Legislative Program to Lehman

NEW YORK—A legislative program designed to maintain New York State as a leader in labor and progressive laws was presented last week by Gov. Herbert Lehman by officials of the CIO.

The delegation, headed by Allan S. Haywood, New York CIO director and president of the state industrial union council, represented 430 CIO affiliates with a membership estimated at 700,000.

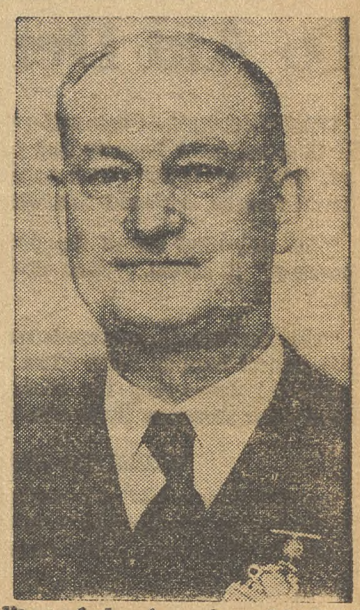
The governor, who met the delegation in his Park Avenue home here, was urged to press for the enactment of a state wage-hour law providing for a minimum pay rate of 40c an hour and the 40-hour week.

EXTEND LABOR ACT

The State Labor Relations Act, the CIO group said, should be extended to cover the employes of governmental agencies and non-profit institutions, of which the state has a large number.

Other points in the legislative program called for ratification of the child labor amendment, criminal prosecution of wage kickbacks; severance pay; health insurance and a state health program; voting rights for seamen and students; and state aid to small home owners, farmers and small business men.

Doctors Under Attack



Dr. Morris Fishbein (left) editor of the American Medical Assn. Journal, and Dr. Arthur C. Christie of the District of Columbia Medical Society, who were among the 21 indicted by a federal grand jury on charges of violating the Sherman anti-trust law.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II January 2, 1939 No. 1

The Year Ahead

It takes courage to be optimistic on this New Year's Day.

The old year was not a happy one for civilization. 1939 promises to be little more cheerful for the peoples of this troubled world. European dictatorship is extending its boundaries. Military warfare is being carried on in two parts of the globe. Political and economic and propaganda warfare is being conducted almost everywhere we look.

Here in the United States we have escaped many of the troubles which have beset our sister nations. Democracy still continues. Labor still enjoys its rights to organize and to bargain collectively. Political liberties are still respected.

For this, needless to say, organized labor must take a major share of the credit. Under the banner of the CIO, the workers of this country overcame the economic obstacles of a serious depression, maintained their organization and its newly-won benefits, and forged ahead to new gains in industries and regions where labor's rights had previously been contemptuously flouted.

There are those who propose, in times of crisis, that the lamb should lie down with the lion—to be promptly torn to pieces. With these people workers are in violent disagreement.

The way to prevent our going backward is to go forward. The CIO will do precisely that. New workers will be brought into our unions, to enjoy the freedom which organization extends to the exploited. Labor's political forces, as Pres. John L. Lewis announced a week ago, will extend their activities during the coming year. The CIO will launch a vigorous campaign not only to preserve the legislation which labor has finally won after long years of patient effort, but to place new protective statutes on state and federal law books.

Were labor to drop its campaign for the extension of industrial and political democracy, this nation's prospects would indeed be dark.

But labor will not relax its quest for human decency, for security, for the preservation of our time-honored civil liberties. For that reason, the workers of this nation and millions of progressive spirits outside the labor movement, do have the courage to be optimistic on this New Year's Day, 1939.

Labor's League Calls For Fight In 1939-40 To Aid Democracy

WASHINGTON.—"It is self-evident that those who would preserve their liberties must be prepared to fight for them," an editorial entitled, "1939 and 1940," which appeared in the bulletin of Labor's Non-Partisan League, declared this week.

"The universal cry of the people everywhere is for security and democracy," it added. "Men do not wish to exchange one for the other.

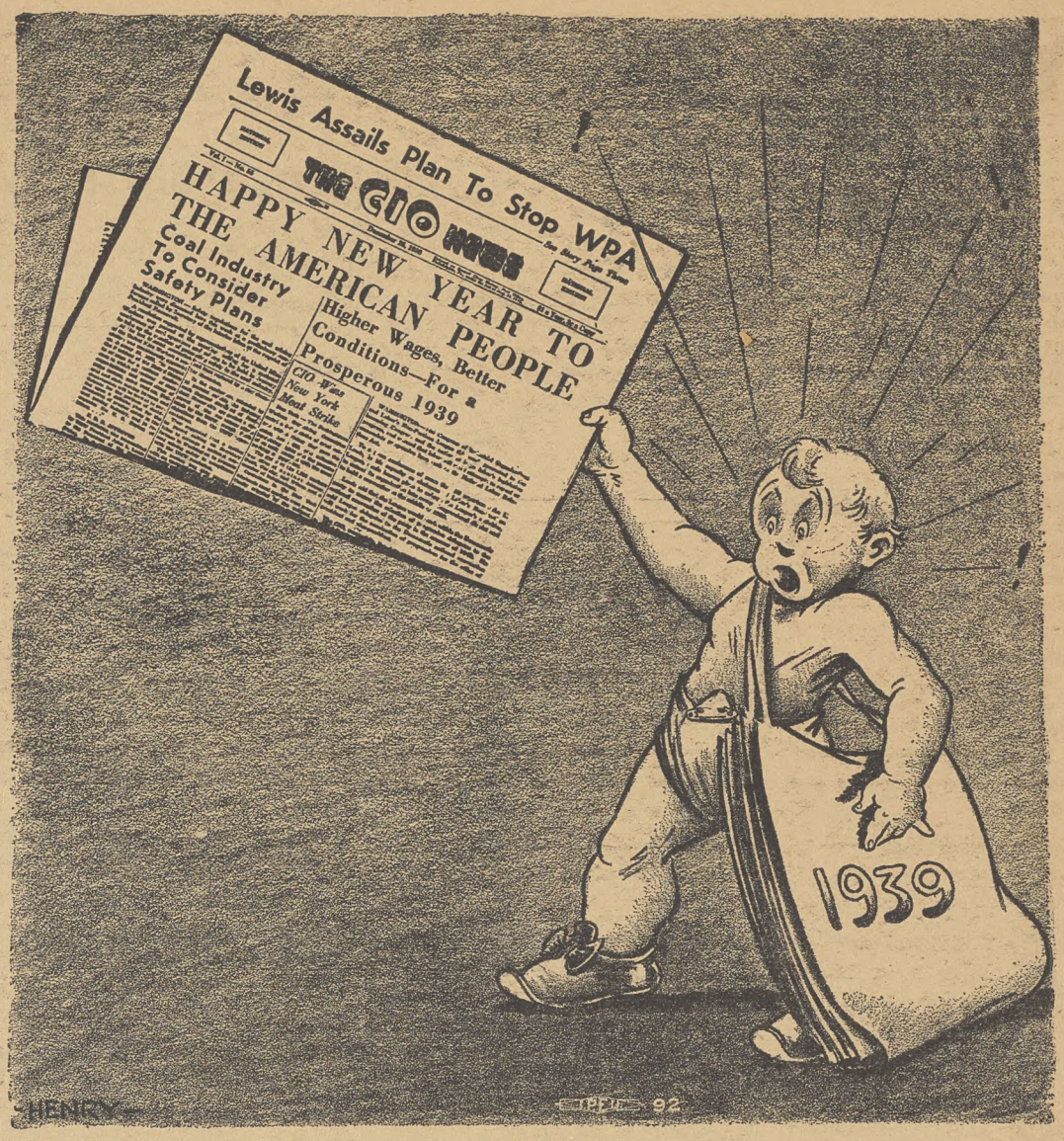
"This terrible alternative is now a fact in much of the Old World but it cannot happen here. The usual fate of those who would give up political democracy for economic security is to end by having neither. For America there can be no such Hobson's choice."

RALLY TO LEAGUE PROGRAM

For this purpose—"of assuring for themselves and their children both security and democracy"—millions of voters are uniting to support the League's "common sense program of social action," the editorial said.

"Success of this program in the years 1939 and 1940 will mean a better way of life and a more effective democracy. It looks to a government responsive only to the welfare of the people.

"In this program lies the hope of America's destiny. It is the people's program."



Extra!

"Freedom Promotes Peace"

(The CIO NEWS herewith presents excerpts from a brilliant speech delivered by Chairman J. Warren Madden of the National Labor Relations Board to the American Political Science Association, meeting in Columbus, Ohio.)

I suppose that most of you who are in or past middle age must have thought, a generation ago, as laymen then thought, that the future evolution of government would be along the lines of the century and a half then past. You must have thought that the experiment in democracy, self-government, and liberty which had found its most eminent exponent in our United States, would gradually extend itself throughout the civilized world. I can recall no important country which did not have a more democratic government in 1914 than it had ever had before.

Today your problem has again become the more vital problem of a century and a half ago, and earlier. The problem is whether human beings are capable of a large measure of self-government, for convenience delegated for the time being to persons selected by themselves; or whether they must, for the sake of physical sustenance and public order, subject themselves to rulers designated by the accident of birth or of superior fanaticism or of an overwhelming desire for power coupled with recklessness in attaining it.

You see absolutism in the seat of power or in the ascendancy in great countries whose peoples seemed, a few years ago, to be as capable of self-government as we are, though not as experienced in its exercise. And we see that these new self-appointed rulers exercise despotism with none of the restraints which hereditary rulers usually imposed upon themselves, because of custom and tradition and the preservation of the composite reputation of a ruling house. Instead you see complete disregard of the accumulated cultures of centuries, shocking physical, mental and economic abuse of racial, religious and political minorities, and contempt for the decent opinion of mankind.

In sum, you see at the end of centuries of evolution and hope, governments which could not possibly be worse, according to the standards of political science and preponderant American opinion.

America's Problem

When the world at large offers such a dark outlook and prospect what of America? Is it still in truth the land of the free? What are its trends and tendencies? Is our democracy solving its problems in a way which gives hope that it can continue to solve them so that the people will not, by reason of misfortune or disgust, turn to some other form of government?

Can our economic system, under the guidance and regulation of government, furnish employment and create and transport commodities to feed, clothe and house the people, leaving the people free to select their own rulers? Or must we, in order that the "trains shall run on time" surrender our freedom in exchange for physical necessities, thinking vaguely that we may again wrest that freedom from the tyrant in some more fortunate future when the supposed efficiency of the tyrant is no longer needed?

To a group of scholars in the field of government, I can speak with equal familiarity only of the governmental enterprise in which I have been engaged for the past three years. That enterprise is based upon the soundly American tenet that freedom promotes peace, in this case industrial peace.

The statute made its entry into a system of law which had developed by accident into a condition which produced for labor the maximum of frustration, resentment and incitation to use economic or physical force to achieve its ends.

Spoon-Fed Reforms

Our government might have taken the view that if workers were underpaid, or were worked too hard or too long or under improper conditions, the government would, by statute or administrative regulation raise wages, reduce hours, and prescribe proper conditions. In this way the material situation of the worker would have been brought up to government standards. The possible perils of some self-determination on the part of the workers as to what those standards should be would have been avoided. The danger that workers, if they were given the freedom to organize, would fall under the spell of irrational or designing leaders who would lead them and the country which was dependent upon them over an economic precipice would have been avoided.

Then there was the danger that labor, even if made free to organize, would not have the power to obtain as much for itself as it could obtain from a friendly government. It is after all, easier to lobby for the bounties of government than to perform the endless, delicate, and difficult task of labor leadership.

This was the choice to be made in a world and time in which the trend was, almost without exception, toward surrendering liberties to gov-

Continued on Page Five

Looking Ahead, Len De Caux's regular weekly column, will appear next week as usual.

Your WPA Job

By Ralph Hetzel, Jr.
CIO Unemployment Director

Backing For CIO Position

Two most important statements came out last week which confirm the position of President Lewis and the CIO in seeking to prevent cuts on the WPA.

The CIO has steadfastly taken the position that the WPA cuts not only mean serious damage to the unemployed but constitute a threat to recovery.

At the CIO Convention, President Lewis emphatically stated in his Report, "Any serious impairment at this time of relief and unemployment compensation expenditures would cause a very serious reaction on the general economy. Such expenditure, indeed, need to be increased until full production actively withdraws the unemployed from the need of the benefits. To do otherwise is not only inhuman but threatens a further depression."

ECCLES STATEMENT

Last week Chairman Eccles, of the Federal Reserve Board vigorously stated this same position in a public letter to Senator Byrd of Virginia. He pointed out that it was foolish to regard relief and public works expenditures as wasteful and that it was wrong to regard the increase in government debt as serious.

Mr. Eccles said, "I believe that the most basic right of all is the right to live and next to that the right to work. I do not think empty stomachs build character nor do I think the substitution of idleness and a dole for useful work relief will improve either the dignity or the character of the people affected.

"We cannot expect to preserve our free institutions in this country if we condemn a substantial proportion of our people to prolonged idleness on a bare subsistence level of existence. . . ."

"The government expenditures which you (Senator Byrd) condemn have in a large part been the means of translating these basic rights into realities. Anyone who is genuinely sincere in his concern about the rights, the dignity, and the character of the individual citizen, far from seeking to tear down what has already been done, will want to have a hand in expanding and improving this work for the future . . ."

". . . I am convinced that if your program of sudden, drastic retrenchment were followed, we would witness another sharp reversal and renewed deflation."

69 ECONOMISTS

And practically the same day 69 economists made public a letter to President Roosevelt in which they said that reduction of the WPA by one-third would involve a reduction of more than fifty million per month in direct wage payments in addition to some thirty million in related expenditures.

"Such a cut in consumer purchasing power would, we believe, constitute a severe threat to the continuance of the present economic recovery, and might even cause a serious setback in business activity," they pointed out.

"The rapid upsurge in business during the past six months has been a source of encouragement to those who believe that the severity of swings in business activity need not be accepted fatalistically but can be successfully counteracted by wise social action.

"Thanks to the vigorous action taken last spring by the Federal Government under your leadership, the recession of 1937 was arrested; and the curve of business and employment turned upward. The expansion of the spending program was the chief governmental weapon used in fighting the recession and stimulating the recovery.

"Furthermore during these six months, the major channel for the disbursement of new purchasing power has been the WPA, and we believe that WPA should continue to perform this function until private industry clearly demonstrates its capacity to absorb all those released from relief rolls.

"We conclude, Mr. President, that the curtailment of the WPA at the present time would be particularly ill-timed from an economic as well as from a humanitarian viewpoint, and we strongly urge that the contemplated policy of curtailment be abandoned."

Amen, and more power to their arm.

Bethlehem Rapped By Labor Board

Continued from Page Three

ings to its employes," the report found.

The report dealt at length with the 1937 strike, and with the activities of the Citizens' Committee formed in Johnstown.

"There is no doubt but . . . the Citizens' Committee and the Mayor of Johnstown had definitely taken sides against the union in the strike," Bloom said.

SECRET PAYMENTS

Although the company contended that it was not connected in any way with the Citizens' Committee, evidence disclosed that company officials had been active in getting the committee formed, had paid for tear gas, purchased by city police—later entering on their books the moneys expended as "manufacturing costs"—and had paid over in excess of $41,000 to the committee or to Mayor Shields for use in the strike.

The company had endeavored during the hearings to compare its contributions to the Citizens' Committee with contributions frequently made to the Red Cross, flood relief and other similar funds.

The trial examiner, however, asserted that "there can be no comparison between contributions to charitable or semi-charitable organizations and other groups which receive widespread publicity, and handing over large sums of money in cash to organizations and individuals whose purpose was to break the strike then being participated in by respondent's (the company's) employes."

CIO Farm Stand Backed by Crop Statistics

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON—Full confirmation of the need for the CIO farm program passed at the Pittsburgh convention is seen in a study of U. S. farm incomes released by Farm Research, Inc., Washington agency of the Farmers Union.

The figures show an appalling spread in the rewards of a year's work in preparing and harvesting the nation's crops, with the large incomes going to the top fraction of the farmers and sub-standard earnings going to the great majority. Here are some of the figures:

The average farmer, representing 55 per cent of the total, gets less than $1,000 a year to feed and clothe and shelter hemself and his family.

Less than 200,000 of the nation's 7,000,000 farm families get up to $2,250 a year—which is about the level set by the U. S. Government as minimum for a decent standard of living for an American family.

ECONOMICALLY NOTHING

Down at the bottom of the ladder are 300,000 farm families who get less than $250 for a year's living—less than two-tenths of one per cent of the total farm income of the U. S..

It is these American people especially that John L. Lewis, president of the CIO, described as "economically nothing." Speaking at a conference of CIO leaders, he declared:

"Economically, socially, and politically they are nothing. Yet they are human beings and they are citizens.

"It is for the labor movement to demand a participation by these people in the bounties and blessings, material and otherwise, of our country—which are ample for the provision and participation of all.

"It is for labor here in our country to take up the task of representing these Americans."

A DOWNWARD SPIRAL

These figures on farm income are not just for the working farmer himself. They show the way the entire family, women and children as well as the head of the house, are repaid for a year of feeding America — and enriching the commission merchants and the financial captains who control farm marketing and prices.

They show more than a low standard of living. They show the working farmer caught in a constantly downward social and economic spiral. They show that only the top minority of rich farmers, who own the corporation farms and the big fruit farms, the large scale plantations, get the big returns for their work and their investment.

They show that nine per cent of the farmers in the U. S. get over one-third of the farm income earned in the entire nation. Ninety-one per cent divide the rest.

THE CIO WAY OUT

This is why the CIO, following its policy of representing the needs and aspirations of all the American people, set up a program at its convention that would end such conditions.

Under this program, all working farmers would be guaranteed:

Cost of production prices.

Liberal federal aid in credits, loans, and grants for supplies and equipment.

Protection of farmers' cooperatives from unfair competition of monopoly marketing agencies.

Extension of the benefits of all state and Federal social and protective legislation.

Purchase by the Federal government of surplus commodities for the use of the unemployed and the needy.

In the words of the resolution containing this program, the CIO recognizes that " farmers are entitled to their full share in the national income, and that industrial workers and farmers must unite for legislation protecting their mutual interests."

It would end the spread between starvation and near starvation for the majority of the nation's working farmers, and high incomes for the top minority and the Wall Street manipulators who skim the cream and the milk and practically everything else off the national farm earnings.

"Freedom Promotes Peace"

Continued from Page Four

ernment in return for bounties, or yielding them unwillingly to the superior force of government.

The Democratic Way

The proposal of Senator Wagner and his associates was directly counter to this trend. They proposed that the millions of American workers who would come within the protection of the Act should be trusted to determine for themselves and through their own chosen leaders what they wanted in the way of terms of employment, and to bargain rationally with their employers about those terms. They saw nothing in the history of American workmen and their leaders to indicate that they could not be so trusted. They saw in that history courage, patience, self-reliance, and self-restraint in the face of impossible and irrational legal impediments. They also saw some racketeering and other criminality, but probably in a proportion as small as in any other element of our population.

They proposed to create a new liberty in a world where the old liberties were being taken away. They proposed to have instead of more government, more liberty. The Congress and the President concurred with these proposals and the National Labor Relations Act was passed.

This new liberty has a significance comparable to the ancient liberties which achieved recognition in time to be written into the Bills of Rights of our Constitutions. A liberty to emerge from a condition of economic helplessness, and dependence upon the will of another, to a status of having one's chosen representative received as an equal at the bargaining conference table must be recognized as fundamental.

Indeed, the constitutional liberties of freedom of speech, press, and assembly, could not, in their aspects most important to working people, be enjoyed until this new liberty was created. These constitutional guarantees, operate only to prevent infringement by governments, and leave individuals and corporations free to prevent the exercise of these rights.

If a workman became interested in a union and spoke to his fellow worker urging him to join, and was discharged for "agitating" he wondered what the constitutional guarantee of freedom of speech was worth, when the exercise of the constitutional right could cost him his living. If a union organizer stood on the street at the gate of an industrial plant to distribute leaflets containing arguments for joining the union, and the workers refused to accept and read the arguments because they knew they were being watched and that anyone who took a leaflet would be discharged, he wondered what the guaranty of freedom of the press really guaranteed. Likewise, if spies were set upon union meetings to report what employes were there so that they might be penalized, there was no freedom of assembly in any true sense, in spite of the words of the constitutions.

The constitutions in their time forbade the infringements which they constituted a social evil, and limited their restrictions to governments, because governments were the offenders. Surely there is no more reason why private enterprises should be privileged to prevent freedom of speech and effective publication and assembly than why the government itself should be so privileged. And the employer's drastic penalty of discharge is a much more potent preventive than the penalties which the government would impose.

* * *

In most sections of the country, most employers are now obeying the law.

As a result of vigorous organization campaigns and under the protection of the Act the two great labor organizations claim about eight million members, as against less than three million in 1934.

Freedom of speech, press and assembly, are enjoyed in greater degree and in more communities in America than ever before. This has resulted almost entirely from the insistence by workers and the government that the new liberty of unionization be respected.

Through union meetings and workers education programs set up by unions and their sympathizers millions of Americans are receiving an education and experience in the principles and practices of self-government which seems to me to be more valuable to the country than any other type of adult education.

Self-Government

They there discuss their problems, commend or criticize their leaders, learn what it is practicable to ask for, and why compromise is often necessary. Their education in self-government is carried on under the most realistic conditions, since they are participating in the solution of their own most vital problems.

In my opinion, these workers are becoming one of the most intelligent and stable forces in American society, and if the test comes as to whether we can preserve our form of government, it will not be they who will be first misled by the demagogue.

These gains which I have recited seem to me to be substantial and important in themselves, but their chief importance lies in their demonstration that a government may obtain spiritual and material advantages for its people by creating a new liberty, even in a world which treats old liberties with cynicism and contempt.

Brophy Asks Aid For Hearst Strikers

Calls Upon Unions To Send Protests To Management

WASHINGTON—Full CIO aid for Newspaper Guild strikers in the Chicago province of William Randolph Hearst's empire was urged by John Brophy, national director, in a circular letter to all CIO affiliates and Councils.

Brophy's letter, after detailing the 18 months of constant violation of a collective bargaining contract by Hearst's two papers, the Chicago "Herald-Examiner" and the "American" that caused the strike, reminded CIO members of the resolution passed at the Pittsburgh convention on the subject of Hearst.

The resolution said in part: "In a nationwide attack on the rights of organization, Hearst agents have resorted to brazen sponsorship of company unions, instigation of fake jurisdictional disputes, unfounded criminal accusations, discriminatory discharges and other unlawful activities, and Hearst attorneys have left no trick untried to delay and prevent collective bargaining.

"It is vitally important to the interests of all organized labor that this powerful anti-labor employer be compelled to abandon his campaign of trouble-making, oppression and terrorization, to recognize the legal rights of his employes and to deal with them in good faith according to the law of the land."

Brophy urged CIO affiliates to send protests to Joseph V. Connolly, General Manager of Hearst Newspapers, 57th St. and 8th Ave., New York, to protest to merchants advertising in the Hearst chain, and to send expressions of support to the strikers in care of the American Newspaper Guild, 1560 Broadway, N. Y.

Chicago Hearst Papers Lose 165,000 Readers As Strike Continues

By GEORGE B. FRITZ

CHICAGO—William Randolph Hearst's two Chicago papers were in bad shape this week as the strike of 600 members of the Chicago Newspaper Guild went into its fourth week. Circulation is off 165,000, and 175 advertisers are pledged not to buy space until the strike is settled.

The strike was called Dec. 5 after the morning Herald and Examiner and the evening American had violated their contracts with the Guild on 87 counts, and had fired 500 employes during the past 18 months.

At a conference Dec. 18 Hearst executives turned the strike into a lockout by declaring their refusal to bargain collectively, and announcing that any striker whose job had been filled by a scab would not be rehired.

UNIONS BACK STRIKE

Full support of CIO, AFL and railroad brotherhoods was pledged at a mass meeting Dec. 23, where Heywood Broun, president of the American Newspaper Guild, was chief speaker.

Nearly $1,200 was raised for the Guild, including a $500 contribution from the Amalgamated Clothing Workers. The meeting was sponsored by a citizen's committee organized to raise $25,000 for the strike fund.

Over 200 persons marched in a mass picket line Christmas Eve. A few days before a three hour auto parade was staged.

No attempt has been made by the Hearst management to negotiate.

Hearst Tactics

Here's how members of the Chicago Newspaper Guild looked after an attack by Hearst's thugs on their picket line at the struck American and Herald-Examiner.

Hearst's "Gray Terror" Nightrides As In Days Of Yore

By HARRY READ
Chairman Hearst Unit,
Chicago Newspaper Guild

Chicago. — The "Gray Terror" is nightriding the streets again after an absence of thirty years. The Hearst payroll pays it; the Hearst legal staff defends it; the Hearst influence intimidates policemen, judges and prosecutors who might interfere—just as of yore.

The loaded rubber hose flails, brass knuckles and crank handles rip open scalps, brickbats are thundered against doors of homes occupied at the moment only by women and children.

What, a new circulation war between gentlemen who brag of their earlier football sportsmanship? Not at all! This time the "Gray Terror" is out to break a strike—a Newspaper Guild strike.

Thirty years back the victims were inoffensive and defenseless corner newsstand owners or ragged little newspaper boys. Now they are workmen — Hearst employees who struck in protest over sabotage of their wages, working conditions, and the legal right to organize for purposes of collective bargaining.

CHICAGO METHODS

To understand the situation, one must remember the acquired Chicago psychology that accepts calmly settlement by clubs or gunfire of any and all disputes. Mayors and state's attorneys glow with virtuous wrath when newspapers of other towns hint that Chicago is lawless and gang-ridden. Their novel theory of choking off adverse comment by lying about the subject matter is just another Chicago phenomenon.

It ignores the undeniable fact that twenty men have been tried, condemned and executed by gang gunfire in the Chicago area during this present year of 1938—and nobody is even being sought for the murders! The statistics make Chicagoans yawn and piously express the hope that they won't be next.

It should be of interest, however, to the general public of America that fifteen of the victims can be classified vaguely as gangsters, two as business men, and three as officials or leaders in the AFL locals.

ORIGIN OF GANGS

The breakdown reveals that these murders and the Hearst thugs who now nightride the streets are off the same piece with Hearst's "Gray Terror" of thirty years back. Ask any veteran policeman how the gangs came to rule Chicago.

"Why," he will say, "it all started when Hearst came to Chicago (in 1900) and started his papers. The newspaper sluggers working for Hearst were the first gangsters."

Let's look at the record!

When William Randolph Hearst arrived in Chicago and launched the American on July 4, 1900, the publishers of other papers greeted him neither with band nor banquet. By way of helping him out, corner newsstand owners and newspaper boys were told that anyone selling the American, or its later morning sister, the Examiner, would not be permitted to sell the already established newspapers.

COLLECTED THUGS

Hearst's executives met the challenge with an unprecedented stroke of strategy. Scouts rounded up the city's toughest fistic mugs and put them on the payroll at $5 a day each as super-salesmen. High on the long list were the names of Maurice "Mossy" Enright, William "Dutch" Gentleman, Vincent Altman, "Big Tim" Murphy, Walter Stephens, Dean O'Banion and Gene Geary. All of these but O'Banion were recruited from the Stockyards District.

Their instructions were to see that established street dealers, men or boys, handled Hearst newspapers. Demurs were overruled with fractured skulls, broken jaws and arms, shattered legs and ribs, many of the victims being old men or mere schoolboys. So efficacious was the method that many Chicago residents can recall having to argue for the other paper they preferred to read.

IMPROVED TOOLS

In the initial clashes between the goon squads only fists were used, but why should these gentry wear out their hands? Brass knuckles, lead pipe, baseball bats, knives and guns were quickly called into play. The police limited their interest in the incidents to ambulance service for the maimed. The state's attorney did nothing at all. The apathy born of that first decade's lawlessness stamped the pattern for present day officialdom to look on complacently at twenty 1938 murders.

BRANCHED OUT

The Hearstlings, known as the "Gray Terror", more than held their own. As could have been expected they and their fellow mercenaries began doing part time work for other employers or working on their own account. The branching out constituted a personal threat to the publishers, and so, after eight years of terrorism, it was decided to call everything even and dump the goon squads.

To effect this hazardous aim State's Attorney John E. Wayman was called in. The police began making arrests. Three stars in the Hearst outfit, Gentleman, Enright and Stevens were astonished when they were jailed on March 11, 1910, for shooting a man named Edward Mullen in the right leg, apparently for fun. Informed that the good old days were gone and knowing nothing about the deal between the publishers and Wayman, the three agreed to "resign".

The grand jury, of course, found that Mullen had been properly shot, because a no-bill was voted. The publishers did not fire all the goons at once; they let go of the bear's tail a hair or two at a time. A few were kept on the payroll to handle new problems that might arise.

1938 GOON-ISM

Small wonder that officialdom does nothing about the revival of the Hearst "Gray Terror" in the present Guild strike. A few strikers may be crippled and maimed, some may even be murdered. So what? You can't fight the newspapers, you know.

At midnight, December 15, 1938 Mrs. A. K. Fisher, wife of a leader among the striking Hearst branch managers, hysterically telephoned strike headquarters. There was, she said, a gang of goons parked in an automobile in front of her modest home. They had come to the door with a demand to see her husband.

Mr. Fisher was not at home, but his wife thought to protect him, herself and their baby son by saying he was asleep. The thugs tried to force their way inside but the safety chain held. After a parley in their automobile they whiled away the time by hurling brickbats at the door. Inside Mrs. Fisher clutched her baby in terror and telephoned the police.

NO RESULTS

Chicago boasts that the average length of time it takes for police to reach a scene of crime is under two minutes. Something must have gone wrong that night because two calls in forty minutes brought no results.

Mrs. Fisher then called strike headquarters. A demand by Guild President Harry Wohl on Chief of the Uniformed Force John Prendergast at his home, re-established radio efficiency. Three squads seized the goons — with a number of brickbats ready to hand.

One of the first callers on the goons in jail was Attorney Nissen Gross of the Hearst legal staff. At their arraignment for "disorderly conduct" a Hearst executive appeared to ask a continuance. Now the case has been sent to the jury branch for trial late in January.

There have been other instances where Guildsmen have been halted on the street by sluggers and beaten. Company executives whose mealy mouthings about the "one big happy family" carry one back to the "guaranteed" value of the Hearst preferred stock, have stood by and witnesed these atrocities. And so does '38 assume the pattern of '08.

Cleveland Labor Wins City Poll

Cleveland.—Progressive forces in this city won a smashing victory over the utility interests when results of a special city election showed a majority of the voters had supported authorization of a $3,000,000 bond issue to expand the city-owned electric light plant.

Led by Labor's Non-Partisan League and with the cooperation of CIO and AFL unions and the railway brotherhoods, the supporters of the measure polled 88,575 votes, against only 35,113 cast by its opponents.

Victory climaxed a two-year campaign of the labor and liberal forces on behalf of an enlarged plant. The existing private utilities put on a heavily financed drive against the proposal.

Labor and the Law

By Lee Pressman

CIO General Counsel

The AFL's New Tactics

The tactics of the AFL executive council with respect to the National Labor Relations Act seem to be based on attempts to bluster and threaten the Board into making all of its decisions in favor of the AFL without regard to the law or to the welfare of the labor movement. Perhaps the AFL executive council has learned its tactics from recent international events.

That blustering and threats form the basis of AFL tactics is borne out by comparison of the desired amendments to the Wagner Act announced by the executive council at the October convention of the AFL and those just put forward by William Green. At the convention, the AFL executive council recommended the following amendments:

1) compulsory craft unit in all elections

2) the curtailment of the power of the Board to invalidate any contract

3) requirement of notice to every interested party in a Labor Board case

4) the right of any interested party to intervene in a Labor Board case

5) rigid control of Labor Board trial examiners and giving employers the privilege of filing affidavits of prejudice against trial examiners

6) permission for employers to secure subpoenas requiring production of union records

7) requirement of the Board to make all its files public

8) requirement of the Board to conduct all elections within 30 days of the filing of the petition

9) requirement of the Board to decide all cases within 45 days after the close of the hearing.

In addition, at the conv ntion the AFL executive council gave serious consideration to the proposals that the courts be given the power to upset the findings of fact made by the Board, and to deprive the Board of its judicial powers.

NEW PROGRAM

The AFL now announces that it will only press for two amendments to the Act: a compulsory craft unit in all elections, and the curtailment of the power of the Board to invalidate contracts which the AFL may make with employers.

In view of the AFL change in policy, it is unnecessary to discuss the amendments which it proposed at its convention. In eliminating nine of its original proposals for amending the Act, the AFL has shown that all of its agitation for amendments to the Act were merely attempts to intimidate the Labor Board.

The fact, however, remains that the two proposals upon which the AFL executive council still insists are completely unjustified and extremely dangerous.

The demand for compulsory craft units in all elections is a typical dog in the manger claim. As is pointed out in the CIO pamphlet on "Why the Wagner Act Should NOT Be Amended," the AFL has no basis for its claim that the Board is prejudiced against the AFL and favorable to the CIO in such cases.

NO BASIS

The figures prove that the Board has given craft elections to the AFL whenever an AFL craft unit could make any showing at all in support of its claim, even though the result was to destroy the strength of the workers in an industrial plant.

The second proposed amendment of the AFL which would prevent the Board from outlawing illegal and dishonest contracts is the kind of amendment which reactionary employers would like to see put into law.

These employers know that if they are able to enter into contracts with a union which does not represent a majority of the employes in a plant, or with a union whose membership has been secured through the coercion of the employer, they will have an easy way of evading the labor law.

Thus, the AFL executive council policy in favor of amendments to the Wagner Act still represents a serious danger to the welfare of organized labor in this country, although the contrast between the extraordinary demands made by the AFL at its convention and its present policy shows that its entire policy is mainly composed of blustering and threats.

Perhaps this change may be accounted for by the fact that the rank and file of AFL membership are letting the reactionary and unscrupulous members of the AFL executive council know that they cannot get away with their attempt to destroy the Wagner Act.

New England Unions Plan Education Confab

New York.—New England unions and allied organizations will hold a regional conference on workers' education January 7-8 in Boston at the Pioneer, 410 Stuart St., under the auspices of the Affiliated Schools for Workers.

The conference will take up the practical problems connected with setting up and carrying out educational and recreational programs for union members. Reports will also be made on programs now being conducted in various parts of New England.

Thomas Flavell, business agent for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, will be chairman of the opening meeting. Practical demonstrations of the part that labor drama, music and dancing can play in making the union meeting attractive will be offered at the evening program. It will include music by the ACW orchestra, singing by the chorus of the International Ladies Garment Workers, colored movies of the Bryn Mawr Summer School, labor skits and dancing.

BACK STRIKE

Kenosha, Wis.—(FP) — The Kenosha Trades & Labor Council, AFL, has put the two Chicago Hearst dailies on its unfair list for the duration of the strike being conducted by the American Newspaper Guild, CIO.

TO MEET

Rockford, Ill.—(FP)—The United Furniture Workers will open their first national convention in Rockford, February 8.

Appointed

Mrs. Ellen S. Woodward, director of women's and professional activities of the WPA, whom Pres. Roosevelt has named to a position on the Social Security Board.

Kennedy, Quill, Brophy to Speak For Guild Strikers

WILKES-BARRE, Pa.—Pennsylvania's Lieutenant-governor, Thomas Kennedy, secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers, Michael Quill, New York City councilman and head of the Transport Workers Union, and John Brophy, director of the CIO, will be chief speakers at the Newspaper Guild's mass rally here January 9, planned in conjunction with the local CIO council.

These three leading CIO figures, together with Michael J. Kosik, president District 1, UMWA, and John Kmetz, international board member and a bevy of local AFL leaders are expected to lead the mass attack against Wilkes-Barre's three reactionary daily publishers, who, for over 90 days now, have refused to sit down and sign a contract with their employes to end the strike called October 1 for a full Guild contract.

The AFL Office Workers' "Union," composed of a group of "stooges" on the three dailies seeking to wrest away the Guild's contract-given sole collective bargaining right, received another jolt during the week as the NLRB set back a hearing on its petition from December 28th to January 12th.

CONDEMNED AS SCABS

This group, condemned as a "strike-breaking" agency by the AFL Central Labor Union here—which endorsed the Guild's stand—seeks an election in an attempt to become the bargaining agent of all white-collar employes in the local newspaper field.

Filled with part-time workers, mailing room employes, and others ineligible for Guild membership, and fostered by top AFL leaders who seek a foothold in the heart of CIO UMWA territory for their own nefarious purposes, Guild, mine union and other CIO leaders mapped a campaign during the week to smash their "union-busting" attempts.

A "truce" between striking "Times-Leader" Guildsmen and their publisher, Col. E. G. Smith, was called over the Christmas holidays, as the Guildsmen accepted Smith's bid to the annual Christmas party Saturday. But starting Monday, the "war" towards the immediate objective—a Guild contract—was resumed and T-L unionists led the way.

TO GAIN SUPPORT

The Guild's rally on January 9, though called to bring to the public the truth in the Guild's 13-week-old fight for a union contract, will also be the start of a move to unite support back of the Wagner Labor Relations Act against its reactionary enemies.

With all four papers closed tight since October 3rd, Wyoming Valley's 450,000 people continued to depend on the Guild's nightly broadcast for local news events and metropolitan newspapers for national and foreign news.

Birmingham CIO Director Nips Tory Smear Campaign

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—The lengths to which enemies of labor will go to discredit the CIO is illustrated by an attempt made by a local group here to smear the reputation of Yelverton Cowherd, attorney and CIO regional director in Alabama.

The "Birmingham News" carried a story several weeks ago to the effect that the CIO had been deliberately omitted from the list of organizations invited to take part in a public meeting sponsored by the Alabama Women's Democratic Club because Cowherd had been indicted in Etowah county for bribery of a man named Troy Higdon to murder four peace officers.

According to the story in the News, the accusation was made in the form of a resolution which also attacked William Mitch, district president of the United Mine Workers, regional director for the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, and president of the CIO Alabama Industrial Union Council, for participating in the Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

The resolution charged that racial equality for Negroes and whites was advocated by the Welfare conference.

ADMIT ERROR

Two days later, the News ran another story to "clarify the erroneous impression" conveyed in the earlier story, under the headline "Cowherd cleared in Etowah case," which included a statement from the CIO regional director, proving that the charges against him were utterly without foundation, and that the indictment against him had been withdrawn. He quoted the court rewards in full to verify his claim.

Cowherd demanded in his statement that "this matter be fully explained to nullify the libelous inference against my character contained in your said article of Dec. 5, attributed to five ladies in their effort to find some justification in the eyes of the public for failure to invite the largest labor organization in Alabama to a conference which they stated was being held for patriotic purposes."

FRAME-UP TRY

The charges of bribery to commit murder, Cowherd explained, originated in a case framed against him in 1936, during a reign of terror instigated by the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, in Gadsden, Ala., against the United Rubber Workers. After a mob had broken down the office door of the CIO union, Cowherd was retained by the union, he said, "to bring the offenders to the bar of justice."

A complaint of unfair labor practices was filed with the National Labor Relations Board, and beginning in August, 1937, hearings were held for more than three months, during which many damaging facts were brought out against the Goodyear Company. Part of the testimony involved charges against the four "peace officers" named in the quashed indictment against Cowherd.

All during the hearing, anti-labor groups inspired by the company aroused such antagonism against Attorney Cowherd that he was in constant danger of violence. On orders from Washington, a United States marshal was assigned to protect him. The marshal guarded him constantly, remaining at his side on all trips to and from the hearing.

It was during this time that the Troy Higden mentioned in the indictment, and two others appeared before the Grand Jury and framed up the charge that Cowherd had bribed them to murder the four "peace officers."

Quoting from court records, Cowherd showed in his statement that Higden had a criminal record, having been sentenced to serve one to two years in the penitentiary for grand larceny in October, 1927.

The indictment returned against Cowherd in September, 1937, was never pressed, but remained on the records for more than a year. It was finally quashed October 24, 1938, but only after the repeated insistence of Cowherd that he either be brought to trial at once, or the case dismissed.

CIO Runs Party For Needy Kids

New Castle, Pa. — Scores of children in this city received Christmas gifts and candy when the local CIO unions and the Committee of Unemployed Organizations staged a holiday party.

Mayor Charles E. McGrath was on hand to lend his help and to speak to the children. Toys were collected and repaired by local CIO members and then turned over to children of the needy.

Arthur Johnson, Steel Workers Organizing Committee field representative, was master of ceremonies at the party.

CIO Wins Poll At RCA Firm

New York—The American Communications Ass'n. emerged an easy victor from a Labor Board poll held among the 1,300 employes of RCA Communications.

The ACA received 748 votes, compared to a total of only 449 received by a so-called independent union.

Winning of the poll, Pres. Mervyn Rathborne of ACA announced, left the union ready to resume discussions for a new contract, parleys on which were postponed until the NLRB had conducted its vote.

Oil Union Protests Use Of National Guard In Tulsa Strike

By KENNETH GODDARD

TULSA, Okla. (FP)—Embattled members of the International Oil Workers Union have laid their case against the Mid-Continent Petroleum Corp. before Dwight Blackmore, National Labor Relations Board representative here.

Six hundred unionists, about 60 per cent of the corporation's refinery workers in the Tulsa area, charged, in a statement issued by President Jack N. Hays of the local, that Gov. E. W. Marland was using the National Guard, called out Christmas eve, as a strikebreaking agency.

A formal charge accusing the Mid-Continent firm of refusing to bargain collectively was lodged with the NLRB. Chief issue in the strike is union recognition.

Seeking a settlement, Marland, a former oil operator, came here to listen to reports from his personal labor representative, from the state labor commissioner, and from Col. Charles A. Holden, in charge of the 250 militiamen.

RAP POVERTY PLEA

Hays said Mid-Continent was misrepresenting facts to the public and pleading poverty in order to evade the Wagner Act. Newspapers generally have pictured the walkout as a result of wage demands and J. C. Denton, corporation official, has sought to continue the impression with the assertion that the union's demands would cripple the company.

Actually, the only wage question affects 20 employes in the refinery's water department and test laboratories. The union is seeking recognition, the checkoff system and vacations with pay.

"The money it is costing to keep those guards here is a lot more than what the wage adjustments would come to," he said.

The Labor Board official is seeking to persuade company executives to meet with John Coulter, international vice-president of the oil union, whose headquarters are at Fort Worth, Tex.

SOUP KITCHENS

As the strike continued, determined oil field unionists and CIO affiliates fought cold and the guardsmen. A steady stream of warmed and fed pickets poured from a shelter kitchen near the picket line thrown around the refinery fence and gates, an area of 1000 acres.

Unionists charged some of the men who passed through guard lines were being held prisoners. A few escaped the refinery by swimming the Arkansas river and later signing CIO cards.

Under Fire

Gov. E. W. Marland of Oklahoma, former oil company president, who has been accused by oil union members of using the national guard for strikebreaking purposes in a labor dispute at Tulsa.

Students Hear CIO Speakers

New York. — More than 1,000 delegates to the fourth convention of the American Students Union here heard James B. Carey, secretary of the CIO, Ralph Hetzel, secretary to President Lewis, and A. A. Hartwell of Labor's Non-Partisan League discuss the relations of American youth to the trade union movement today.

Carey's brief speech stressed the importance to labor of the present school system, since future members of organized labor are trained in it.

"Schools prepare the future members of organized labor and will determine in the future whether or not we will have a labor movement and whether or not we will have a progressive labor movement, " he said.

LABOR AND PROFESSIONS

Speaking at a panel discussion on youth and the professions, Ralph Hetzel told his listeners that organized labor was interested in professional training for two main reasons.

First, he pointed out, labor is anxious to organize professional workers as it is anxious to organize all wage earners. On this point, he cited the successes of CIO unions in professional fields, including the United Office and Professional Workers, the Newspaper Guild, the Federation of Architects and Engineers, and others.

NEED FOR SERVICE

Second, Hetzel discussed labor's need for the services that professional workers have to offer, explaining that simply because workers cannot afford to hire doctors and dentists and other professional workers as much as they need them, the professions today are in a severe depression.

A. A. Hartwell, speaking for Labor's Non-Partisan League, declared that the political aims of youth and labor are "inseparable," and that they must meet common problems with a common approach.

Mooney Hopes for 25 More Years To Serve Labor

SAN QUENTIN, Calif.—Tom Mooney expects to live another 25 years after he gets out of prison early this month—and to devote all of them to the service of labor.

The veteran labor prisoner, having spent almost a quarter century in jail for the crime of being a militant labor leader in once open-shop California, is not interested in any of the numerous offers to commercialize his case that have been made to him.

"The commercial side of this never did and never will appeal to me," Mooney said. "A man doesn't spend years in prison for a principle, and then try to cash in on it when he is freed.

"I have had offers to do books, magazine articles and motion pictures and to make personal appearances, and I have turned them all down and will continue to do so."

WILL WORK FOR UNITY

Mooney added that he will work for unity within labor ranks, on a progressive basis.

"My long range work after I get out of prison," he said, "will be to seek unity for the labor movement—a progressive unity that looks to the future instead of the past."

California's newly elected liberal Governor, Cuthbert L. Olson, has indicated that he will hold pardon hearings as soon as he gets into office, and that a full pardon will result.

Utility Pays and Pays

Consolidated Edison Co. of New York, defeated in its fight against the Wagner Act by a decision of the U. S. Supreme Court, was forced to pay out $13,000 in back wages for six members of the Utility Workers Organizing Committee, who had been fired for union activity. Some $8,000 more is to be paid to the men.

Woodworkers Hold Picket Lines, Defy Thugs, State Cops

BELLINGHAM, Wash.—Picket lines at the Bloedel-Donovan mills here are holding firm in spite of every effort by company thugs, the local mayor, and the state cops, sent in by labor-hating Governor Clarence D. Martin.

The workers are on strike against an attempted wage cut and vicious use of scabs and goon squads in a company drive to break the two CIO unions involved, locals of the International Woodworkers Association and the International Longshoremens and Warehousemens Union.

WIDE LABOR SUPPORT

Support for the Bloedel-Donovan workers has come from the AFL in the shape of an agreement signed between the IWA and the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners. This agreement removes all possibility of jurisdictional disputes, which the company has previously exploited to its own advantage.

John Brophy, national director of the CIO, wired to Governor Martin protesting the use of state police.

"On behalf of the CIO I protest the use of state police in an attempt to break the strike of IWA locals at Bellingham," Brophy said. "The state government should not lend itself in any way to undermining union wages and working conditions by supporting back-to-work vigilante movements.

"May I request that you urge the Bloedel-Donovan Company to accept the IWA proposal for peace."

Unionists Aid Crippled Girl

Milwaukee, Wis. — Tobacco coupons collected by CIO union members all over the country and redeemed for cash, paid for an artificial leg presented to 11-year-old Dorothy Hess by George B. Kiebler, president of District 1, Council of the United Automobile Workers.

Dorothy, daughter of Captain Erwin Hess of the suburban Whitefish Bay Fire Department, lost her right leg last May when it had to be amputated following an unsuccessful four-year fight against a bone infection.

Kiebler said that about 11,000 coupons which have been sent in since, will be saved until enough are received to pay for an artificial limb for some other sufferer.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

VOL. II—No. 2 20 January 9, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

CIO URGES UNIONS DEMAND BILLION DOLLARS FOR WPA

Demand Nazis Free American Seaman Seized on Ship

WASHINGTON — The National Maritime Union will throw its full weight into the demand for the release of George Roth, American seaman, who was seized by the Nazi secret police while on board the S. S. Washington, in port at Hamburg, Germany.

According to the NMU and the crew of the Washington, Roth was forcibly taken from the ship and put in a Nazi prison last November 29. No explanation was given by the Gestapo agents at the time, though later the charge was made that Roth possessed what they called "communistic literature". The Chief Officer of the ship made no attempt to prevent the arrest, or to ask why it was made.

FILED PROTEST

An immediate protest was filed by the crew of the S. S. Washington, and the U. S. Consul in Hamburg was urged to investigate. The Consul refused to do this, whereupon the NMU presented the case to the U. S. State Department in Washington.

The State Department has assured the NMU that "the representatives of the Department at Berlin and Hamburg will continue to follow the case closely and to extend to this American seaman all appropriate assistance and protection and will take all proper steps to safeguard his legal rights."

The NMU has sent a circular to all local unions calling attention to the case, and warning that Roth may be tried by the notorious Nazi "People's Court" early in January.

"Tell Your Congressman," Members Are Asked

(See Story Page Three)

WASHINGTON—All organizations affiliated with the CIO were this week urged to tell their Congressmen to vote for a billion-dollar WPA appropriation immediately.

Unless the money is appropriated in the next two weeks, WPA projects will commence to close down on January 26, and all WPA work will be terminated by February 7.

The CIO has taken the position that any amount less than a billion dollars will fail to fit WPA's minimum needs, will endanger the entire recovery program and will lead to intense human distress during the next few months.

Pres. Lewis of the CIO made the call for the billion-dollar appropriation immediately after announcement of the dwindling of the WPA funds a few weeks ago.

In an open letter to Congress, Ralph Hetzel, Jr., CIO unemployment director, this week warned that cities and states are unable to handle the huge relief burden, and pointed out that a reduction in WPA spending would be a serious blow to the nation, both to workers and jobless alike. (See Page 5.)

Letters to Representatives should be addressed to them at the House Office Building, Washington, D. C., while communications to Senators should be sent to the Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

Labor Board Again Raps Girdler

Washington—Cracking down on the Republic Steel Corporation for the second time in recent weeks, the National Labor Relations Board has ordered Tom Girdler's concern to stop its unfair labor practices at the Beaver Falls, Pa., plant of its subsidiary, the Union Drawn Steel Company.

The company was also ordered to reinstate with back pay two employes refused employment after the May 1937 strike, in order to discourage membership in the Steel Workers Organizing Committee.

HELPED FAKE UNION

Tracing the recent history of anti-union activity at the Beaver Falls plant, the Board brought out that four company unions had been fostered at various times since the National Labor Relations Act was passed, in attempts to prevent employes from belonging to a genuine trade union.

Other efforts to defeat unionization by the CIO, included the distribution of pamphlets among the employes calling the SWOC, among other things, "communistic" and fascistic".

Republic Steel claimed that it was not responsible for the unfair labor practices at the Beaver Falls plant, as the subsidiary was a separate corporation. The Board disproved this by showing that Republic had stationed its sergeant of police at the plant, and that it had furnished its subsidiary with anti-SWOC pamphlets, a supply of tear gas, and some 25 guards used to defeat organization by the SWOC.

Office Workers Sign With Bank

Chicago — A contract covering 50 bank clerks, tellers, bookkeepers and stenographers was signed here between Local 24, United Office & Professional Workers and the Amalgamated Trust and Savings Bank.

The contract, which is the third yearly agreement negotiated with the Amalgamated, provides for 6 per cent pay increases, amounting to at least five dollars a month for practically every employe. Tellers and certain others receive ten dollar raises.

Clauses in the previous contract guaranteeing a closed shop, job security, arbitration, and the 40-hour week were renewed in the new agreement.

15,000 Vote In Poll At 'Postal'

New York—One of the largest elections ever conducted by the Natl. Labor Relations Board is being held among more than 15,000 of the 17,000 employes of the Postal Telegraph-Cable Co., land line system.

At the poll which began Dec. 19, employes are voting on the question of whether or not they wish to be represented by the American Communications Association, CIO.

CTU OFF BALLOT

The original election order issued by the Board provided that the name of the Commercial Telegraphers Union, AFL communications union, also should apear on the ballot. Later at the request of the CTU the Board issued an amended order dated Dec. 5, which removed the CTU from the ballot.

At present the ACA holds collective bargaining agreements with Postal Telegraph covering about 10,000 of the company's employes. ACA officials predict that the outcome of the Labor Board poll among Postal employes will be an overwhelming victory for the ACA and the CIO.

POPULAR SHOWS

New York—Federal WPA theater attendance will exceed $3,000,000 for 1938, according to estimates.

Cab Drivers Get Exercise

New York hackies, used to sitting, are getting plenty of exercise as they take to the picket line to gain a new contract with operators of leading taxi fleets in the nation's largest city. A meeting of 6,000 drivers authorized leaders of their organization, the Transport Workers Union, to call the walkout. (See Story Page 7.)

Marine Group To Meet In Chicago

NEW YORK—Joseph Curran, president of the National Maritime Union, CIO, and chairman of the CIO Maritime Committee, has called a meeting of the Committee to be held January 16, at the Hotel Morrison in Chicago.

In the official call, Curran stated that the meeting will consider an organizing program for the maritime industry and a legislative program which will protect maritime unions against efforts of the U. S. Maritime Commission to destroy them.

Guild Nails Distortion of Labor Board Story

Fit to Print?

NLRB REPORT STIRS LUMBER TOWN'S IRE

Examiner Scores Residents as 'Trouble Makers' for Routing C. I. O. Organizers

ORDERS 8 'REDS' REHIRED

Newberry, Mich., Citizens Retort There Was Peace Before 'Agitators' Arrived

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

NEWBERRY, Mich., Dec. 11.—Residents here are aroused over the report of a trial examiner for the National Labor Relations Board which, they assert, puts the town in a false light and encourages C. I. O. "agitators." The report contains findings against the Newberry Lumber and Chemical Company, following a hearing for eight discharged lumber mill workers.

Townspeople say the report, while not completely untrue, is ridiculous.

They first showed their resentment against attempts of C. I. O. representatives to organize the 350 to 500 woodsmen and mill workers in June, 1937, when a group of twenty-five C. I. O. men descended upon Newberry and demanded that the mill plant be closed until their demands were met. The twenty-five were chased out of Newberry.

When the C. I. O. organizers left they said they would be back the next day with reinforcements. Two hundred men arrived from Munising and the lumber camps of Alger County in the upper peninsula, but when they started into Newberry they were met by several hundred townsmen and driven out.

At the time of the second expulsion it was learned that eight employes of the mill did not take part. Angry townsmen started for the mill to chase these men out of town. A friend warned them in time and they fled to their homes. Then a sawmill crew employed by the company told Philip S. Hamilton, general manager, that the eight men were Communists and warned him that the workers would not permit the eight to be rehired, it was said.

Later workers wrecked a hall which they said had been used by the eight as a Communist headquarters. Then the C. I. O. obtained the hearing which resulted in the NLRB examiner's report.

Townsmen who took part in routing the C. I. O. organizers were denounced in the report as riotous trouble makers without respect for the rights of others. This charge is particularly resented since, residents say, the town was at peace until the organizers arrived.

The examiner recommended that the company rehire the eight alleged Communists and pay them from June, 1937. The company was told it must dissolve the company union. Officials say the company has no control over the union and could not dissolve it under the labor act, since it is a labor organization chosen by the employes themselves.

The company was told it must rebuild the Communist hall and refurnish it, although the company declares the destruction was carried out by townspeople generally and against the pleas of A. L. Fayles, company counsel.

Exception to the entire report has been filed with the Labor Board.

The New York Times, which boasts that it prints all the news that's fit to print, forgot about its slogan when it carried this story aimed at discrediting the CIO and covering up vigilante activity in northern Michigan. Actually, the injured men were members of an AFL lumber workers union, who were attacked by a vigilante mob. One union man was killed, a Labor Board investigation showed. The union switched to the CIO three months after the mobs' attack.

Accuses New York Times

New York—Gross distortion in the handling of a news story which tended to "smear" the National Labor Relations Board and the CIO was charged this week to the New York Times, one of the nation's most important newspapers, by the Guild Reporter, official organ of the American Newspaper Guild.

The story in question (see picture at left) concerned a ruling of the NLRB on the case of the Newberry Chemical and Lumber Co. in Newberry, Mich.

Without quoting a single resident of the town, the story attempted to describe the community as "aroused" over the "ridiculous" NLRB report.

SHIELDS VIGILANTES

The piece referred frequently to "CIO agitators" but made no mention whatever of the fact that company-dominated vigilantes had attacked members of the Lumber and Sawmill Workers, AFL, injuring many of them and causing the death of one of the workers. The union later joined the CIO.

The Times story gave the impression that the strikers had provoked a riot, failing to mention that a rumpus was started when armed vigilantes attacked a peaceful picket line. When the strikers fled into a Finnish Workers Hall—described as a "Communist hall" in the Times story—the vigilantes followed them, and wrecked the building.

The Labor Board report, on which the Times carried no story when it appeared, ordered the reinstatement of a number of workers and the repairing of the hall by the company.

NO COMMENT

The Guild Reporter submitted its story to Edwin James, managing editor of the Times, for inspection before it appeared in the union organ, but he made no comment.

Said the Guild Reporter: "The Times' story, published in place of the revelations of the sworn testimony, is, if it's believed, well calculated to allay the public horror that would arise if the facts in the NLRB report became known.

"If this is the case, the story would fit in with the press tactics of the European Fascist countries, where organized gangs do their jobs and the incidents are dressed up to sound spontaneous and acceptable to the public."

New Homes For Old

A department dealing with the need for better housing and how to obtain it, conducted by the CIO Committee on Housing.

By THOMAS HUMPHRIES

The New Deal's low-rent housing program is having hard sledding in many cities and towns.

Almost without exception, however, the local CIO unions are rallying behind the banner of better housing.

CIO delegations have appeared before scores of city councils. CIO leaders have minced no words. In unmistakable terms they have given expression to labor's — and the general public's—desire that the housing program go ahead at top speed.

But the enemies of low-rent housing have also been vocal.

Reactionary real estate men who glean their living from the slum areas wail against public housing. Banks which have heavy investments in smelly, run-down dumps and are afraid that public housing will endanger their investments join in the outcry. They send lawyers and real estate "specialists" before the City Councils to present fanciful "facts" about the USHA program.

In slick, oily phrases these people charge that local housing projects for the city's workers will ruin the city's finances, increase local taxes and throw private builders and realtors on relief.

KNOWING THE ANSWERS

Unfortunately the CIO'ers have often been thrown for a loss.

They have been unable to answer convincingly some of the high pressure arguments presented by the opponents of better housing for workers. They have been surpassed by no one in showing the need for slum clearance. But they have not done so well in meeting the realtors and bankers on their own ground!

The urgent need of the moment is for CIO leaders and CIO rank-and-filers to learn all the arguments and all the anwers backwards and forwards. They must study the inner workings of the housing program now being developed under the wing of the United States Housing Authority.

WHAT TO READ

There are two pamphlets which should be read by every CIO'er who lives in a substandard home, who pays excessive rents, who is at all interested in doing away with the slums and getting decent housing at low rents.

Both of them are easy reading. Both can be secured without much trouble.

The first is "Labor's Program for Better Housing". This concise 27-page pamphlet is published by the CIO Committee on Housing. It costs only 3 cents per copy. Unions can order large quantities at reduced rates: $2 for 100, $12 for 1,000.

Two leading figures in the housing movement have commented upon this pamphlet. Said Nathan Straus, U. S. Housing Administrator: "An excellent piece of work, clear, forceful and convincing." According to Catherine Bauer, author of Modern Housing, "It's a good job and ought to be very useful."

The second is "What the Housing Act Can Do For Your City." This attractive pamphlet — published by the USHA—is well illustrated with photos of slums and of housing projects. It contains many useful tables and a wealth of vividly-presented facts.

Copies of this pamphlet have been sent to all CIO internationals, Regional Directors and Industrial Union Councils. Additional copies may be secured without payment by writing to the United States Housing Authority, Washington, D. C.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

During the coming weeks this column will discuss the basic issues that figure in most local squabbles about housing.

CIO'ers who need ammunition in their struggle to have a housing program get under way in their locality are hereby invited to send me their questions. Even more important, CIO'ers who feel that they know how housing's enemies can best be defeated on their own ground should take this opportunity to present their ideas.

Hosiery Workers End Long Fight, Get Three-Year Pact

HATBORO, Pa. — A three-year contract signed between Branch 68, American Federation of Hosiery Workers and the new owners of the DuBarry Co., has brought to a successful conclusion a long battle waged by the CIO union.

The DuBarry firm has purchased the machinery formerly used by the Oscar Nebel Co., the hosiery concern which tried to move its plant to Virginia several months ago, and precipitated a riot in which a worker was killed by a Hatboro police officer.

The agreement signed with DuBarry calls for a closed shop, check-off of union dues, and is to be effective for three years.

Alex Scott, of Scott Brothers Mill in Philadelphia, is president of the new company.

Mexico Gives Print Shop To Workers

Mexico City, (D. F.)—President Lazaro Cardenas' New Year gift to the Mexican printing workers is the government plant in this city, which does an annual business of $1,500,000.

The plant will be operated by the printers' union. Its former director, Ortiz Hernan, has been directed to establish a government paper mill to bring down paper prices to a point where workers and peasants can afford to buy periodicals and literature.

Machines In, Men Out At Hershey

Hershey, Pa. — New machines recently installed by the Hershey Chocolate Corp. this week started a series of gradually increasing layoffs, which will precipitate a serious unemployment situation among the workers of the chocolate king, according to the CIO union here.

Claiming that the company made $5,000,000 in profits during 1937, and more than that in 1938, the United Chocolate Workers, CIO local 2, is protesting the layoffs on the basis that the company can well afford to keep all its employes on the payrolls, and not make them bear the brunt of the technological changes made in the plant.

The company employs some 2,000 production workers at its Hershey plant.

TO VISIT CIO

San Francisco—Students from University of California, Stanford and other colleges in this area will visit meetings of the city's Industrial Union Council as part of their educational program.

Longshoremen Ask Poll in Hawaii

Honolulu, T. H. — Representatives of Local 1-37, Intl. Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, CIO, conferred with officials of the McCabe, Hamilton & Renny Co. in the office of the Labor Board examiner here, concerning an election for a collective bargaining agency.

Claiming to represent a majority of the stevedores employed by the company, the union has proposed that a Labor Board poll be held this month.

William Piilani, president of the Local, Fred Kamahoahoa, and the McCabe grievance committee represented the union.

Fur Union Gets New Raises Through Pact

New York—Two new provisions of an agreement signed in May, 1938, after a general strike in the fur industry here went into effect January 1, according to an announcement from the Joint Council of the International Fur Workers, CIO.

A $2 increase in the minimum wage scales of all fur workers, affecting 13,000 members of the Furriers' Joint Council of New York, is one of the newly effective provisions. A similar increase was received at the conclusion of the strike.

The other provision limits the work of employers as craftsmen.

Until the expiration of the agreement Feb. 15, 1941, only one employer will be permitted to do the work of a craftsman. Previously two employers were allowed to do this. This limitation is intended to lessen the unemployment situation in the fur trade.

In his report to the fur workers on the union's achievements in 1938, Irving Potash, manager of the Joint Council, said that "despite the great depression in the fur trade in 1938, the union nevertheless carried through an enormous amount of work and recorded a number of outstanding accomplishments."

$28,000,000 For Jobless

Washington. — Nearly $28,000,000 in benefits were paid out by 29 state unemployment compensation agencies during November, according to figures released by the Social Security Board January 2.

This is a decline of about 21 per cent from the October total. Since August 1938, the amount has been declining steadily, with the sharpest decrease in November.

FDR's Message Defends New Deal Policies

WASHINGTON—Staunch defense of the New Deal's spending policies and a warning that to curb government relief agencies is to invite a new depression, were contained in Pres. Roosevelt's two messages to Congress this week.

The budget message called for expenditures of $2,019,000 for unemployment in the next fiscal year. It mentions, however, an immediate deficiency appropriation for WPA of only $875,000,000 less than the CIO has been demanding.

The President took the position that government expenditures in the last six years have helped build the national wealth.

"Let us all fix that fact in our minds so that there shall be no doubt about it and so that we may have a clear and intelligent idea of what we have been doing," he stated.

"We have not been throwing the taxpayers' money out of the window or into the sea. We have been buying real values with it. Let me repeat: The greater part of the budgetary deficits that have been incurred have gone for permanent, tangible additions to our national wealth.

"The balance has been an investment in the conservation of our human resources and I do not regard a penny of it as wasted."

DEFENDS WPA

Turning to recent WPA activities, the Chief Executive commented:

"A year ago, I recommended an increase in work relief, public works, and other related expenditures to check the downward spiral of business.

"The program undertaken at that time has contributed materially I believe, to the existing upward movement of business and employment, and I feel that the business men and farmers and workers of the country no less than the unemployed, are entitled to an assurance that this program will not be curtailed arbitrarily or violently.

"The necessity of increasing federal expenditures a year ago to check a recession is a well-known fact. Any decision to decrease those expenditures now that recovery has just started would constitute a new policy which ought not to be adopted

Continued on Page Six

Labor Board Wins Point In Ford Case

Washington — The National Labor Relations Board opened the new year with another victory in the U. S. Supreme Court.

In a unanimous decision, the justices upheld the Board's procedure in the Ford Motor Co. case, and took note of the fact that delays in the handling of the case were caused by Ford's tactics.

The ruling, though concerned chiefly with a legal technicality, will vastly strengthen the Board's hand, and will remove the possibility of the case being quashed at a later date by the high tribunal.

The Board's order against Ford was first issued in December, 1937. A month later the Supreme Court indicated that a "full and fair hearing" should give defendants the right to argue before the Board after an intermediate report had been filed by the trial examiner.

When the Board endeavored to follow the new procedure, the Ford Co. asked the Supreme Court to refuse permission to the NLRB to withdraw its order, since it was already in the jurisdiction of the lower court. Had Ford won its argument, the Board would have been in a position of being unable to conform with the Supreme Court's recommendation.

NEGOTIATE

New York—Negotiations for a contract with the American Woolen Co. have been resumed, Sidney Hillman, chairman of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee told the TWOC advisory council at its meeting here.

Dies Report Proves Dud; Asks $150,000

Washington—The Dies Committee, allegedly investigating un-American activities, concluded months of labor this week and, in a report to Congress, brought forth a weak pink mouse—together with a hopeful request for an additional $150,000.

In his 179-page report, Dies finally admitted that his committee's investigation was something less than 100 per cent satisfactory, but he chose to blame Pres. Roosevelt, former WPA Administrator Harry Hopkins and the Department of Justice for failure to co-operate with his red-baiters.

Only about 30 pages were devoted to Nazi and Fascist activities in the country. The remainder was largely concerned with "communism", as Dies saw it.

HITS PERKINS

The committee, judging from the report, considers Secretary of Labor Frances E. Perkins as one of the main dangers to the American system of government, and is critical of her handling of the Bridges case. During the hearings, it is recalled, Miss Perkins sent a long letter to Dies justifying the Labor Department's actions in the Bridges case. The letter satisfied most fair-minded observers, but appeared to have been lost on the Texas Congressman.

The Labor Board also drew criticism from Dies, largely because its research director had once written an article on a Socialist convention in Austria.

QUOTES STRIKEBREAKER

Dies contended many times in the report that he had "convincing proof" or "conclusive proof" to back up his statements. Almost invariably the "proof" consisted of testimony given the committee by J. B. Matthews, former head of Consumers Research, who used tear gas and labor spies against his employes during a strike a few years ago.

CIO Opens Fight For Adequate WPA Funds

WASHINGTON—The CIO prepared this week to redouble its fight to win speedy passage of a billion-dollar WPA deficiency appropriation and prevent the closing of all WPA projects throughout the nation by February 7. It called on its unions to write and wire members of Congress to show labor's stand.

International unions and industrial union councils in increasing numbers have informed the CIO that they are taking action to back the CIO demand, made by Pres. John L. Lewis two weeks ago.

President Powers Hapgood, of the United Shoe Workers announced that all Senators and Representatives have received communications from his union urging the billion-dollar appropriation. The United Rubber Workers has adopted a similar program, and the National Maritime Union is appealing to all east coast seamen to make known their demands.

All CIO affiliates in New Jersey and Alabama have been asked to notify their Congressional delegations of the CIO stand on the relief issue. In addition, industrial union councils in scattered sections of the nation are taking similar action.

Pres. Roosevelt's budget message, it is noted, contained a request for $875,000,000 for WPA. CIO leaders point out, however, that full billion is needed if further curtailment of WPA activities is to be forestalled.

OPEN LETTER

In an open letter to Congress Ralph Hetzel, Jr., CIO Unemployment director, warned that a suggested appropriation of only half a billion dollars would "create indescribable misery among millions of honest, decent, American citizens who want work but can not get it."

Support for the CIO position on WPA was seen this week in a front page editorial appearing in the Philadelphia Record, pro-New Deal paper. It said:

"So far this government has played a cruel game of expanding and contracting WPA as if it were an accordion.

"No one should be dropped from WPA until there is a place for him in private employment. But hundreds of thousands have been thrown off WPA as if they were so many bags of salt, thereby scaring the living daylights not only out of all WPA workers, but out of three times as many marginal workers who live in constant fear that they, too, will be jobless.

SOUND IDEA

"A job for everyone is economically sound.

"It can be accomplished without increasing the national debt. When we examine the proposition, we find it is not such a staggering task as might appear at first glance. At most, it would add $3,000,000,000 a year to the present relief expenditure. This is based on putting 2,000,000 additional heads of families to work at $750 a year, and 4,000,000 supplementary workers at half that amount per year."

Appointed

Workers hailed Pres. Roosevelt's appointment of former Gov. Frank Murphy of Michigan to fill the cabinet seat vacated by Atty. Gen. Homer S. Cummings, who recently resigned. Murphy's handling of the auto strikes two years ago, which led to a peaceful settlement without bloodshed, won him a place as one of labor's outstanding friends

Cardinal Supports Hearst Strikers

Chicago—The 600 CIO strikers on Hearst's two Chicago papers have found support from the Chicago Diocese, led by George Cardinal Mundelein.

In the Christmas issue of the Diocesan newspaper, The New World, special greetings are sent to the strikers, members of the CIO Newspaper Guild:

"A Happy and a Blessed Christmas to all our readers and a special prayer and word of encouragement to the Hearst employes who are on strike," the paper says in its weekly column "Big Broadcast."

The column then goes on to analyze the role of William Green and the top leaders of the AFL in coming to Hearst's aid in fighting the strike.

FOR OR AGAINST?

"He (Green) is riding two horses going in opposite directions," the column says. "He professes to be for labor and he speaks and acts otherwise. The question should be put to him in simple terms. Is he for labor or is he against it?"

Discussing Green's assertion that AFL headquarters would support those AFL unions remaining "loyal" to Hearst, the New World adds:

"Mr. Green assured himself of a good press in the American (a Hearst paper) by asserting that the AFL is giving complete support to the AFL organizations that have remained loyal to Mr. Hearst in the strike now in progress at the Herald and Examiner and the Chicago Evening American.

"It seems timely to say something about this strike in which Mr. Green and the AFL are supporting the Hearst management. The American Newspaper Guild is a CIO affiliate. The units at the Hearst papers went out on strike December 5 in protest against wholesale dismissals in the circulation department.

"They also charged continued violations of the contract of employment by the Hearst management and the formation of company unions in collaboration with AFL officials. Picketing has gone on and there have been clashes on the picket line."

PRIEST SPEAKS

After pointing out that Father John M. Hayes spoke to a strikers' mass meeting, the column in the New World goes on to analyze the old familiar red herring that enemies of the strikers are trying to drag out.

"We mention the strike because of the persistent efforts of the daily papers to hook up the CIO with communism. For the information of our readers we may say that there are many Catholics who belong to the Guild who walked out, and who are still on strike.

"Father Hayes' appearance before the strikers also indicates how much reliance should be placed in these charges."

"Calamity"--If WPA Ends, Says League

WASHINGTON—Sharp warning that the threatened suspension of WPA would be "an immeasurable national calamity" was sent out to all Representatives and Senators by Labor's Non-Partisan League in a letter over the signature of E. L. Oliver, executive vice-president.

"Inadequate as the program of the WPA has always been," Oliver wrote, "it is nevertheless the only thing that stands between millions of Americans and literal starvation.

"At least 10,500,000 workers in the U. S. are unemployed. The WPA is now providing 3,100,000 jobs. Approximately 750,000 of those who had been certified as eligible for WPA could not be placed because of the limited program."

DESTITUTION THREATENED

Oliver also pointed out that curtailment or drastic cutting would intensify this problem, already acute, and bring mass destitution to millions of Americans. At least $1,000,000,000.00 is needed to continue WPA even at its present rate up to June, 1939, he said.

"In accordance with the requests reaching us, and in view of the incalculably harmful effects of WPA suspension, Labor's Non-Partisan League respectfully urges that Congress immediately provide the funds required by the WPA through this fiscal year," the letter concluded. "Only by prompt action can a great catastrophe be avoided."

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II January 9, 1939 No. 2

Labor, Farmers and the National Guard

Oil workers held by the National Guard in the strikebound refinery of the Mid-Continent Petroleum Corporation in Oklahoma are reported to have been making their escape to join the union ranks by swimming the Arkansas river in near-zero weather.

What is happening in this strike illustrates the courage and resourcefulness of American workers when they are compelled to fight for their union rights.

It also illustrates the hypocrisy of the pretexts on which the National Guard is often brought in to break a strike. The usual excuse is that troops are necessary to protect workers who wish to act as strikebreakers. But here we have workers who resent being herded as scabs so much that they are willing to brave both troops and chilly waters to join with striking unionists.

The whole incident lends point to the demand of the CIO for state legislation to curb the use of the National Guard in labor disputes.

A draft bill has been sent out to all CIO affiliates and Industrial Union Councils in the various states, based on the principle that "except where martial law is declared, the National Guard may not deprive any person of his rights and liberties under the constitution of the United States or of the states."

The bill would require public hearings by the Governor before the Guard is sent in, would allow the Guard to be sent in only for a fixed period and in fixed numbers, and would force the Guard or the state to pay damages in any civil suit arising from its actions.

Since 1877 at least 100 workers have been killed by Guardsmen in labor disputes. Farmers have also suffered at their hands when the Guard has been sent in to break their resistance to greedy distributors of farm products.

The union-fighting Mid-Continent Petroleum Corp. markets its products largely in farm areas. Farmers therefore as well as labor generally are being urged to aid the Oil Workers International Union in this fight for its collective bargaining rights. They may also be reasonably expected to join with labor in seeking legislation in every state to curb the use of the National Guard for strikebreaking purposes.

Striking Newspapermen

Labor unionists in every industry will sympathize with the American Newspaper Guild in its present struggles to win collective bargaining rights for newspaper employes.

The fact that they are white-collar employes has not brought these workers any politer treatment from union-busting employers than has been meted out to manual workers.

In Chicago, brass knuckles, lead pipes, baseball bats, knives and guns have been brought into play by goon squads against Guild members on strike against the Hearst papers there.

These papers are charged with violating their contracts with the Guild on 87 counts and firing 500 employes during the past 18 months.

In Chicago, as in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., where the Guild is also on strike against local papers, this newspapermen's union is seeking no more than the basic collective bargaining rights which have long ago been won by other classes of employes.

In Wilkes-Barre, the United Mine Workers and the rest of organized labor are solidly supporting the Guild's fight for unionism.

Labor throughout the whole country can also make its voice heard in support of the Chicago Hearst strikers by notifying the national management of the Hearst chain of papers in New York City that working people everywhere resent the denial of their legal union rights to the Chicago employes of the Hearst papers.

Hey, Lifeguard, Wake Up!

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Tory Tactics In Congress

DESPITE the cocky mood of some of the tories who won out in the recent elections, reaction is going to try to play a canny game in the new Congress.

Labor and progressives generally will have to be on guard more against flank maneuvers than frontal attacks.

Old Guard Democrats and Republicans have regained a little of the confidence that was so badly shattered by the New Deal sweep of recent years.

But only the fools among them will kid themselves that they have any mandate for outright attacks on progressive legislation. The rest will continue the tactics they used in the elections, of proclaiming their support for such legislation in principle, as camouflage for their attacks on it in practice.

The National Association of Manufacturers, which is the spiritual home of such tories, set the keynote for their tactics at its recent convention.

Instead of making a frontal attack on the Wagner Labor Relations Act, for instance, the NAM adopted a liberal declaration in favor of collective bargaining and decided to leave it to the AFL leaders to "carry the ball" in demanding amendments.

The character of the attacks now being made on the Wagner Act and the WPA are an indication of reaction's general strategy in the new Congress.

The tories know as well as anyone else that these are among the most popular pieces of current legislation, and they hate them all the more on that account.

But they do not dare to risk their political necks by exposing their hatred in public. So they seek to discredit the WPA administration and the Labor Board, and to strangle their work by inadequate appropriations and emasculating amendments.

Hence all the hullaballoo in the press at the opening of Congress about "politics" in the WPA; while a Democrat like Congressman Woodrum proposes that only $500,000,000 be appropriated to continue a program that needs at least a billion dollars if hundreds of thousands of unemployed are not to be victimized.

Hence also the line of attack on the Wagner Act. No politician dares to say he opposes the collective bargaining rights which the act proclaims and protects. But the odoriferous Dies Committee is encouraged to slander its administration and personnel; a campaign is launched against reappointment of a Board member; and the worst labor-hating tories declare their sympathies for AFL attempts to throw the act open to crippling amendments.

By such tactics the tories hope to bulldoze the administration into yielding to some of their demands. They hope also to trick Congress into enacting an essentially reactionary program, which most members of Congress know would excite the greatest popular indignation if baldly presented in its true colors.

Under such circumstances, labor and the progressive forces have their work cut out to keep clearly before the public and Congress the real issues which reaction seeks to confuse.

The simple and clear-cut legislative program of the CIO and Labor's Non-Partisan League is designed to do just that.

The first and immediate issue is continuation of the endangered WPA program. For this John L. Lewis, on behalf of the movement, has called for a deficiency appropriation of at least a billion dollars to continue WPA up to June 30, 1939.

Then in regard to defense of the Wagner Act, the CIO exposes all the camouflaged attacks on this basic charter of labor's rights by its opposition to all amendments.

Further, it demands a more consistent application of the law, by calling for legislation to require government contractors to abide by the Wagner Act if they are to continue to receive government business.

The rest of the program calls for improved social legislation to bring greater security to the aged and other groups who are now unprotected; to make adequate medical care and decent housing the right of every American; to protect the civil liberties of working people; and generally to advance the economic and social interests of the great majority of the population.

This whole program is definitely in line with the wishes of the great majority of the voters, and few politicians will dare openly to oppose the popular principles which it embodies.

But the opposition of tory reaction will take the form of confusing the issue, of drawing red herrings across the trail, and of putting every kind of private pressure on the legislators.

Against such kinds of pressure, labor will have to mobilize all the forces at its command time and again during the present Congress, to impress both the administration and the legislators with the insistent character of the popular demand for progressive legislation.

To do this, labor will have to consolidate and expand its union strength in the coming year. And in alliance with all progressives, it will have to build Labor's Non-Partisan League into a great independent political force which will uphold the hand of its friends and throw fear into the camp of its tory enemies.

Your WPA Job

By Ralph Hetzel, Jr.
CIO Unemployment Director

An Open Letter To a Congressman

Dear Sir:

Throughout the country CIO members have manifested great concern about your recent statement that the deficiency appropriation for the WPA be limited to $500,000,000.

They ask, "How can a responsible public official advocate a cut in WPA expenditures which would virtually halve the present program and yet know the extent of unemployment throughout the nation?"

The situation is this: There are at the lowest estimate at least ten and a half million unemployed employable non-agricultural workers. It is difficult to imagine an improvement in industrial conditions which would re-employ more than 500,000 of these workers in the next five months. Therefore the nation has the responsibility to care for at least ten million employable workers.

FORCED REDUCTION

At the peak of WPA employment during the past year only 3,250,000 persons have been employed on WPA. Contrary to the widespread report that re-employment in private industry began in November to reduce the WPA rolls, the fact is that such reduction has been forced by administrative orders and does not reflect any reduction among those who need WPA work.

There are, and have been for some time, at least 750,000 unemployed workers who have been certified as eligible to WPA and who have not received jobs. In addition there are in all probability at least a million more who are eligible to be certified if the local certifying agencies would accept their applications.

In the face of these conditions reduction in the WPA at the present time would be a bitter blow to American economic conditions. In addition it would create indescribable misery among millions of honest, decent American citizens who want work but cannot get it.

NO DISCRIMINATION

In your statement you suggested a reduction of projects for professional and so-called white collar workers. It is difficult to see that such workers have any less rights than industrial workers or that their misery from unemployment is any less poignant.

Your statement further suggests that relief of the unemployed be turned back to the States. We are certain that any careful survey of the financial condition of the various States and cities will clearly indicate that they are simply incapable of supporting their unemployed.

Return of relief to the States would recreate the chaos in the unemployment problem which existed before the beginning of the present administration, a chaos which the New Deal was instrumental in ending.

In the light of these conditions among the unemployed it is apparent that a deficiency appropriation for the rest of the current fiscal year to the WPA should be made in at least the amount of a billion dollars. Such an appropriation would do no more than maintain the WPA rolls at the November level—a level still inadequate to the need of the unemployed.

We most earnestly urge your careful consideration of the facts and your support of this amount for the current appropriation.

Catholic Leaders Blast Coughlin's Anti-Semitism; Paper Bans CIO Article

WASHINGTON—Father Charles E. Coughlin, anti-Semitic, anti-labor "radio priest," is under fire again from leaders of his Church.

The latest attack is contained in the current issue of Commonweal, influential Catholic weekly, over the signature of Monsignor John A. Ryan of Catholic University. It follows closely on criticism by Cardinal Mundelein of Chicago, whose diocesan paper recently disavowed Coughlin as a Church spokesman.

Monsignor Ryan's article, an objective analysis of Coughlin's anti-Semitic outbursts at the height of the latest Nazi pogroms, flatly accuses him of trying to add his bit to racial hatred by spreading lies about the Jewish people.

ANCIENT FALSEHOODS

Discussing a broadcast of last month, in which the Detroit priest repeated ancient falsehoods about the sinister international role of the Jews in promoting wars and insurrections, Father Ryan said:

"The only adequate answer (to the question of why Coughlin made the broadcast) is that Father Coughlin is eager, or at least willing, to promote anti-Semitism in the United States."

And warning Catholics in particular against taking part in anti-minority campaigns, he added:

"It has been urged that Catholics in particular ought to refrain from encouraging this campaign of anti-Semitism from fear that the same methods and the same psychology will be used against them when the next anti-Catholic movement gets under way.

"The first two commandments provide an infinitely higher motive and an infinitely more effective one. From every point of view Catholics should refrain from fostering by speech, action or by silence anti-Semitism in the United States."

SUPPRESS CIO ARTICLE

At the same time John Brophy, national director, CIO, disclosed that Father Coughlin had failed to print an article specially solicited for his magazine, Social Justice, on the subject of the CIO.

The article, requested by Editor White of Social Justice, briefly reviewed the past year's work of the CIO and outlined some of its principles and aims for the future.

Among other points it took up the basic CIO principle of tolerance and equality for all races and nationalities and creeds.

"There is no room for the baiting of any minority group or nationality or race in the CIO," it said. "We are against all forms of red-baiting, of Jew-baiting, of Catholic-baiting, of alien-baiting.

"In this the CIO is a true catholic organization—built upon the principles of equal treatment for all."

Though the article was ready in ample time for the Social Justice deadline as indicated by the editor, and was asked for in time for the most recent issue, it has not appeared.

REINSTATE 13

Indianapolis, Ind. — Thirteen workers at the Hoosier Veneer Company here are to be reinstated with back pay for all time lost since October 11, 1937, according to a Labor Board decision announced by Local 607, United Veneer & Lumber Workers, CIO. The company was also ordered to bargain with the CIO union upon request.

Even Sculptors Find CIO Their Organization

New York—"CIO means regimentation."

That's the daily howl of those who have exhausted all their ammunition in the fight against industrial unionism.

But when the doors open on January 7, at the New School for Social Research, 66 W. 12th Street, New York City, the howlers will get their answer in dramatic fashion.

It is on that date that the United American Sculptors, a section of the United American Artists, of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, Local 60, affiliated to the Congress of Industrial Organizations, will open its first annual exhibition.

UNION LABEL

Art is universally recognized as a highly individualized profession. Yet here we will have 77 sculptors exhibiting, among them some of the most prominent sculptors in the nation, all of them members of one union, all of their work bearing a union label on its base.

The exhibition promises to be a significant one from the artistic standpoint. It is even more significant from another standpoint. The show is a gift to the people of the country from the CIO. If not for the CIO, the show might never have taken place!

DEPENDED ON RICH

Before the depression, artists depended mainly on the patronage of the rich. They painted and cast only subjects that the art patrons fancied. Sculptors' materials are very expensive, beyond the reach of most individuals. It requires years of training and skill in the use of tools. Sculptors were, as a matter of fact, regimented in subject choice by the art patrons, and free to starve at will.

When the depression came, the artist found himself dumped overboard. He found millions of other men, of all trades and professions, in the same predicament, and he did what all the others were doing. He organized.

The art unions were in the forefront of the battle for government-sponsored projects. The result has been the greatest freedom the American artist has known in years and the flowering of a great American art movement which is still expanding.

In the above bust, Jo Davidson, internationally known sculptor, has caught the youthful spirit of Charles W. Ervin of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers. A life-long fighter in labor's cause, Ervin is known and respected by countless workers in many industries, for he is usually found where the struggle is hottest. Labor editor, organizer and speaker, he has been a champion of the CIO since its inception.

Not all of the members of the United American Sculptors are on federal projects, though the work of the project will be shown at the exhibition. Many of the sculptors joined because they felt that all sculptors could benefit from the close relation of men of similar ideas. The union has proved invaluable to them.

CIO SUPPORTS DEMAND *for* Amalgamated Label On Clothing

The Constitutional Convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations unanimously adopted a resolution in support of the union label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

The resolution reads:—

"Resolved, that this Convention of the CIO go on record as urging all members of its affiliated organizations to demand the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America label on all men's and boys' apparel in daily wear and work clothing of all kinds and to refuse to buy articles of apparel not so labeled."

Men's, Boys, children's suits, overcoats, pants, men's uniforms, sheep-lined leather and sport clothing, mackinaws.

—ON—
Overalls, Work Clothes, Work Shirts

Neckties

Men's, Boys' shirts, pajamas, underwear, white duck clothing, children's wash suits.

Gloves

The Amalgamated label is a guarantee that the product was made by Amalgamated members who enjoy union standards of wages and hours, and that the product is of the best workmanship.

Make sure that the Amalgamated label is on the coat, on the pants, on the vest and on every article of men's and boys' wearing apparel.

CIO Drafts Bills To Protect Civil Rights in Strikes

WASHINGTON. — Bills to curb the use of the National Guard in labor disputes, to guarantee collective bargaining to employes of firms holding state contracts, and to prevent local governments from infringing civil liberties are the chief items in the state legislative program outlined by the Congress of Industrial Organizations for the coming year.

In addition, the program includes measures to limit the authority of the courts in issuing injunctions, to curb the use of deputy sheriffs and private detectives, to prohibit eviction of workers on strike or unemployed, to set up state labor relations boards and state wage hours acts, and to regulate payment of wages.

Other items in the state program in preparation include bills to promote low cost housing, to improve and extend unemployment compensation laws, to establish state civil liberties bureaus, and to repeal state criminal syndicalism bills and other repressive anti-labor measures.

The program was sent out in the form of draft bills, together with a covering letter, to all CIO affiliates, Industrial Union Councils, and Regional Directors.

NATIONAL GUARD

The bill to control the National Guard is based on the principle that; "except where martial law is declared, the National Guard may not deprive any person of his rights and liberties under the constitution and laws of the United States or of the states".

The bill would require public hearings by the Governor before the Guard is sent in to aid civil authorities, would allow the Guard to be sent in only for a fixed period and in fixed numbers, and would force the Guard or the state to pay damages in any civil suit arising from its actions.

Commenting on this bill, Leo Pressman, CIO general counsel said:

"The terrible record of the National Guard amply justifies this legislation. Since 1877 at least 100 workers have met their deaths at the hands of Guardsmen, while the number of wounded men and women runs into the hundreds. The National Guard has not only been used to break strikes but also to break the resistance of farmers against the greedy policies of distributors of food products."

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

The bill to guarantee collective bargaining to workers employed by firms holding state contracts is patterned after a similar proposed federal measure, which has been placed as item No. 1 on the CIO federal legislative program, announced last week.

Similarly the bills to set up state wage and hour regulation and state labor relations boards are designed to supplement the protection to workers already available in federal law.

Measures to curb the use of deputy sheriffs and private detective agencies are designed to correct the gross abuses of workers' rights revealed by the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee, as are the bills to provide for permanent state civil liberties bureaus and to prohibit evictions of workers engaged in strikes or who are unemployed.

The bill to promote low cost housing through state legislation is intended to enable states to make loans and subsidies for this purpose, and to take full advantage of federal loans and subsidies for the same purpose.

Proposed amendments to state unemployment compensation laws are designed to increase existing benefits and to simplify procedure and administration.

Finally, the measures for the repeal of repressive anti-labor state laws will remove numerous statutes that are at present used to prevent organization and to take away workers' rights to collective bargaining through unions of their own choice, such as criminal conspiracy and anti-syndicalism statutes.

FDR Defends New Deal Policies

Continued from Page Three

without full understanding of what may be the result."

80 BILLION A YEAR

In his speech on the state of the nation, Roosevelt set a national income of 80 billion dollars a year as the goal of the New Deal, and asserted that with such an income, our present relief expenditures would scarcely be a matter of concern.

His speech called for vigorous and united defense of democracy against Fascist aggressors. "There comes a time in the affairs of men," he said, "when they must prepare to defend not their homes alone, but the tenets of faith and humanity on which their churches, their governments and their very civilization are founded.

"There are many methods short of war, but stronger and more effective than mere words, of bringing home to aggressor governments the aggregate sentiments of our own people."

Looking towards the future, the President mentioned extension of social security, launching of a federal health program, institution of economic planning, solution of the railway problem and the setting of new financial ethical standards as immediate problems.

But, he added, there is no room for dictatorship to help solve these questions. The President boasted that the New Deal has contributed to the nation's welfare "without conscription of labor or capital, without concentration camps and without a scratch on freedom of speech, freedom of the press or the rest of the Bill of Rights."

Green Signed Contract With Drug Swindler To Stall CIO Drive

BRIDGEPORT, Conn.—Swindlers and ex-convicts were not the only people who were involved in the McKesson and Robbins mess. Top leaders of the AFL were there too, with an anti-CIO contract signed by William Green, president; Lewis G. Hines, director of organization, and F. Donald Coster Musica, the crook that got away with everything for 25 years.

Coster-Musica was not only interested in fleecing his stockholders and adulterating McKesson and Robbins drugs, but he wanted to swindle his workers, too. So when the workers started to organize in District 50 of the United Mine Workers, Coster-Musica pulled a familiar trick out of the hat—a signed contract with the AFL that shut out any other unions.

According to the Bridgeport Herald, which dug up the contract and printed a photostat showing Green and Hines as signers, the clause designed to shut out the CIO read:

"The Federation agrees to do all within its power to prevent imposition upon or interference with the business of the employer by any other labor body not affiliated with the Federation."

WORKERS NOT CONSULTED

This clause, and the entire contract, was written and signed without any pretense of consulting the workers involved. As far back as August of 1937, District 50 and the CIO Office and Professional Workers had started their drives, the UOPWA conducting a strike in the company's New York plants and representing 90 per cent of the workers.

In addition, Green and Hines promised Coster-Musica that they would act as strikebreakers in the event of a labor dispute.

"Should any such other labor body attempt to strike or picket against any place of business of the employer, the Federation agrees to notify the public and keep it notified that the employer, at such place of business and elsewhere, is fair to organized labor and the Federation," the contract said.

ANTI-AFL TOO

The Green-Hines-Coster-Musica triple play was aimed not only at the CIO, but also at the rank and file of the AFL, in another clause forbidding any AFL affiliate to bargain for better conditions than the contract had secured.

Specifically, it forbade any attempt to shorten the 45-hour week in the contract, and provided that the whole business could be terminated in 10 days if any AFL affiliate failed to abide by the contract or tried to alter it.

The provisions didn't offer very much protection to the workers, according to an analysis of the contract.

You had to work a year before you got the minimum wage rates. Holidays that came on working days had to be made up, without overtime pay. Seniority clauses were tempered by a sentence that "recognized that leeway is necessary to the employer."

Compulsory arbitration was agreed to, and strikes were outlawed during the life of the contract—on no matter what provocation.

District 50 has announced that it will go back into McKesson and Robbins with an intensive organizing drive designed to clear up the mess that the AFL top leaders and the leading swindler of recent American history cooked up for the workers there.

FILE CHARGES

Hilo, Hawaii.—Fired for organizing employes of the Kress Co. store here, Thomas Nakashima, president of the United Retail Employes, CIO, has joined the ranks of five other Kress unionists, dismissed nearly a year ago for CIO activity. Charges against the company have been filed with the Natl. Labor Relations Board.

Asks Unions' Aid For Oil Workers' Strike in Tulsa

WASHINGTON—Full aid for the striking CIO oil workers in Tulsa, Okla., is urged on all CIO affiliates in a circular letter sent out over the signature of John Brophy, national director.

The letter points out that the strike was caused by the flat refusal of the company, Mid-Continent Oil, to bargain collectively or to recognize the union, a local of the Oil Workers International.

The letter adds that the Natl. Guard has been called in to try to break the strike, and that county judges in Oklahoma have obliged with a series of injunctions designed to do the same thing.

"In spite of these strike-breaking efforts," it said, "the picket lines are holding firm around the company's 1,000 acre plant in near-zero weather. Pickets report that many workers taken by the Natl. Guard through the lines have escaped by swimming a river and have signed CIO cards."

CIO affiliates are asked to write or wire expressions of support to the Oil Workers Intl. Union, 1101 Commerce St., Ft. Worth, Tex., and to send protests to Governor Phillips at Oklahoma City, Okla.

In addition affiliates are urged to put the company's products, DX Gasoline and Diamond 760 Motor Oil, on their unfair lists, and to urge local dealers not to handle these products until the strike is settled.

Mid-Continent markets chiefly in Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Here's an Example

Of National Guard working against unions in a labor dispute. An officer of the Oklahoma National Guard tries to tell members of the Oil Workers Intl. Union to break up their picket line. The Guard was called for strikebreaking purposes when CIO members walked out at the Mid-Continent Petroleum Corp. in W. Tulsa, Okla. The management had refused to bargain collectively.

Labor and the Law

By Lee Pressman

CIO General Counsel

The Courts and the Laws

We are reprinting in this column a letter which the CIO legal department sent to two Muhlenberg College students at Allentown, Pennsylvania.

"Dear Sirs:

"You have written to us stating that in 1914, Congress passed a law providing that labor unions could not be sued under the anti-trust laws, and making it lawful for unions peacefully to strike, to picket, and to boycott non-union goods. You inquire why the CIO legal department does not make use of this statute when defending lawsuits against the CIO.

"Upon receipt of your letter, our first thought was to tell you that you had misinterpreted the law, but after rereading the statute in question, we decided that you were right. Congress did pass a law in 1914 providing that labor unions could not be enjoined from carrying on peaceful labor activity and that such action was lawful. We agree with you that this is what Congress intended. However, as you know, the statutes passed by Congress are subject to interpretation by judges.

"The judges, including the United States Supreme Court, have handed down many decisions on this particular statute. The purpose of the law was plainly to correct certain decisions which had been made by the courts preventing unions from striking, picketing, and conducting boycotts. The statute was the result of years of agitation by organized labor and volumes of debates in Congress.

"When it was passed, it was hailed as the 'Magna Charta' of organized labor. Yet, notwithstanding the plain terms of the statute and its history, the judges ruled that its passage did not give any new rights whatsoever to organized labor. The judges, including a majority of the Supreme Court said that the statute only made lawful those union activities that were already held lawful by the courts before it was passed.

"The statute says that peaceful strikes, picketing and boycotts in any dispute between employers and employes or persons seeking employment concerning terms or conditions of employment are lawful. But the judges said that the refusal of union members to handle non-union goods in their own industry was unlawful. They said the statute does not protect union organizers in non-union territories, since they are rank 'outsiders.'

"They said that the statute does not apply when an employer is able to break a strike since then the relationship of employer and employee has been terminated so far as the strikers are concerned. The judges refused to permit workers to break a yellow dog contract, to attempt to gain union recognition or to persuade customers not to deal with a non-union employer.

"As has been remarked, a law means not what Congress says, but what the judges say.

"In short, by a process of judicial interpretation, the law intended to protect organized labor and give its activities legal protection, was completely nullified.

"We therefore regretfully wish to advise you that there is nothing which can be done under this statute to protect organized labor. But organized labor continued its struggles against these decisions and as a result, the Norris-La Guardia Anti-Injunction Act was passed in 1932, and the National Labor Relations Act was passed in 1935.

"We appreciate your interest in labor laws and hope that you will continue your studies along this line."

English Jobless in Protest

A demand that Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain devote more of his time to appeasing the needs of the unemployed is sweeping throughout Great Britain. Here are jobless men lying out on the snow in one of London's main highways to call attention to their plight.

District 50 Wins Case Upholding Check-off

WASHINGTON.—Strengthening of District 50, United Mine Workers, check-off rights was gained in a decision rendered by the circuit court of Cabell County, West Virginia.

The matter at issue was the check-off of dues of former members who had resigned from Local 12039 of District 50. The local had signed a contract with the Standard Ultramarine Co. of Huntington, W. Va., which contained a clause authorizing the company to deduct dues regularly from the pay of each member.

Sixteen men withdrew from the local union and sent letters of withdrawal to the company. They contended that the check-off of their dues should cease with their withdrawal from membership in the union. The case was brought before Philip G. Phillips as arbitrator in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Philips gave the following decision:

"Letters of withdrawal from employes sent to the company are not effective as against a certification by the proper union authorities, that an employe is a member of the union.

"The contract specifically states that dues be checked off for those men properly certified by the union as members. It is silent as to the form of certification and therefore any specification from the union as to who are its members should be asked by the company in good faith.

UNION'S RIGHT

"Of course the union should not certify anyone who is not a member; but the company should do nothing to persuade or dissuade its employes for or against the union. It is not for the company to decide what constitutes union membership and it is fully protected in contract from any loss which may result from an erroneous certification upon the part of the union.

"For the company to decide on its own behalf as to whether an employe is or is not a union member not only violates the rights given the union by contract, but might amount, in some instances, to tacit persuasion on the part of the company that a worker should resign from the union."

Immediately after the umpire rendered his decision in favor of Local Union 12039, the 16 former members secured an attorney and filed a petition for an injunction against Local Union 12039 and the Standard Ultramarine Company. The injunction sought to restrain these two agencies from collecting dues from the men who had resigned their membership.

The case was heard in the Circuit Court of Cabell County at Huntington, W. Va., and Special Circuit Judge George S. Wallace approved the agreement which was finally arrived at.

ALLOWED TO RESIGN

The 16 former members were given the right to resign or withdraw from membership in Local Union 12039 at any time by giving notice in writing to the president or recording secretary of the local. The obligation to continue the payment of dues to the local to the end of the contract year during which the resignation was submitted was maintained.

The company, therefore, was authorized to continue to check off membership dues and the union was entitled to collect such dues even though the 16 men had resigned their membership.

The Court went even further in maintaining the sanctity of the check-off. While the litigation was going on, the 16 former members had refused to pay their dues and the company had refused to check them off until the case was clearly decided. Under order from the Court, the Standard Ultramarine Company was required to pay to the union $5.00 for each man in back dues and the former members were required to reimburse the company for this belated check-off.

This case constitutes a landmark in the legality of the check-off clause under a contract between a union and an employer.

Oust Gorman As Head Of Textile Union

New York—The executive council of the United Textile Workers of America, CIO, this week ousted Francis J. Gorman as president on charges of violating the union constitution and supporting a dual, opposition union.

George Baldanzi, second vice-president, will serve as president until a successor is chosen.

The former UTW president failed to appear, although he had been notified to do so. The decision to oust him was made by 15 members of the executive council who attended the trial and heard the charges. The full council consists of 20 members, including Gorman.

Gorman was found guilty of: 1. Advising, assisting and encouraging a "dual and antagonistic organization"—the Providence and Woonasquatucket Woolen and Worsted Council, made up of AFL locals in opposition to the UTW.

6. Engaging in disruptive acts detrimental to the union.

2. Ceasing to be a UTW member and holding membership in an AFL local.

3. Attempting to usurp power granted the president in the UTW constitution through his attempted expulsion of four UTW vice-presidents.

4. Directing UTW locals to withhold the payment of per capita from the international.

5. Attempting to repudiate his own action in writing the agreement between the union and the CIO.

Taxi Drivers in Poll To End Walkout

NEW YORK—The most effective and most peaceful general strike of taxi drivers this great metropolis ever witnessed cleared virtually all of the city's 8,500 fleet-operated cabs off the streets here for three days—January 3-4-5—and ended in victory for the CIO Transport Workers Union. More than 11,000 cab drivers and 1,000 garage maintenance workers answered the TWU'S general strike call to compel major fleet operators to negotiate.

Less than 24 hours after the TWU declared the strike at 3 P. M. January 3, Mayor LaGuardia intervened and at a City Hall conference, 11 A. M. January 4, compelled taxi company owners to consent to a Labor Board election for collective bargaining representative. The election was to be held January 5 in one of the city's large armories.

Despite desperate last minute attempts by taxi employers to intimidate drivers and the sudden emergence of a flock of company-dominated and racketeer-led 'unions', the Transport Workers' Taxi Division was confident of overwhelming majorities in the industry-wide elections.

ALL TRANSIT SIGNED-UP

The TWU, which has closed shop contracts covering more than 55,000 employes on the city's major subway, elevated, trolley and bus lines, entered the taxicab field 18 months ago. Following a whirlwind organizing campaign it signed agreements covering more than 15,000 drivers employed by the major fleets.

The contracts established wage minimums, increased general wages by 10 per cent, shorter hours, vacations and provided for other improvements which for the first time brought some degree of stabilization to New York's most chaotic industry.

Six months ago the employers started a concerted campaign to smash the TWU. Contracts were brazenly violated and the companies refused to negotiate with the union.

The general strike was the union's reply.

The strike had been voted on December 27, but was deferred over the New Year's holiday to permit hackies to share in increased holiday revenues and to guarantee sufficient service during New Year festivities in New York.

Workers, Bosses Pleased As WPA Clothes Needy

June 25, 1938

Dear Mr. Clothing Manufacturer:

Have you a surplus of good, sound clothing in the low-price field? If so, please send samples and quote your lowest terms.

Yours truly,
UNCLE SAM

December 15, 1938

Dear Mr. Smith:

Will you kindly bring your boy James and your wife Martha to see us next Tuesday morning if convenient? We have something to talk over that we think will interest you.

Yours truly,
JOHN JONES
Welfare Department.

This, in the very simplest terms, is the gist of some important correspondence that has been entered into during the past six months. There hasn't been much in the papers about it yet. What it all comes down to is that the government is trying to help the clothing manufacturers out of a hole, put garment workers back on their jobs, and give clothes to people who are so poor that they couldn't possibly get new cloths in any other way.

HILLMAN'S IDEA

The idea originated with Pres. Sidney Hillman of the CIO Amalgamated Clothing Workers. Union members were jobless, stocks of clothes had piled up, and the industry was in a sick condition.

Hillman communicated with WPA Administrator Harry Hopkins, made arrangements for the government to become Number One clothing buyer.

And so last June a letter went out to every clothing manufacturer in the country. Soon the samples began to come in. Next, a dozen dollar-a-year men from the biggest clothing wholesale houses in the country set to work to choose the best bargains for the Government out of the thousands offered.

Next, through the Treasury Procurement Division, the Government bought $15,000,000 worth of warm, sturdy coats, suits and dresses, most of them practically at cost, to be distributed to people like Mr. and Mrs. Smith and their boy James who couldn't possibly buy them but who needed them the worse way.

EMPLOYERS HAPPY

Competition with business, all this? Not at all. After business had a chance to study the plan, it enthusiastically endorsed it.

The people who are getting these clothes aren't potential customers. Some of them never had a decent garment before in their lives; all of them are in such desperate need that a few extra nickels spent on milk would cause a serious budget problem. Moreover, they represent less than one-tenth of the people in this country badly in need of essential clothing and unable to buy it.

Remember the old story of Mahomet and the mountain? All right, said Hopkins, here is your mountain—a mountain of clothing surpluses piled up so high it would take a Swiss yodeler to get into communication with the owners. Will the mountain move? It will not.

IT'S SIMPLE!

How about bringing Mahomet to the mountain? How about letting case workers from local relief offices find out just what people need a coat or a suit the most? Get statisticians to figure out the proper proportion of people in each state to get the clothes, so that distribution will be just as even and fair as possible.

What happened was that 70,000 workers in the garment industry went back to their jobs; payrolls increased by more than $2,500,000 weekly (this in spite of seasonal trends); ninety-five per cent of the surplus in men's and boys' clothing was absorbed, and hundreds of factories began operating full time.

Altogether, 3,385,000 units of union-made men's and boys' wear, and 3,055,000 units of women's and children's wear have been purchased.

Clothes from Uncle Sam

Millions of people throughout the nation have benefitted through the WPA plan of buying up surplus clothing and distributing it to the needy. Picture shows typical scenes as children and men receive new garments from WPA.

Union, Goodyear End Parleys

Akron, Ohio.—Negotiations for a written contract with the Goodyear Company here have ended for the present with the firm refusal to enter into an agreement "at this time", Local 2, United Rubber Workers announced here.

Efforts to get the company to sign a contract began in June 1937, at which time Goodyear officials indicated they were ready to negotiate an agreement. Conferences held at various times for more than a year, however, failed to induce the company to agree to terms which the CIO union could accept.

READY TO RESUME

The negotiating committee states that it is ready to resume conferences at any time.

URW locals at Cumberland, Md., and Los Angeles, Calif., say that they have received the same treatment as Local 2.

Goodyear is the only large rubber company in the United States operating on a strictly open shop basis. The firm's chief competitors, Goodrich, Firestone, and U. S. Rubber, are all operating under written contracts with the United Rubber Workers.

Ask Mooney To Address Oregon CIO

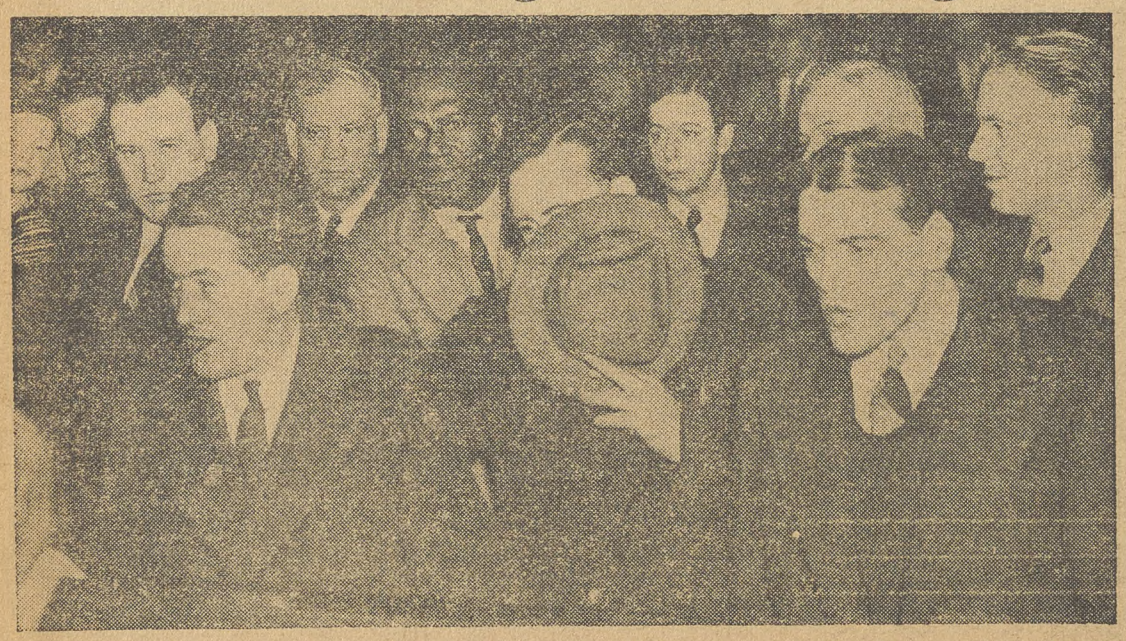
Portland, Oreg. — (FP) — Tom Mooney has been asked to address Oregon's first CIO state convention, which meets here January 14.

Mooney will owe his freedom to the solidarity of the California workers who elected the liberal Culbert L. Olson as governor, said James Frantz, Portland CIO official and secretary of the convention arrangements committee.

"In achieving this solidarity, Mooney himself played a vital role," Frantz added. "His message to Oregon workers at a time when they are faced with the necessity of removing the anti-labor initiative 131 from the statute books would therefore be of the greatest importance."

Oregon observers believe Mooney will be free in time to attend the convention.

Hearst Thugs Face Judge



Three Hearst thugs face a Chicago judge after their arrest on a disordery conduct charge. They were waiting in a parked car outside the home of a member of the Newspaper Guild on strike at the Hearst papers. In their car police found lead-filled pipes and clubs.

Labor Board Reports On Cases

Washington—Since the Fall of 1935, a total of 18,591 cases involving more than 4,000,000 workers has been handled by the Natl. Labor Relations Board. In November, 1938, alone, 548 cases affecting 71,390 employes were closed. The figures include all cases up to December 1, 1938.

Less than 2,000 of the cases arose out of strikes. Out of the total of 1,933 strike cases, involving 330,471 workers, 1,459 or about 75 per cent were settled. More than 216,000 workers were reinstated following strikes and lockouts, and an additional 14,280 were reinstated after discriminatory charges.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

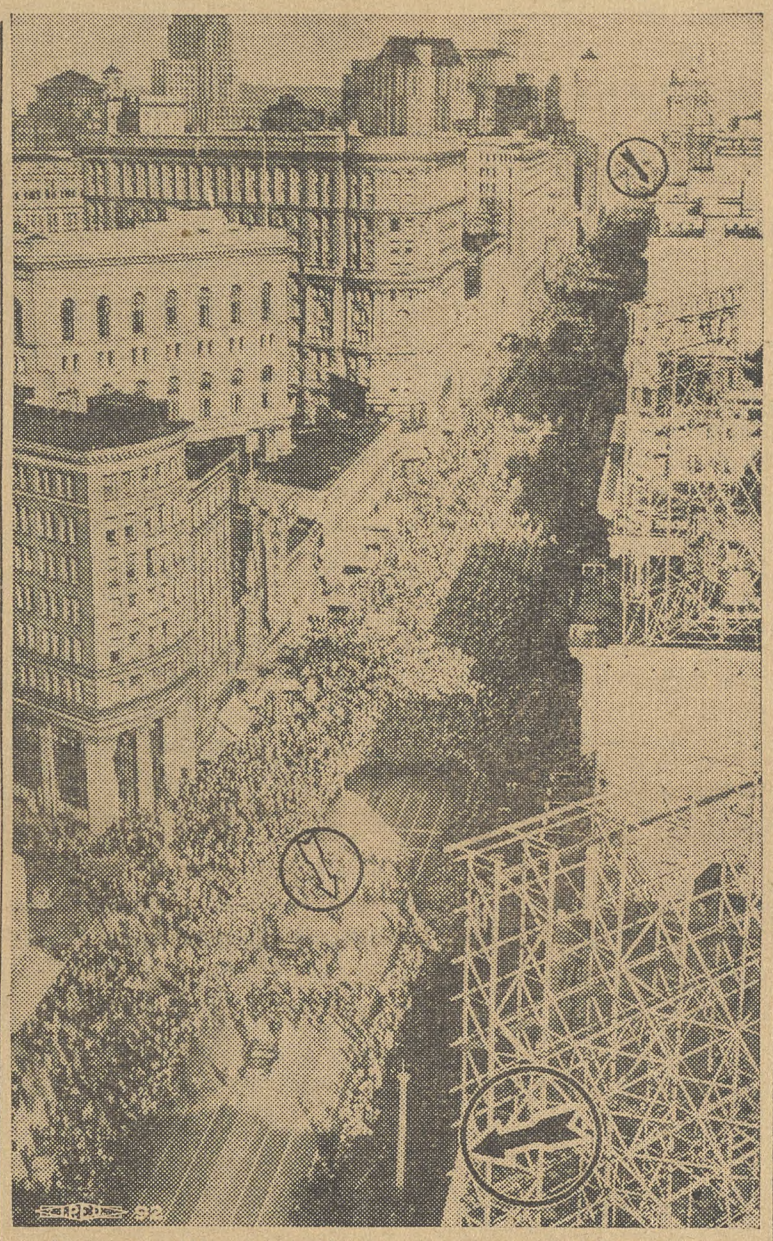
NATIONAL EDITION

VOL. II—No. 3 20 January 16, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

TORIES SEEK TO CUT FUNDS FOR WPA TO $725,000,000

Frisco, Nation Greet Tom Mooney

Mooney (right) addresses a nation-wide radio audience as he receives congratulations from Gov. Culbert L. Olson, who granted the pardon. In center is George T. Davis, counsel for Mooney. Mooney pledged himself to help further labor's cause, protect democracy.



Down San Francisco's Market Street marched Tom Mooney, cheered by scores of thousands. Upper arrow shows scene of 1916 bombing which resulted in Mooney's frameup and a 22-year prison stay; center arrow shows Mooney at head of the parade; lower arrow marks spot where a 1916 news photograph showed Mooney at time when bombing took place.

Security Is Nation's No. 1 Problem, Carey Tells Newark CIO

NEWARK, N. J.—"Your No. 1 problem is to protect the security of those less fortunate than yourselves," James Carey, UERMW president, told 300 delegates to the installation meeting of the Greater Newark Industrial Union Council here tonight.

"Unemployment is the greatest question facing union members," Carey said. He told the delegates it was their duty to let their Congressmen know their feeling on proposals to slash WPA appropriation and emasculate the Wagner Act.

DEFENDS WAGNER ACT

Defending the record of the Wagner Act, Emil Rieve, president of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, warned of a "flank movement to deprive the National Labor Relations Board of the power to render judgments and the suggestion has been made that, since this is a judicial function, it should be lodged in the courts. The role of judges and courts in labor disputes has convinced everyone that, in these tribunals, labor unions are treated as social and economic outcasts."

The proposed amendment to the act which would "free workers from coercion of any sort," was bitterly attacked by Rieve as being sponsored by employers' organizations.

A resolution opposing any changes in the Wagner Act was passed by the delegates, who are officers and executive board members of all CIO unions in the area.

Ernest Arvidson, UERMW official, was re-elected president of the GNIUC. Edward Selden of the FAECT was re-elected secretary and William Ross, treasurer. Albert Stango is new treasurer.

Plans for legislative action through Labor's Non-Partisan League against the Hague machine, and for functioning of all unions in the area through affiliation to the GNIUC, were discussed on the basis of an officers' report presented by Bro. Arvidson. W. J. Carney, state CIO director, presided.

30,000 MILES

Washington—WPA workers have built or improved more than 30,000 miles of roads and tsreets during the fourth month period from July to November, 1938, according to an announcement made by Col. F. C. Harrington, WPA administrator.

Open-Shoppers Honor Dies

CHICAGO—Some of this city's leading open shop employers this week gave credit where credit is due.

In the grand ball room of the Stevens Hotel, members of the Employers Association of Chicago celebrated the 37th anniversary of the founding of the organization by having as their guest Rep. Martin L. Dies, who spoke on "Americanism."

Specialty of the outfit which is bringing Dies to Chicago is the breaking of strikes. At the present time it is engaged in fighting a strike of restaurant and waiters.

One of the selling points of the Association, it has been charged, is that members may utilize its strikebreaking service. Director of the outfit is Gordon L. Hostetter, who formerly functioned as head of the strikebreaking and gumshoe activities of the Seagrove-Christenson Agency, which for a number of years handled the anti-labor work of the Association.

When Hostetter came directly over to the bosses, they stopped using the detective agency and let their new director handle anti-union work directly.

CONGRATULATE FDR

New York—Local 105 of the CIO Intl. Woodworkers of America has wired President Roosevelt congratulating him on his message to Congress.

The local was especially interested in Roosevelt's "characterization of social security as an integral part of national security."

Ignore Plea Of Jobless

(*See Story Page 3*)

Washington — Tories in the House of Representatives this week called for a cut in the deficiency appropriation for WPA to $725,000,000, an amount less than asked by Pres. Roosevelt, the CIO, jobless and civic organizations.

A coalition of conservative Democrats and Republicans voted down the President's request for $875,000,000 by a vote of 226-137, using a parliamentary trick to avoid a roll-call vote.

As The CIO NEWS went to press, debate was continuing on the bill in the House. Reactionary leaders had hoped to ride it through with little difficulty, but a flood of wires and letters protesting the cut had influenced many of the Congressmen.

After the passage in the House, the appropriations bill will go to the Senate, where hearings are to start Monday, Jan. 16.

The CIO had asked for a billion dollar appropriation, while the mayors sought $915,000,000 and Pres. Roosevelt $875,000,000.

Four CIO Men On Pay Board

Washington — Four CIO members were named this week to the wool industry committee named by Wage-Hour Administrator Andrews to establish a minimum wage for the 150,000 workers in the industry.

Pres. Sidney Hillman of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, and vice-president of the CIO; Emil Rieve, Horace Riviere and Louis Guilmet of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee were appointed. One AFL representative was also chosen.

The committee is the third formed by the wage-hour administration. Others previously announced will deal with wage problems in the textile and in the apparel industries.

Donald M. Nelson of Chicago, Sears Roebuck executive, heads the group, while Prof. George W. Taylor, of Philadelphia, who has long been an arbitrator in the hosiery industry, is vice-chairman. Both are also on the textile committee.

Unions Fight Anti-Labor Proposals

Republicans Seek To Curb Right To Strike

DETROIT—Organized labor in Michigan is preparing for a stiff battle against Republican attempts to hamstring the right to strike and to picket now brewing in the minds of newly-elected Governor Fitzgerald and the big anti-union employers whose money put him into office.

Under Fitzgerald's announced plans, strikes will be illegal unless called by three "recognized officers of recognized unions, or by three representatives named by a bona fide vote of the employes of any plant."

After that, the strikers would have to give 10 days' notice in writing to a Labor Board, to be followed by mediation by the Governor, if the board fails. During this time of course the men would stay at work.

If even the Governor decides the strike is legal, it must be conducted in a thoroughly restricted fashion. Only employes of the struck plant could picket, and then all they could do is to "advertise the fact that those participating in legal strikes believe their employer is unfair."

MORE DELAY

Strikes in "utilities, dairies, food establishments, delivery services or other enterprises where cessation would be injurious to the health of the people" would be even further handicapped.

In such places, the Governor would enforce a rule requiring an added 30 days mediation delay to the original 10. If that fails, the state would take over the plants and operate them until a settlement was reached. Nothing is said on this point about profits from the operation of the plants. Presumably they would continue to go to the employer, who would then have no further need for his workers, since the state would be making money for him.

The plan is dressed up with language about protecting labor and maintaining the right to strike and bargain collectively. The Governor even goes out of his way to say that company unions will be forbidden, but admits that "the right to form a bona fide independent union would be recognized."

Michigan is full of these "independents" that invariably turn out to be independent of everything but the company.

UNIONS CRITICAL

The Republican plans got sharp condemnation from both CIO and AFL leaders in Michigan. Adolph Germer, CIO regional director in Detroit, declared:

"The Governor would put the right to strike in a straitjacket. Labor would always rather confer than walk the picket line but employers force strikes. Had General Motors done before what it did afterwards there would have been no GM strike. It is absurd to outlaw mass picketing. Unions are no longer criminal conspiracies. The Governor seems to breed the troubles he says he desires to prevent."

Secretary John Reid of the state AFL body commented:

"We will go along on any bill that is right, but labor will never give up the right to strike, nor have that right abridged in any manner that will work to the advantage of employers."

League Starts To Expand Activities

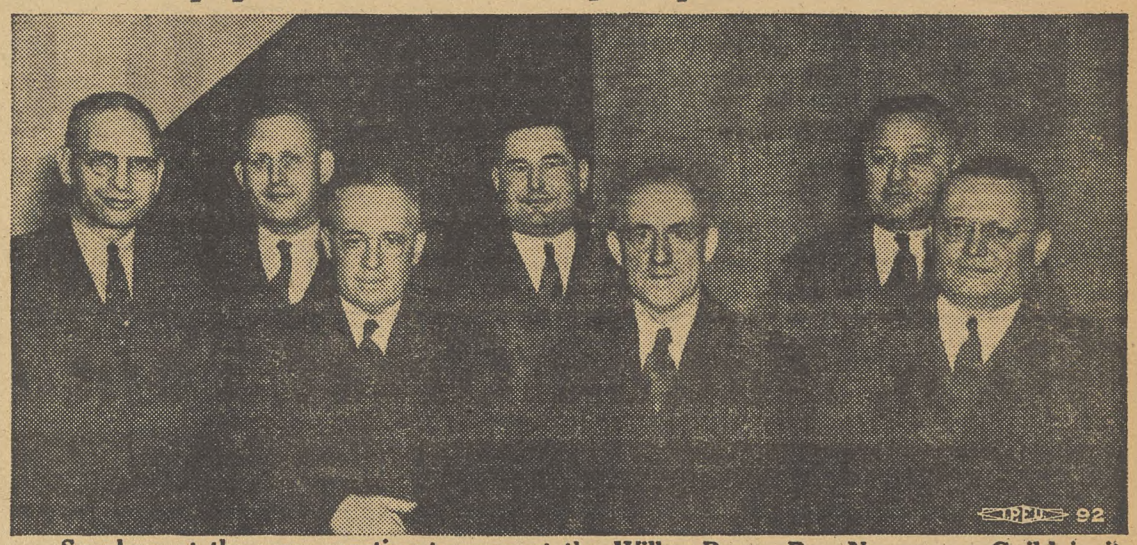
Washington—Expansion of the organizing activities of Labor's Non-Partisan League in line with the recent policy statement of Chairman John L. Lewis for 1939-40 was announced by the League's national office.

Under the expanded program of League action particular emphasis is being placed on enlisting progressive-minded voters from outside as well as inside the ranks of organized labor. Effective January 1 the League opened its membership to any American approving its tenets.

The League is adding organizers to its national and field staffs. Special advices are going forward to League affiliates on how to proceed under the new program.

Further development of League units in the northeastern states, especially in the larger cities, is an immediate goal and action to this end has been begun. Organizers from the national office are being sent into these cities to confer with League officials there and assist them with this program.

Support Newspaper Strike



Speakers at the mass meeting to support the Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Newspaper Guild in its fight against three publishers who refuse to sign union contracts. Front row, Vice-Pres. Morris Watson of the Guild; Lieut-Gov. Thomas Kennedy, John Brophy, CIO director; Michael Kosik, head of District 1, United Mine Workers.

Back row, Stanley Kupstas, local Guild head; John Sabol and John Kmetz, UMW officials.

Murphy Cuts Sentence Of Maki

Marenisco, Mich.—Ero Maki, union woodworker, who was sentenced to 20 years during the strike of the Michigan timber workers in the summer of 1937, will be eligible for release March 15.

His sentence was reduced to two years by former Gov. Frank Murphy shortly before his term as Governor of Michigan expired.

As Maki has already served 17 months, he will be eligible for release in March. Another worker, Lawrence Kantola, was pardoned by Gov. Murphy in May, 1938.

Local 15 of the Intl. Woodworkers of America, CIO, to which Maki belonged, carried on a vigorous campaign for the release of the two men through the Maki-Kantola Defence Committee.

Madden Charges Burke Lies About Board

Washington — Anti-labor Senator Edward R. Burke, who is a leading enemy of the Wagner Labor Relations Act and one of the principal Tory Democrats on Capitol Hill, has been bluntly accused of "mis-statement of facts, mishandling of statistics and perversions of Labor Board policies" by NLRB Chairman J. Warren Madden.

The accusations were made in an open letter to Burke from Madden, in reply to a recent radio address in which Burke went over stale and false accusations against the Board and repeated Tory outcries for crippling amendments to the Act.

Burke's most recent offensive against the Act was based, according to Madden, on the "fundamental proposition that the Act has failed in its purpose, and the Board in its duty, allegedly because industrial discord has increased."

PHONEY FIGURES

This was fabricated out of statistics of labor disputes in such countries as Palestine and Esthonia, which are compared to similar disputes in the U. S. A. As Madden points out, these figures offer no real basis for comparison, since such countries are primarily agricultural, while the U. S. is predominantly industrial.

The real figures, Madden contends, show that in highly developed nations such as Great Britain, Japan, Sweden, Czecho-Slovakio, Canada, Belgium, France, there were 215 strikes per 1,000,000 wage earners, while in the U. S. there were 44 per 1,000,000 in the same period.

"If you were genuinely interested in the facts, if you were genuinely interested in our problems, if you were genuinely interested in a two-sided discussion, you have had the oportunity to help us and to improve the administration of the law," Madden concludes.

"Your failure to act upon them and your statements, so often unfounded in fact, do not indicate that your interest is fairly to discuss the problems in a genuine attempt to call to our attention mistakes we may have made.

"Rather we believe that as regards the Board, whatever your personal motives may be, you had confused the public with false statements."

Kennedy, Brophy Urge Wilkes-Barre Papers To Sign Guild Pact

WILKES-BARRE, Pa. — Warning reactionaries that labor will not permit emasculation of the Wagner Labor Relations Act, Pennsylvania's Lieutenant-governor Thomas Kennedy, secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers of America, spoke before 3,000 people in a local Armory here Monday night in behalf of Newspaper Guildsmen on strike for nearly 16 weeks to win a full union contract.

Kennedy also hit proposed laws seeking to curb labor's rights. He said until the NLRB was established, labor had the right "in theory, only" of organizing, and not in practice. The UMW leader reviewed the Guild's strike, the part the miners' union has played in the controversy to date, and urged continued support of the newspapermen until publishers of the three strike-bound dailies here signed a Guild contract.

'DOWN TO BRASS TACKS'

John Brophy, CIO director, reviewed the growth of the Congress of Industrial Organizations and said furtherance of its policies would checkmate any Fascistic defender of Democracy and said that only by strong, democratically-governed unions can freedom from all "isms" be assured.

He told the publishers to "get down to brass tacks" and bargain with the Guild if they hoped to continue business in this labor-minded community, and said the CIO would back the Guild here in its fight to the end.

Michael Quill, president of the Transport Workers' Union, scheduled to speak, was unable to attend.

A resolution urging the Guild to call back publishers into conference to settle the strike was adopted unanimously — with the understanding that if the three daily publishers refused, "labor would take other means to show them the fault of their ways."

CIO-AFL UNITY

Showing again that rank and file labor leaders, not only in this area but in many other sections of the country stand as one when a brother union is threat-following AFL unions were represented on the speaker's platform: Brewery Workers', Bakers', Teamsters', Retail Clerks, Teachers, Hotel and Restaurant Workers', The Locomotive Engineers, independent union, was also represented.

The "mushroom" union sprouted here by top AFL leaders seeking to cause dissension in local union ranks — the Office Workers' "Union" on the three dailies — was also condemned as a "strike-breaking" agency before the large assemblage and roundly booed.

Morris Watson, international vice president of the Guild, Michael Kosik, president of District 1, United Mine Workers of America, and other Guild and labor leaders also spoke.

Gov. Aiken Asks Voice For Labor

By JAMES F. C. CHRISTIE
Vice-Pres., Quarry Workers Int'l Union

South Barre, Vt.—In his inaugural address, delivered before the Vermont General Assembly, Governor Aiken declared that the present Department of Industries requires overhauling.

He suggested that it be reorganized and be named a "Department of Industrial Relations." He also declared that "labor should be represented in the management in this department."

While Vermont labor realizes that it is quite revolutionary to have a voice in any department in the state, it is not letting its imagination run away, in thinking that if, as and when this department is reorganized, it will be a department of labor.

For the Governor stated further in his speech that "it is now time that we expand the scope of our Department of Industries and create a Department of Industrial Relations to (here's the rub), promote and assist our industries and (incidentally) the hitherto insufficiently recognized interests of those who work therein."

Shoe Union Fights Maine Frame-Up

AUBURN, Me.—While Tom Mooney was making a triumphant exit from a California prison, nine members of the United Shoe Workers entered the Androscoggin County jail here to serve five-month sentences for violation of an ancient almost-forgotten state law.

The nine members—one of them a woman—were arrested during the shoe strike in Lewiston-Auburn in 1937, and charged with "conspiracy to injure the business" of the struck companies.

Main Tories have applauded the resurrection of the old statute, pointing out that under a strict interpretation not only strikes but practically all organizing activity in the Pine Tree State could be made illegal.

Appeals by the unions to higher courts failed to win reversals of the original issue. The state supreme court failed to give a decision in the case, while the U. S. Supreme Court held that no federal question was involved.

START CAMPAIGN

National Director Powers Hapgood of the shoe workers union, leading liberals and union leaders throughout New England, as well as Sen. Lodge of Massachusetts, have joined in the protest against the imprisonment of the shoe workers.

Action of the nine convicted workers in coming from Massachusetts to Maine to surrender themselves embarrassed police authorities, who had hoped they would fail to give themselves up. The prisoners were given a gigantic send-off by shoe workers in Lynn, Mass., who pledged to work for their freedom.

STRIKE IN 1937

The strike, which started in March, 1937, against almost 20 shoe companies in the two cities, found the National Guard being used as an anti-union agency. More than 145 strikers were arrested on felony charges, while police jailed dozens of others for alleged misdemeanors.

Director Powers Hapgood, Atty. Sidney Grant and five other union leaders spent 58 days in jail until

Continued on Page Four

Urges Labor Unity In Canada

Glace Bay, N. S.—"My stand is that of strict adherence to the decision of the recent convention of the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress held at Niagara Falls, that there would be no division in the ranks of Labor in Canada."

This is the answer of Congress Vice-President D. W. Morrison to the polling of the Congress executive on the question of expelling affiliates of the Congress of CIO unions.

The poll was requested by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor.

FOR UNITY

Vice-President Morrison of the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress, who is also President of District 26, United Mine Workers of America, further declared in his opposition to the poll.

"The organization of which I have the honor of being an officer and a member, the United Mine Workers of America, stands for unity in the ranks of Labor, not only in Canada but in the United States as well."

Justice

Auburn, Me. — Nine members of the United Shoe Workers who are starting to serve 5-month sentences here received wide publicity the day they entered the county jail.

They collected $18.10 for a woman who had been jailed when she was unable to pay a fine. The woman, wife of a jobless worker, had been convicted for inability to pay a tax on a dog given as a present to one of her children.

CIO Wins Poll At Postal

New York—Results of the poll conducted by the Nat'l. Labor Relations Board among the employes of the Postal Telegraph & Cable Co., reveal an overwhelming victory for the American Communications Association, CIO. It was one of the largest elections ever conducted by the Board.

Out of 13,101 employes eligible to vote, 6,506 ballots were cast for the ACA and 1,469 against, with 10 held void. The ACA ran unopposed in the election as the name of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union, AFL, was removed from the ballot at the request of CTU officials.

REGARD FOR ACA

The CIO union's victory was hailed by ACA officials as "a clear indication from the Postal employes of the high regard in which they hold the ACA which has held a contract with Postal covering about 10,000 employes for about a year."

The election was regarded, union spokesmen said, as a "go-ahead" signal to the ACA negotiating committee, now conferring with company officials for a new contract. The ACA victory will bring about 5,000 more workers under the new contract than were covered by last year's agreement.

MUST REHIRE WORKERS

Washington—Swift & Company and its local subsidiary corporation, Newton Packing Co. and Iowa Packing Co., were ordered by the Natl. Relations Board to reinstate, upon application, all employes fired for taking part in a strike at their Detroit, Mich., packing plant during the early spring of 1937.

House May Cut WPA Finances; Distress Looms

WASHINGTON—A barrage of protest from all parts of the nation held up, temporarily at least, a cut in the WPA deficiency appropriation to $725,000,000, as demanded by Tory Congressmen.

Senate hearings will start Monday, Jan. 16, with representatives of the CIO and Labor's Non-Partisan League appearing to ask for a billion dollar appropriation.

They will start while labor, civic and progressive groups throughout the nation are demanding that WPA appropriations be sufficient to care for the millions of needy.

CIO unions were informing Congressmen that a billion dollars is necessary to keep WPA from being sharply curbed at this time. Among the international unions, the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists & Technicians sent a letter to Pres. Roosevelt warning of the dangers in a WPA cut.

How the cuts have already affected relief rolls was shown this week in figures released by the state of Pennsylvania. They showed that public relief rolls at their highest peak in three years, with 82,000 persons going on relief in the two-week period ending Jan. 7.

In Cleveland, where unions have been passing numerous resolutions, a mass meeting was held by the CIO late last week. California Congressmen and senators were in receipt of communications from locals affiliated with the Industrial Union Council in San Francisco. In New York City, Allan Haywood, regional director, called upon CIO locals to send their protests to Washington.

In Detroit, the WPA department of the United Automobile Workers planned a conference and plans have been laid for a mass meeting of thousands of workers in Cadillac Square.

MANY APPEAR

Appearing before the sub-committee of the House Appropriations Committee were Ralph Hetzel, Jr., CIO unemployment director, who presented the CIO program; Mayor F. H. LaGuardia of New York, representing the Conference of Mayors; David Lasser of the Workers Alliance, and Col. F. C. Harrington, new WPA administrator.

The hearings were secret and no statement was given explaining the meager $725,000,000 appropriation recommended — $150,000,000 less than the amount asked by Pres. Roosevelt and a quarter-billion less than the CIO has been seeking.

CIO STAND

Hetzel, in a statement to the press after his appearance before the committee, outlined the CIO stand.

"Minimum reliable estimates place the current unemployment of those who are able to work at something between ten

Continued on Page Five

Hearst Chicago Papers Rapped by Board

CHICAGO—The Chicago American and Herald-Examiner were charged wih violation of the Wagner Act in an intermediate report issued by the National Labor Relations Board this week, as the Chicago Newspaper Guild maintained its strike against the two Hearst publications.

At the same time the Guild revealed that Remington-Rand, Inc., originator of the notorious Mohawk Valley Plan of strike-breaking, is cooperating with Hearst to provide scabs for the papers.

The NLRB report, filed by L. A. Bajork, Labor Board regional director here, charged that the management had fired workers for union activity, interfered with the organization of the employes and favored the "Newspaper Commercial Associates," a phoney organization chartered by the AFL to help Hearst fight the Guild.

The Guild had launched proceedings with the Board prior to the beginning of the strike early in December.

RAND SENDS SCABS

That Remington-Rand was branching out to help other employers fight labor was revealed in evidence offered by an AFL union member.

"Shortly after Christmas I saw an advertisement of Remington-Rand in the Chicago Tribune, announcing there were jobs available, but not what kind of jobs.

"I knew Remington-Rand's record. I had heard these were scab jobs. I came to the Guild and offered myself as a guinea pig. Then I went to the Chicago office of Remington Rand. There I was told they were looking for office help and filing clerks. After talking about my experience, I was given a card."

The card introduced Johnson to the head of the Hearst reference room as an applicant for a permanent position as clerk. Four others told similar stories to the Guild, adding that at no time had Remington-Rand told them that the jobs were strike-breaking positions.

SALES DROP DOWN

Indications of the sympathy for the Guild strike was seen in Hearst's action in scrapping a home-delivery circulation system built up at a cost of $4,000,000 during the past eight years. Unable to get the papers to its former 80,000 subscribers, the Hearst management offered another organization free copies for two weeks if it would take over the distribution job.

Some 212 advertisers have already volunteered to withdraw their space from the paper until the end of the strike. In addition, Marshall Field & Co.—one of the nation's largest department stores — has invited Pres. Harry Wohl of the Guild to present the strikers' story to its advertising executives. There are indications that the store may stop advertising after expiration of its present contract with the Hearst papers.

Carey Asks Aid For Democracy

Washington—James B. Carey, secretary of the CIO and president of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, was the featured speaker at the opening meeting of the fifth national Congress for Peace and Democracy here.

Seated on the platform with him were Jerome Davis, president of the American Federation of Teachers, vice-president McLaurin of the Brotherhood of Pullman Porters, and others. Beryl Whitney substituted as chairman for A. F. Whitney, president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, who is also chairman of the Congress Trade Union Committee.

MAINTAIN DEMOCRACY

Centering his speech on the maintenance and extension of democracy in America, Carey told the 2,000 Congress delegates that: "The function of government is to assure security to the people who live under it.

"To assure this security, government must remain democratic. It must preserve human dignity, advance cultural and ethical standards, and assure the people an in-

Continued on Page Five

A & P, CIO Sign Pact In Altoona

Altoona, Pa.—The Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co., world's largest food distributing system, last week signed a closed shop contract with the United Retail & Wholesale Employes, CIO.

The pact covers employes in two suburbs near here — Curwensville and Clearfield — where three-day strikes had won widespread support from members of the United Mine Workers, who make up a large share of the population.

Immediately after negotiating the agreement, Vice-President Elmer Barger of the URWE left for Pittsburgh for conferences which may lead to an agreement covering 2,000 employes of the A & P in Central Pennsylvania.

That the Curwensville and Clearfield contracts were of more than local significance was seen in the fact that A. C. Pierce, national vice-president of the company, was present at the negotiations to assist O. H. Weinert, executive representing the company.

The contracts won a 36 per cent wage increase and a reduction in hours of as high as 80 per cent for the workers affected.

Back Home

Miss Kathryn Lewis, daughter of Pres. John L. Lewis, shown as she stepped off the boat from Lima, Peru, where she had served as a member of the American delegation at the Pan-American Conference.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II January 16, 1939 No. 3

The Force That Frees

It was a great day for labor when Tom Mooney was freed from his living tomb.

During the 22 years of his imprisonment, there was hardly a labor unionist in the United States, or in the world for that matter, who did not hear the story of Tom Mooney.

Mooney's only crime was that he was an aggressive labor organizer. Union fighting employers conspired with their political hirelings to frame him for a ghastly crime he never committed.

Year after year more facts were brought out to show that he was convicted on perjured evidence and to prove his innocence. Yet the powers of reaction were great enough to keep him behind the bars.

Hardly a labor convention of any kind has been held in all these years that has not gone on record for the release of Mooney and his fellow prisoner, Warren K. Billings.

And it is the power of labor that has finally pried loose the prison doors for Mooney. For labor support was the biggest factor in securing the election of Culbert Olson, the progressive governor to whom goes the honor of releasing the labor prisoner.

But almost on the same day that Mooney was freed, nine union shoe workers were consigned to jail in Maine for no other crime than their legitimate activities in a strike of the United Shoe Workers there.

Billings is still in jail, and so are a number of agricultural workers, miners, marine workers, wood workers and others, "whose only crime is that they have struggled for the rights of labor," as the last CIO convention resolution expressed it.

Labor will not forget these other prisoners in its cause, any more than it forgot Mooney. It knows that organization is its chief weapon to end such injustices as well as to fend off the general forces of reaction and oppression which threaten this country as well as the rest of the world today.

Mooney himself pointed this lesson on his release, when he said:

"I know of no greater force in this world today that can prevent the onward march of the terrific, dark and sinister fascist reaction that is creeping over the world than the force of economic organization of the workers."

Fair Words, Foul Acts

We do not know of a single politician who told the voters before election that he didn't give a damn for the unemployed. Nor have we heard of any frankly saying they were going to Congress to make paupers of thousands of people who have only the meager pay of WPA jobs between themselves and starvation.

Before Congress opened WPA was already laying off thousands who had no other means of support. But even to continue the WPA program on its present inadequate scale until the end of June would require an appropriation of at least a billion dollars.

Yet the House appropriations committee voted to recommend only $725,000,000 to keep WPA going, and many members of Congress indicated that they favor this or even worse slashes in support for the unemployed.

All of these politicians who are now so callous to the plight of the unemployed were full of fair words before election. But by their present acts they will be judged.

Labor will continue its fight for an adequate public works program to employ all those who are now jobless through no fault of their own. At the same time it will not forget which members of Congress courted the unemployed in November, only to jilt them in January.

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Let's Study The Facts

BEFORE WPA is strangled to death by reduced appropriations there is one simple project it might start, which would give employment to a few elementary school teachers and save the whole country a lot of trouble.

It would be a course in reading and arithmetic for members of Congress and others who make speeches against the Wagner Labor relations act.

Required reading would be the wording of the act itself and some of the simpler reports on the actual activities of the National Labor Relations Board.

Then, in order to qualify to speak and vote on the subject, the pupils should be able not only to write their own names but also the names of the Board members. The teachers might explain that Smith is a common name, and train the pupils to distinguish between different Smiths by writing out the names Donald Smith and Edwin Smith a hundred times each.

Finally, the course in arithmetic should be continued until the pupils can count at least up to the number of cases decided by the Board in favor of the AFL and against the CIO.

Advanced students might also learn to count up the number of cases in which Board elections and collective bargaining have averted serious industrial strife.

Mistaken Identity

William Green of the AFL should be one of those required to attend at least the above mentioned class in writing. For, according to Kenneth Crawford, reporting in the Philadelphia Record, Green got himself out on a limb in opposing the renomination of Donald Wakefield Smith to the Labor Board through confusing him with the other Smith on the Board, Edwin S. Smith.

As a matter of fact, D. W. Smith supported the AFL craft unit point of view in a number of decisions against industrial unionism; while it was E. S. Smith who brought in minority opinions upholding the right of the workers to vote unitedly in industrial units.

But in spite of this, with as much ingratitude as confusion, Green has continued his campaign against the renomination of the Smith who made the pro-craft decisions.

Facts of the Case

The most elementary study of the Wagner Act and the Board's reports will knock into a cocked hat all the speeches and arguments now being made in favor of the act's revision.

These attacks follow the line that the act is unfair to employers; that it has encouraged rather than reduced industrial strife; that the Board is pro-CIO and anti-AFL, and so forth.

Every one of such criticisms can be easily refuted by anyone who takes the trouble to look up the actual facts of the case.

To make such facts readily available, Labor's Non-Partisan League has just published a booklet of facts and figures on the subject, which is a valuable supplement to the pamphlet already published by the CIO giving the arguments why the Wagner act should not be mended.

The League booklet, entitled "Protect the National Labor Relations Act", presents in outline form, first a description of the act, its purposes and its achievements; second, the actual facts which dispose of the various unjustified criticisms of the act and the Labor Board; and finally, the reasons why each of the proposed amendments would defeat the purposes of the act and damage the whole cause of collective bargaining and peaceful industrial relations.

The Act's Enemies

It is the very success of the act in promoting the purposes for which Congress passed it, that has led to the viciousness of the present campaign against it.

By giving the workers organizing rights which the employers themselves have long enjoyed, the act has helped spread collective bargaining through non-union industries. Consequently union-hating employers want to amend it to make it "fair" to their kind.

By enabling workers to vote and negotiate, the act has prevented countless strikes. Therefore professional labor-baiters who fatten on industrial strife hate it and seek to amend it.

A certain type of labor leader has also been drawn into opposition to the act, because it permits the workers to choose the type of union they prefer and because it forbids employer-imposed unionism under whatever guise.

When free to choose their own unions, through Board elections, the great majority of workers have voted for the CIO type of industrial unionism. But this is not to say that the Board is pro-CIO. On the contrary, in the majority of cases in which the Board has had to decide between the CIO and AFL type of units, it has favored the AFL.

But the general benefits of the act have been so great, that no true labor man will lend any support to the present moves to amend and cripple it.

Shoe Union

Continued from Page Three

they were finally released on bail. the supreme court later ruled that contempt of court proceedings against them were illegal, and quashed the case.

The National Labor Relations Board confirmed the strikers' charges by finding the majority of the companies guilty of violating the Wagner Act, ordered the reinstatement of many strikers, and called upon the corporations to bargain collectively with the union.

Duluth, St. Louis AFL Groups Rap Attack On Labor Board

WASHINGTON — Flat rejection of the position taken by AFL President William Green and other top officials of the Federation in launching attacks against the Wagner Act has been registered by a number of AFL unions throughout the country who have come out for unqualified support of the law.

In Duluth, General Drivers Local 346, largest AFL union in the city, went on record at its last meeting as "opposed to any amendment at this time to the Wagner Labor Disputes Act."

The Denver Trades & Labor Assembly also defied reactionary AFL leaders by passing a resolution declaring that "the weakening of the act and the impairment of the board's effectiveness will result in great injury to the cause of labor in the United States."

The resolution, introduced by the Typographical Union and the Stagehands' union, praised the Labor Board for its "full and vigorous protection" of the rights of labor.

MEMPHIS

Another repudiation of Green's plan to amend the Wagner Act was voiced by the president of the Memphis Trades & Labor Council during a radio forum broadcast. In answer to a question Council President Lev Loring said:

"The AFL will ask for amendments to the Wagnor Labor Act, but personally I am against it."

Previously, Loring, speaking in what he termed "overall vocabulary," vigorously opposed any changes in the act, which he said was already "150 years late."

"It should not be disturbed," he continued. "If they open it up for amendments it will soon look like the Christmas turkey three days after Christmas—it will be just a carcass."

An editorial appearing in the St. Louis Union Labor Advocate, AFL weekly, pointed out in a recent issue that "the U. S. Chamber of Commerce and the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers, too, are clamoring for changes."

Declaring that the Act has "unshackled the working people of America," the editorial lists a number of examples to show that under it "the AFL has grown as never before. We do not know of one St. Louis union that has declined in membership, while we do know of many that have grown phenomenally under the Wagner law."

Deploring attacks on the Act in the face of the phenomenal growth of unions, the editorial asks: "Can labor afford to take the chance and face the danger of losing a thousand times more than any merit the proposed amendments may hold?

'HANDLE WITH CARE'

"We must not lose sight of the fact that the recent election sent a few additional Old Deal congressmen and senators to Washington and to that extent, the 'copperhead' bloc there has been supplemented. That's why we say of the proposed Wagner Act amendments: 'Handle with care.'

"Admitting that there have been Labor Board errors and injustices here and there, we nevertheless feel that in view of the combination of facts outlined, an attempt from us to alter the Wagner Act in this Congress would be loaded with dynamite and gravely dangerous to the future of organized labor."

Tories Hit WPA Fund

Continued from page three

and eleven million . . . In the face of this situation the request for a billion to provide an average of 3,350,000 subsistence jobs for our people is modest indeed.

"It is currently estimated that there are at least 750,000 persons certified to the WPA as eligible and in need of work. There are at least as many more who could quickly be so certified if there were adequate certification facilities. Certainly the provision of an average of 3,350,000 jobs for the next five months is not excessive.

"Congress must decide whether there will be an adequate appropriation for the continuation of the WPA for the next five months. Its decision on this appropriation will indicate to the American people whether or not Congress will go forward with the New Deal, or will return our American unemployed to the apple-selling days of Hoover."

The Conference of Mayors blasted the sub-committee's action, pointing out that 1,151,300 WPA workers will be forced off the rolls if the reduced appropriation is voted through Congress. As a result, only about 2,000,000 workers would be left on the WPA payroll by the end of the fiscal year June 30, the statement warned.

Carey Asks Aid For Democracy

Continued from page three

creasingly higher standard of living.

"Today more than ever before democracy faces a challenge. To make democracy safe in our nation, we must prove to our people that their government is their servant, that it exists to give them security and to provide for their daily welfare."

LETTER FROM ICKES

Greetings from Harold L. Ickes, U. S. Secretary of the Interior, were read to the Congress, in place of a scheduled speech that Ickes was unable to give.

"The greatest safeguard of democracy is real demcoracy," Secretary Ickes wrote, "which means equal opportunity under the law for every citizen; the right of free press, free speech, free assemblage, the right of every man to face his accuser, to defend himself when attacked and to be regarded as innocent until his guilt is proved beyond a reasonable shadow of a doubt."

The Congress, sponsored by the American League for Peace and Democracy, was attended by delegates from CIO, AFL and Railroad Brotherhood unions, church groups, youth organizations, womens' groups, civic federations and the like.

Main theme of the Congress was defense of the Wagner Labor Relations Act, together with measures to defeat the menace of Fascism in this country and abroad.

Board Report Shows Great Gains Won by Labor Under Wagner Act

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON — The overwhelming majoriy of American workers vote for the CIO, when given the chance to decide which union they want to do their collective bargaining for them.

Figures in the third annual report of the National Labor Relations Board, just released, show the CIO far in the lead on number of elections won and on number of times workers have used the Wagner Act to indicate their preference.

During the past year, the CIO won close to 70 per cent of elections for collective bargaining agency in which it participated. Over 175,000 voters were involved in 816 elections.

These contests, the report shows, were 86.4 per cent of the total run during the year.

The nearest figures to those of the CIO show that the AFL wasn't as active in utilizing the Act its top leaders want to amend, since it took part in 604 elections, of which it won only 43.5 per cent.

WINS OVER AFL

The CIO showing on victories is even better in those elections where CIO and AFL each ran. There were 312 of these, of which the CIO won 219, leaving 86 for the AFL.

Many more workers took part in elections in which the CIO was involved. In all its 816 cases, an average of 215 voters took part. In those in which the AFL was concerned, the average was 94. The total number of workers in CIO votes was nearly three times as great as those in AFL contests, the totals being 175,000 and 60,000.

Just to push the comparisons a little further, study of the election charts in the report shows that AFL election victories trailed behind those won by unaffiliated unions by three per cent, with approximately the same number of workers involved.

In only one respect was the AFL ahead of the CIO, and that was in favorable decisions handed down by the Board involving the question of the appropriate bargaining unit.

These cases involve the heart of the principle of industrial unionism. AFL top leaders are always claiming that workers in Labor Board cases should be broken up into small craft units for collective bargaining representation. They don't like the idea of all the workers in one plant or one industry being represented by one union—which is the basic CIO idea.

LEANING TO THE AFL

So they intervene whenever they have even the shadow of an excuse—and often when they don't—demanding that the workers be split up into little craft divisions and these splinters certified separately.

Thirty-nine of these cases have been brought before the Board by the AFL leaders in the year covered by the report. Of these, the Board gave the decision to the AFL in 21, to the CIO in 18.

This point ought to meet one of the principal attacks by the AFL Executive Council, which bases its demand for amendments to the Wagner Act on the charge that the Labor Board is pro-CIO.

The evidence shows exactly the opposite—that on questions of appropriate unit for collective bargaining representation, the Board has ruled against the CIO and for the AFL in the majority of cases.

STRIKES CUT

Other sections of the Labor Board report show how the Act has helped to prevent labor disputes from reaching the strike stage. Discussing this point, the report says:

"The purpose of the Act is to provide a legal channel through which labor disputes centering around the right to organize and bargain collectively can be adjusted without resort to strikes or other forms of economic action."

Then, after pointing out that since April, 1937, when the Supreme Court upheld the Act, the number of disputes settled by the Board has been far ahead of the number of strikes conducted for union recognition, the report states:

"As an established, legally sanctioned agency, it (the Board) provides an outlet for industrial protest which might otherwise result in strikes; and a larger proportion of such protests are being taken to the Board rather than expressed in the form of strikes."

SETTLED OUT OF COURT

The value of the Board's work in carrying out the Act is clearly shown in the summary of cases settled without the necessity of formal orders by the Board itself.

Of 8,851 cases settled during the year covered by the report, 95 per cent were dealt with without the necessity of formal hearings. Regional officers were able to effect settlements out of court—that is, without going through a full dress National Board hearing. Only five per cent had to be taken to Washington headquarters.

Some idea of the scope of the Board's activities can be gained from the total number of cases under consideration during the year, which was 12,632, involving over 3,000,000 workers.

Another test of the Board's work, the report says, is contained in its court record. In spite of the fact that anti-labor employers have used every conceivable means in their attack on the court, relying chiefly on long drawn-out legal action, the Board has been sustained every time by the U. S. Supreme Court, has lost only six of 27 cases in the Circuit Court of Appeals.

Carey in Confab

Sec. James Carey of the CIO (right) chats with Chairman Harry Ward at the Congress for Peace & Democracy held in Washington last week. Carey, a speaker at the meeting, called for increased support of democracy in order that dictatorship may be forestalled.

Nation Hails Mooney Release

Thousands Cheer Labor Martyr In San Francisco

By MIRIAM ALLEN DeFORD

(*Special to THE CIO NEWS*)

SAN FRANCISCO — Never in the history of San Francisco has there been such an ovation as when Tom Mooney came home to his people.

The scene when Gov. Culbert Olson, in the Assembly Chamber at Sacramento, handed Mooney his "free and unconditional pardon" and when Mooney, a free man for the first time in nearly 23 years, pledged himself first to the freedom of Billings, then to forwarding the unity of labor — that scene was impressive enough.

For several minutes Mooney tried in vain to speak while the crowd yelled and cheered, following the granting of his pardon. Then, while reviewing the scene of his conviction, he broke down completely and burst into tears.

When he recovered, he said, "I am not unmindful of the tremendous significance of this occasion and all the forces that go to make it. You (to Gov. Olson) and myself and the scene just enacted are symbols of the democratic expression of the will and desires of the people of California. It is not a case of an individual charged with the crime of murder — it symbolizes our whole economic, political and social life, not only in California but in the entire world. The present economic system is in a state of decay. It will be replaced by a new, and I hope, a better social order, and to that end I shall dedicate my life."

The next day 50,000 union members — CIO, AFL and railway brotherhood workers — marched from San Francisco's Embarcadero up to the City Hall, with Tom marching with his own union. The CIO longshoremen had charge of the parade, and by herculean effort cleared a way for it through the cheering throngs which lined the streets.

For at least 200,000 San Franciscans — perhaps more — lined and filled the streets. They stretched, a silent solid mass for three square blocks, in the Civic Center, to hear Tom speak from a rostrum built in front of the City Hall steps.

Lieutenant-Governor Ellis E. Patterson spoke; Robert Minor, head of Mooney's first defense committee, came from New York to speak; and Jack Shelley, liberal young president of the city's AFL labor council and a newly-elected state senator, was chairman.

But the greatest applause of the day, except for the cheers for Mooney himself, went to Harry Bridges when he rose to speak, preceded by a telegram from CIO Pres. John L. Lewis authorizing him to act on behalf of the entire CIO. Bridges pledged the CIO's resources to the freeing of the 11 other labor prisoners in San Quentin and Folsom.

PLEDGES NEW FIGHT

Mooney, after telling of his appreciation for the management of the reception demonstration, pledged himself to work once again for the freedom of Warren K. Billings.

"The next most necessary step is complete unity in the labor movement," he said, adding that the "only thing that stands between the people of this country and absolute slavery is a genuine militant labor organization.

"The convicts in San Quentin have more liberty than any human being in Germany or Italy. But fascism is not three thousand or seven thousand miles away. The California anti-labor initiative was the first step toward fascism in California.

"The same corrupt gang that framed Billings and myself was back of it."

After a complete review of the frameup, from 1913 on, Mooney said that he himself "was a symbol of the wreck of that monstrous conspiracy. But there are other potential Tom Mooneys and Warren Billingses and Earl Kings. Who knows but that any of you might not be railroaded to prison because of your fidelity to the working class? Nothing would give more pleasure to the same gang that farmed me than to railroad Harry Bridges."

A spontaneous roar arose from the crowd: "We won't let them!"

Mooney plunged into a busy week, following the initial demonstration. He joined the picket line of AFL retail employes outside the Kress department store in downtown Frisco, and gave the strikers $5—half of the sum the state of California gives to each released prisoner. Then he went over to headquarters of the Newspaper Guild, and donated the other five-dollar bill to the Guild strikers on the Chicago American and Herald-Examiner.

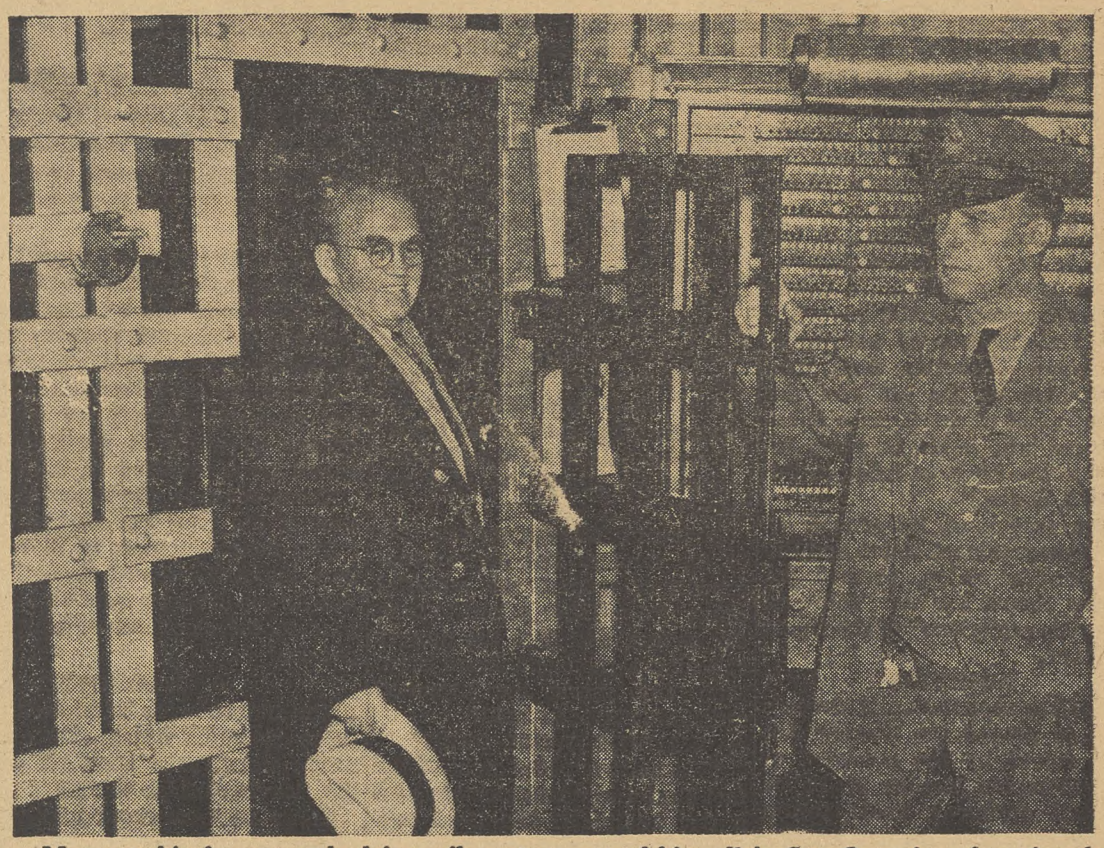
He attended, later in the week, a big dance staged by his own union—the AFL moulders. CIO longshoremen packed their Hall when he appeared at their regular meeting. Speaking over a nation-wide hookup, he once again told of his future plans. Later in the week, he was to attend a giant mass meeting in Los Angeles.

TO TAKE REST

After that, Mooney contemplates a thorough physical check up and a good rest to help him gain some of the strength lost during his long years in prison. After that—back to the fight for labor's rights.

But now, a happy, tired man, he breathes in the fresh air, glories in the sunshine, shakes a thousand hands — "the longshoremen were the worst," he smiled, looking at his own tired hand—and receives congratulations by wire and mail and phone from workers in all parts of the world who took part in his 22-year fight for freedom and justification.

Prison Doors Swing Open



Mooney, his face wreathed in smiles, steps out of his cell in San Quentin prison for the last time. A few hours later, he received his pardon from Gov. Olson.

Warren K. Billings, still serving a life term in a California prison, was greeted by Mooney as soon as he arrived in San Francisco. Mooney will devote much of his time to work for the release of Billings, who, through a legal technicality, may not be pardoned except upon recommendation of the California Supreme Court.

As scores of thousands cheered, Tom Mooney led a monster labor parade through San Francisco's streets. Leaders of CIO and AFL unions, the railroad brotherhoods and the unemployed were in the ranks of the marchers. Fourth from left in picture above is Harry Bridges, CIO west coast director, who gave John L. Lewis' greetings to the released prisoner.

BANNED!

Washington—Shakespeare's Hamlet has been banned in Japan because of the "dangerous thoughts," including disrespect for royalty expressed in it, according to China Information Service.

Voting Power FreedMooney Says League

Washington—"Direct political action by progressive and labor forces in California has now accomplished what two decades of humble petitions, of court battles, and be general national protest had failed to do," declared E. L. Oiver, executive vice-president of Labor's Non-Partisan League, when news of Mooney's release from prison was announced.

"Tom Mooney goes free because of the results of the last California election, and in spite of every court to which he has appealed.

"Labor's Non-Partisan League is proud of its central part in the political fight which won California for progressive government, and finally set Tom Mooney at liberty," he said.

Labor and the Law

By Lee Pressman

CIO General Counsel

Felix Frankfurter

This column recently referred to the CIO convention resolution on federal judges which called upon President Roosevelt to make appointments of men who understand modern problems and have the ability to adjust the law to these problems.

In naming Felix Frankfurter to fill the vacancy on the United States Supreme Court created by the death of Justice Cardozo, the President has made such an appointment. Professor Frankfurter will bring to the Supreme Court a background of considerable experience directly affecting the interests of organized labor.

Others have described Professor Frankfurter's great legal skill and his thorough understanding of vital public issues. We shall mention briefly his outstanding contributions to the development of labor law and civil liberties.

HELPED LABOR

Professor Frankfurter lent his legal ability to labor's fight for the enactment of federal and state anti-injunction laws. He is co-author of a book on labor injunctions which is the outstanding legal analysis of this subject. In this book, he shows how labor injunctions were often used to decide the merits of a labor dispute in favor of the employer, and how, in handing out injunctions, judges frequently violated the fundamental principles of equity.

In concluding his study of the labor injunction, he pointed out that the mere intellectual mastery of the law is not enough. He said:

"Indeed a highly educated Bar is more dangerous to society than one superficially trained, if such mastery is wielded by men who identify the advancement of private interests or the promotion of pernicious abstractions regarding 'freedom' and 'equality' with the purposes of law in our industrialized democracy."

The law, according to Professor Frankfurter, is but an instrument for the achievement of socially desirable objectives.

CIVIL LIBERTIES

In the field of civil liberties, Professor Frankfurter took a leading and courageous role in the attempt to save Sacco and Vanzetti from the electric chair, and in the successful fight to free Tom Mooney.

We can expect that his appointment will help to continue the liberal line of decisions which the Supreme Court has recently been making.

DEAN CLARK

President Roosevelt has made another good judicial appointment when he named Dean Charles E. Clark of the Yale Law School to be a judge on the Federal Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit which sits in New York. Dean Clark supported the President's Court Plan and has shown himself to be a vigorous and progressive liberal. He also acted as a trial examiner for the National Labor Relations Board in some of its cases.

There are a number of vacancies in the federal judiciary which have not yet been filled. CIO organizations throughout the country should learn about the candidates for these offices in their localities and let their Congressmen and President Roosevelt know whom they believe qualified to serve as federal judges.

LaFollette Committee Bares New Spy Data From Cleveland

WASHINGTON—Strong evidence that the Associated Industries of Cleveland derived a large portion of its income from anti-labor espionage services, and that it worked closely with a large labor spy service, was disclosed this week by the LaFollette civil liberties committee.

The committee was able to make its findings despite the fact that the Associated Industries and the Corporation Service Bureau haddestroyed a number of documents which their executives feared might shed light on their espionage activities.

"The Corporation Service Bureau offered industrial espionage service to its clients," the commitee said, "and many of its clients were members of Associated Industires, but there were no documentary records of any other connection between Associated Industries and the detective agency."

Committee investigators noted, however, that a number of entries on the income account of the employers groups had been eradicated, with the word "contribution" substituted. Analysis by technical experts at the Department of Justice showed, however, that in every case the original wording had contained the name of the Corporation Service Bureau.

ESPIONAGE

Reconstructing the evidence, the committee found that in 1934 and "possibly earlier," AI had employed its own agents. Though William Frew Long, secretary of the association, had claimed that they were merely used to watch "communists," they were actually active in labor meetings and among workers in factories.

In the later part of 1933, and until February, 1935, the association was billed by the Corporation Service Bureau for undercover work, with the association in turn billing its member-clients.

These included the Ohio Rubber Co., the Cleveland, Statler and Carter hotels, the Addressograph-Multigraph Co. and the Reliance Electrical & Engineering Co.

During 1936 and 1937, the detective agency made contributions to Associated Industries totaling $2,385. Whether this was in the form of a "kickback" is uncertain, the committee said, but pointed to the importance of the fact that the employer group received some of the profits of labor espionage for its own treasury.

EDUCATION

The "Vocational Education" account on the AI books, the committee asserted, was probprobably the cover for the financial dealings in the labor spy business. Income on this account totaled more than $23,000 in 1933-35, and in 1934 amounted to 20.5 per cent of the outfit's entire receipts.

In another statement, the committee, pointed to official connections among Girdler's Republic Steel Corp., Youngstown Sheet & Tube, the powerful Cleveland Trust Co., the Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Co.

The evidence, the committee indicated, points to a "community of interest through stock ownership and common management of iron ore properties." Referring to the 1937 Little Steel strike, the committee noted that the links between the companies "would seem to indicate . . . at least sympathetic understanding in matters of economic policy."

Named to Court

Felix Frankfurter, longtime liberal and Harvard Law School professor, who will fill the seat on the U. S. Supreme Court left vacant by the death of Justice Cardozo last year.

Ask Relief For Tenant Farmers

Washington. — The CIO this week took a direct hand in securing relief for the more than 1,000 sharecropper families facing destitution and winter weather on the open roads in southeastern Missouri.

Wires were sent by John Brophy, national director, demanding relief and works projects from U. S. government agencies, including the Secretary of Agriculture, WPA Administrator Harrington, W. W. Alexander, head of Farm Security, and J. W. Tapp, chief of the Federal Surplus Commodities Corp.

The sharecroppers, who are members of the CIO Cannery and Agricultural Workers, were thrown off their land by cotton planters greedy for even more profits than they could make by exploitation on the sharecrop system, and who are anxious to mechanize their farms and to get Federal benefits by acreage reduction.

The evictions were carried out in spite of Federal rulings that sharecroppers must receive part of the benefits under the program, and in spite of the fact that they had no place to go.

APPEAL TO GOVERNOR

O. H. Whitfield, vice-president of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union (a section of the Cannery and Agricultural Workers, appealed to Governor Stark of Missouri for National Guard tents and food supplies for the evicted families, who have no shelter and very little food.

At the same time H. L. Mitchell, secretary of the STFU, wrote to all southern Congressmen and Senators calling attention to the critical situation and urging an additional $125,000,000 on President Roosevelt's relief bill for use in the cotton growing areas.

Olson Pardoned Mooney; Tory Freed Labor Spy

Sacramento—Nothing has more clearly brought out the difference in the labor viewpoint between California's new governor, Culbert Olson, and that of ex-Governor Frank Merriam, CIO West Coast unionists say, than two instances having to do with pardons.

One of Governor Olson's first official acts after taking office was to pardon Tom Mooney, framed labor prisoner, whom California governors for more than 20 years had refused to free.

During the closing weeks of Merriam's regime, one of his final acts was to pardon Arthur James Kent, alias Scott, alias Parker, labor spy and twice convicted thief, who was sentenced recently to serve 15 years at Folsom prison for burglary.

Merriam freed Kent "for exposing and interpreting radical and subversive activities in the United States." Kent, CIO officials here point out, was reputed to be in the employ of Col. Henry Sanborn, who admitted writing the report which Harper Knowles presented to the Dies Committee.

It was on "evidence" given by Kent, they say, that attempts were made to frame Harry Bridges, West Coast CIO director and head of the Int. Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union.

Cut Relief?

Tory Congressmen say WPA funds must be trimmed. Unemployed say there's not enough work relief money now. Picture shows jobless in Atlanta, Ga., seeking an increased allotment for the southern city.

Guild Renews Contract

Cumberland, Md. — The Newspaper Guild here has succeeded in renewing its contract with the Times and Alleganian Company, publishers of the Evening Times, Sunday Times, and Cumberland News.

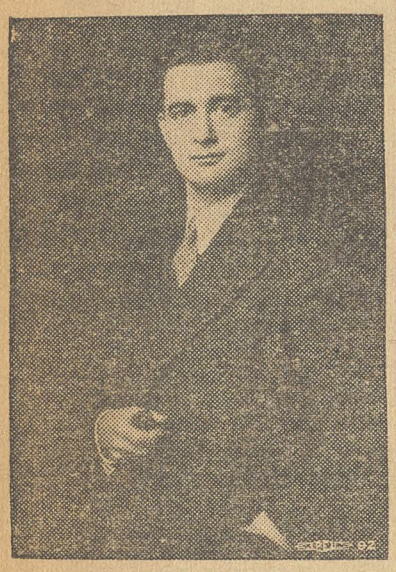
Last year the Guild had contracts with both the Times Company and the Cumberland Daily News Company, then publishers of the Daily News. Later the Daily News was bought by the Times, following which an attempt was made to smash the Guild by refusing to hire members of the old News staff.

New York Bus Drivers Get New Contract

NEW YORK—Wage boosts ranging from 6 to 18 per cent and establishment of a new high minimum wage for intra-city bus operators of $48.50 is included in a new closed shop contract signed by the CIO Transport Workers Union in behalf of 2,500 employes of the New York City Omnibus Corporation, largest bus company in the metropolis.

The wage boosts, averaging 12½ per cent, were granted on top of wage increases of from 8 to 16 per cent won by the TWU in its first closed shop agreement negotiated 18 months ago. The new agreement, announced by John Santo, international secretary-treasurer of the TWU, is to run until March 1, 1941.

Other new improvements won by the TWU in the new pact include sick leave with pay of one week; four holidays with pay per year; pay for traveling time to and from terminals; two weeks' vacation for three-year men and one week for those employed less than three years;



JOHN SANTO

free passes to employes' wives and limitation of swing runs to 9 hours.

5 PER CENT RAISE

Negotiations with the Fifth Avenue Coach Company, which is controlled by the same holding corporation headed by John A. Ritchie of New York and Chicago, resulted in wage boosts averaging 5 per cent on top of increases of 10 per cent granted 18 months ago. Other features of the new Omnibus agreement also are included in the new TWU contract covering the 1,500 Fifth Avenue Coach employes.

"The wage scale for Omnibus drivers is the highest in the United States and the contracts just reached with both the Omnibus and Fifth Avenue companies are the best all-around agreements in the industry," Mr. Santo declared.

The Transport Workers Union has been busy on many other fronts as well.

During the past week, it won by 70 per cent the election to become the bargaining agent for 1163 ticket agents, mostly women, employed by the B.M.T. subway and elevated system in New York. Loser in the election was the AFL's Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes union which had 'muscled in' and taken over leadership of a company union outlawed by the State Labor Relations Board on a complaint filed by the TWU.

The election gives the TWU sole bargaining rights for all the 12,000 employes of the B.M.T. System.

By an 87 per cent margin, the TWU also won a collective bargaining election to represent the 400 employes of the East Side Omnibus and the Comprehensive Omnibus Corporations.

TAXI NEGOTIATIONS

The TWU, Santo reports, is now carrying on negotiations for a new agreement covering all BMT workers, the East Side and Comprehensive bus employes, and 5,500 taxi drivers employed by the Parmelee and Terminal taxi systems, largest in greater New York.

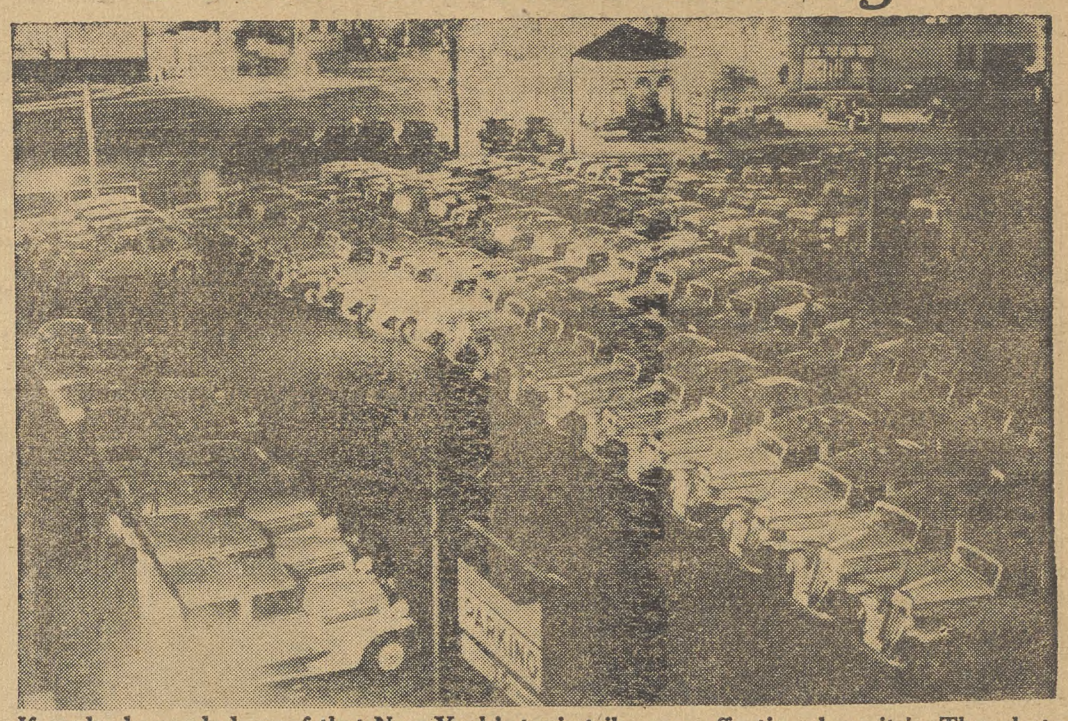
The taxi negotiations are the first to be held as a result of the TWU's victory in the city-wide strike January 3, 4, 5. Negotiations with smaller taxi fleets in New York are to begin soon.

Aid Refugees, Honor Hillman

New York—A group of CIO unions here headed by the Amagamated Clothing Workers, is cooperating with Ort, an organization for aiding Jews in Europe, in a drive called the "fund for the Hillman Labor Institute."

The money is to be used to establish an Ort Labor House in Kovno, Lithuania, in honor of Sidney Hillman, president of the ACW, who was born in that town.

Proof of the Pudding



If anybody needed proof that New York's taxi strike was effective, here it is. The photographer just mosied over to the taxi company's parking lot and snapped this shot of cabs lying idle. Strike ended when the drivers chose the Transport Workers Union, CIO, as bargaining agent for 60% of their number.

60% of Homes Need Repairs

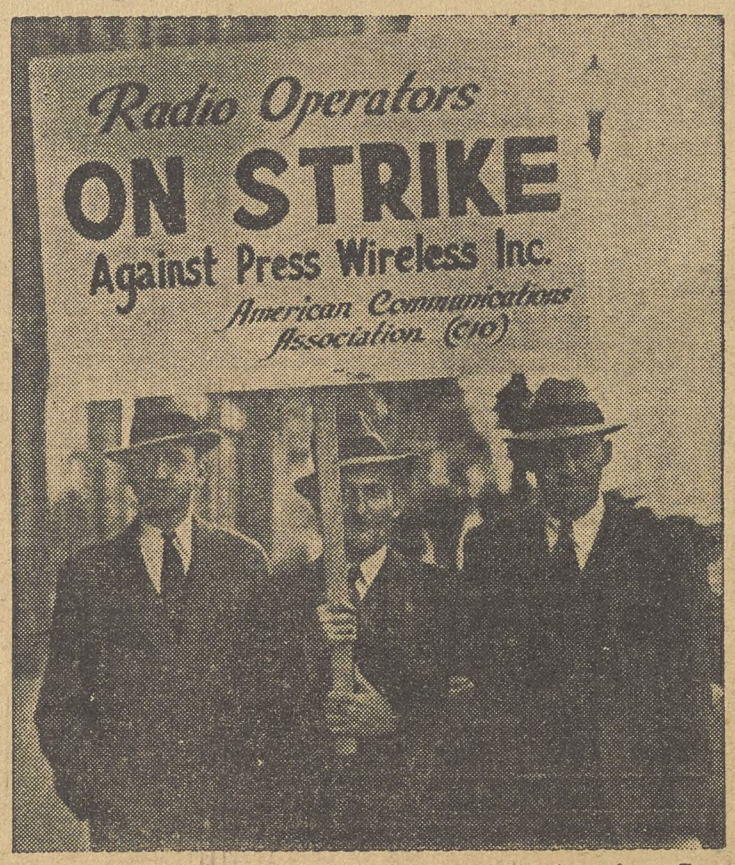
Washington — Only 40 per cent of American homes covered in a survey of 203 cities are in good condition, Col. F. C. Harrington, WPA Administrator announced this week.

Some 8,000,000 homes were inspected in the study.

More than 16 per cent of the homes covered by the study, with the exception of New York City residences, were rated "unfit for use" or in need of major repairs to make them habitable. Over 40 per cent lacked central heating while 20 per cent were without private bath or shower.

In the southeast, it was found one city home in four had no gas or electric lighting and nearly hal fwere without gas or electric cooking equipment.

Plain Words



And no code are used as members of the American Communications Assn. picket the offices of Press Wireless, Inc., in San Francisco. A strike has kept the firm, which handles press messages to and from the United States and the Far East, closed down tight.

New Homes For Old

A department dealing with the need for better housing and how to obtain it, conducted by the CIO Committee on Housing.

By THOMAS HUMPHRIES

A Question from Portland

Dear Brother Humphries:

Is it true that a USHA housing project here would increase local taxes?

The real estate people here have just won a big fight. They've succeeded in preventing the city government from setting up a local housing authority which would build a workers' housing project with money borrowed from the United States Housing Authority.

Their main argument—as set forth in an anti-housing leaflet—is that a USHA housing project would mean "A New Financial Burden on City of Portland." Is this true?

H. B., Portland, Oregon.

* * *

Absolutely not!

A USHA project in Portland—or in any other city—would **help to lighten the city's financial burden.**

PUBLIC HOUSING COST

A public housing project—even though financed by the USHA—does cost a city something. But very little.

The only cost to a city is the amount of tax revenue it loses by replacing tax-paying slum dwellings with a tax-exempt project.

This loss naturally is always extremely small—for the simple reason that no city ever collects much taxes from the slums. First of all, slum property isn't worth much and the taxes levied on it don't amount to very much. Second, the taxes that are levied are not collected. Tax delinquencies are always high in slum areas.

BENEFITS

But the small tax loss which every housing projects means to a city is more than overbalanced by the benefits which a city reaps from every housing project.

These benefits are of two kinds, those that increase a city's income and those that decrease its expenditures.

How does a housing project increase a city's income?

Wherever a housing project is constructed, the property in the neighborhood increases in value. Tax delinquencies decline. Modernization or improvements often take place. New dwellings and new stores spring up. All of these things mean a larger income to a city—without any increase in the tax rate.

How does a housing project decrease a city's expenditures?

The cost of the extra police, fire and health services which are necessary in slum areas is terrific. Usually it is the greatest drain upon a city's treasury.

LESS EXPENSE

Replacing slums with clean, safe and sanitary dwellings means less disease, less crime and less fires—and thus less expenditures in the slums.

In addition, every housing project means employment. It means more work at good pay for hundreds, sometimes thousands, of a city's workers. Not only for building trades workers, but for the workers in the innumerable building supplies industries — steel, cement, brick, glass, timber, electrical equipment, plumbing, etc.

More employment means lower relief rolls, better business and a more prosperous city.

EASING FINANCIAL BURDENS

Looking at the matter in this light, one can see that the Portland realtors who claimed that a USHA project would mean a financial burden for Portland were either woefully ignorant or deliberately falsifying the facts.

Actual USHA housing projects lighten a city's financial burden. Without them workers' families by the thousands are doomed to live in slums and city treasuries are doomed to foot the bill.

Labor must help to advance the New Deal's Housing Program, H. B., by showing that it provides a method of conserving the taxpayer's money. When labor learns to use this argument to full advantage, the enemies of low-rent housing for workers in every city as well as in Portland—will go down to ignominious defeat.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 4 | January 23, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

NATIONWIDE PROTEST SLOWS PLAN TO SLASH WPA FUNDS

Transit Union Cuts Seniority Of 1926 Scabs

NEW YORK—One of the most significant victories in the history of the labor movement has been achieved here by the CIO Transport Workers Union.

In July, 1926, about 400 motormen and switchmen employed by the Interborough Rapid Transit Subway, organized as an independent union and later chartered by the AFL, went on strike. The strike was broken after 26 days by the notorious Pearl S. Bergoff agency.

The strikers were reinstated, but lost their seniority rights. Non-strikers and strike-breakers hired in 1926 were advanced in seniority over the strikers. That was 13 years ago.

Last November when, with CIO President John L. Lewis, the Transport Workers Union negotiated an extension of its closed shop contract covering all 14,000 IRT employes, Thomas E. Murray, Jr., IRT receiver, was persuaded to agree to an election among the affected motormen and switchmen to determine whether the strikers' seniority should be restored.

EASY VICTORY

Held under supervision of the New York State Mediation Board last week, the IRT men voted 75 per cent in favor of restoration. Of the 439 motormen and switchmen eligible to vote, 405 cast ballots; 298 voted for restoration, 105 against, with one void and one blank ballot.

Restoration of seniority to the 1926 strikers will mean as much as 15 and 20 years tenure added to their credit, plus choice of runs which will mean increased earnings and other benefits gained through seniority.

"While as an organization, the Transport Workers Union was not involved in the 1926 strike, it is happy to have been instrumental in righting a wrong committed 13 years ago," declared James J. Fitzsimon, secretary of the TWU's New York local, himself an IRT motorman.

This is not the first time the Transport Workers Union has rectified a wrong committed prior to the unionization of transit workers by the CIO.

CIO Leads At Utility

Washington — Workers in the Consumers Power Co. of Michigan have shown their preference for the CIO in spite of floods of anti-union propaganda poured out both by the company and by the leaders of the AFL Int. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

They have just voted 1164 to 1072 for the CIO Utility Workers Organizing Committee in a Natl. Labor Board election for certification as collective bargaining agency.

Certify Glass Workers

Washington. — The Federation of Flat Glass Workers gained a new victory this week when it won Labor Board certification as sole bargaining agency for the 6,500 workers in the six plants of the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co.

The announcement from the NLRB came shortly before the CIO union started negotiations for a new industry-wide contract for flat glass workers.

As a result of the Board's action, the union will be able for the first time to bargain for employes of the company's plant at Crystal City, Missouri. Over the union's objections the management had excluded the mid-west plant from negotiation for the 1937 contract.

Auto Union Convention March 20

Detroit—The executive board of the United Automobile Workers, in session here this week, voted to call a special convention of the union in Cleveland on March 20.

The union's regular biennial convention had been scheduled for August, in Toledo, Ohio.

Delegates will be asked to elect international officers and executive board, and to make such changes in the constitution as are deemed necessary.

Wagner Files Health Bill

Washington. — Senator Robert Wagner of New York, whose name is closely connected with great government projects in labor, housing and social security, this week announced his sponsorship of an $850,000,000 federal health program.

Senator Wagner announced that his bill would carry out the recommendations made by the National Health Conference last summer, which have the backing of Miss Josephine Roche, chairman of the U. S. committee on health and welfare activities; Pres. Roosevelt, and the CIO.

The CIO Pittsburgh convention endorsed Miss Roche's proposals after she had addressed the delegates and given them a picture of the contemplated program.

The Senator's bill, it is expected, will call for increased medical care, greater hospitalization facilities and a form of health insurance.

Senate May Vote To Restore Cut; House Wavers

(*See Story Page* 3)

WASHINGTON — A flood of protests from CIO unions, from mayors of some of the nation's largest cities, from organizations of the unemployed and from small businessmen seemed this week to be halting the Tory drive to cut the WPA deficiency appropriation to $725,000,000 or less.

The Senate is due to vote on the bill momentarily. A survey of sentiment in the upper house, made by Ralph Hetzel, CIO unemployment director, indicated sufficient sentiment in the Senate to turn the tide in favor of more adequate WPA funds.

Even in the House, where a revolt of conservative Democrats and Republicans sliced $150,000,000 from President Roosevelt's request, a number of Congressmen are considering action to reverse the earlier decision, it was learned.

The CIO has called for a billion dollar appropriation. President John L. Lewis pointed out in a statement some time ago that only that amount will suffice to prevent widespread human misery and a halt to the present business revival.

Secretary James Carey of the CIO, Hetzel, and President Jacob Baker of the United Federal Workers, CIO affiliate, all appeared before the Senate appropriations committee to warn of the dire consequences if the action of the House is repeated in the Senate.

Present WPA funds are almost exhausted, and WPA executives have announced they will have to start dropping projects January 26 unless funds are made available.

CIO, Postal Sign New Contract

New York—The American Communications Association, CIO, gained new power this week when it signed a closed shop contract with the Postal Telegraph Co., covering 13,000 workers throughout the country.

Signing of the contract, which came only a few days after ACA had scored an easy victory in a National Labor Relations Board poll, sharply increases the number of workers covered by the agreement with the firm. The union last year signed a preferential shop contract with Postal.

An important clause provides that when technological improvements are made, the first opportunity to learn new jobs will be given to workers already employed. All full-time workers as of Jan. 12 will remain on full time duty, while part-timing, a cause of much job insecurity, has been eliminated.

Philly Labor Kills Sales Tax

When Tory Councilmen in Philadelphia hit upon the idea of a sales tax to finance city expenditures, CIO groups led the public protest against the plan. Result: the City Council gave up the plan.

Unions Defeat Sales Tax

Philadelphia. — Forces of organized labor mobilized to fight the proposed wage and three per cent sales tax, won an impressive victory when both measures were withdrawn by the City Council.

The Philadelphia CIO Industrial Union Council joined with other labor groups and business organizations in planning a march on the City Council. But 24 hours before it was scheduled to start, the city fathers announced that the sales tax was off and other means would be found to meet the municipal deficit.

CIO Regional Director John Edelman and Carl Bersing, president of the CIO Council, directed the picketing of the homes of all councilmen who voted in favor of the tax, and more than 100,000 leaflets were distributed.

1,600,000 Gain Through Wage-Hour Act

Andrews Report Asks More Power For Enforcement

WASHINGTON—More than a million and a half American workers have gained direct benefits from the Fair Labor Standards Act since it went into effect last October 24, Wage-Hour Administrator Elmer F. Andrews announced in his first annual message to Congress.

Some 300,000 workers, he estimated, have received wage increases bringing their pay up to the 25c-an-hour minimum decreed by the law. The number of workers whose hours have ben cut to 44 a week, or who have been getting time-and--a-half for overtime since October, is 1,384,000, the report said.

When the 30c hourly rate becomes effective in October of this year, the administrator predicted, 550,000 workers will receive wage increases, while 1,751,000 will benefit through the cutting of the work week to 42 hours.

Surveys made by the new section of the Department of Labor "have failed to produce evidence of widespread layoffs" as a result of the enactment of the law, Andrews said.

PUBLIC APPROVES

The division's experience, he added, "has been that employers, employes and the public approve of the purposes of the Act, agree that it is well designed to accomplish these purposes; and wish to see it become within the shortest possible time and integral part of the economic structure of this country.

"This was confirmed during an inspection trip of approximately 8,000 miles made by the Administrator over the Thanksgiving holiday and the week thereafter, on which he stopped in more than a dozen major cities from coast to coast, and discussed the Fair Labor Standards Act with thousands of employers and employes.

"Employers and employes expressed their approval of the Act; and appeared willing to give and take, to go to some trouble to make this law work, and to forego temporary personal advantage for the welfare of their industries and communities and of the nation."

Discussing enforcement of the law, Andrews said "several hundred reported violations" had been investigated but as yet no legal action against violators has been taken. In a number of cases, employers who were not informed of the law's provisions have agreed to pay back wages due to their employes.

RAPS "HOME-WORK"

Major problem facing the administrators, Andrews indicated, was the tendency of low-wage employers to resort to "industrial home work" in order to evade the law.

Commenting on the fact that state labor departments have so far been unable to halt these practices, Andrews said: "It can be safely said even at the present time with only three months of experience with the Fair Labor Standards Act, that further legislation will be necessary with respect to industrial homework if the Fair Labor Standards Act is to function with complete effectiveness in industries in which homework is practiced."

INDICTED

San Antonio (FP)—Mayor C. K. Quin, city boss here and longtime foe of liberal ex-Rep. Maury Maverick, has been indicted by a county grand jury on charges of misappropriating city funds.

Demonstrate Against WPA Cuts

New Yorkers, who have benefitted from facilities of WPA projects, protest the dismissal of 1,526 workers on federal art projects. None of the pickets was a WPA employe.

CIO Leads In Board Polls

Washington—CIO unions won 36 elections conducted recently by the National Labor Relations Board, and AFL groups won seven out of a total of 56 polls, figures released by the board reveal.

The United Cannery, Agricultural Packing & Allied Workers won 20 of the CIO victories, 19 of them in Arizona and one in Fresno, California, among employes of various fruit and vegetable growers and distributers.

Four elections were won by CIO local industrial unions in the peanut industry of Suffolk, Virginia; two by the American Communications Association in New York City and two by the United Mine Workers in Kentucky.

OTHER VICTORS

Other CIO unions listed as winning one election each were: the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, American Federation of Hosiery Workers, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, United Shoe Workers, Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers' Intl. Oil Workers, Textile Workers Organizing Committee and the United Optical Workers, local industrial union.

Four of the remaining 13 elections were won by independent unions and nine were for no union.

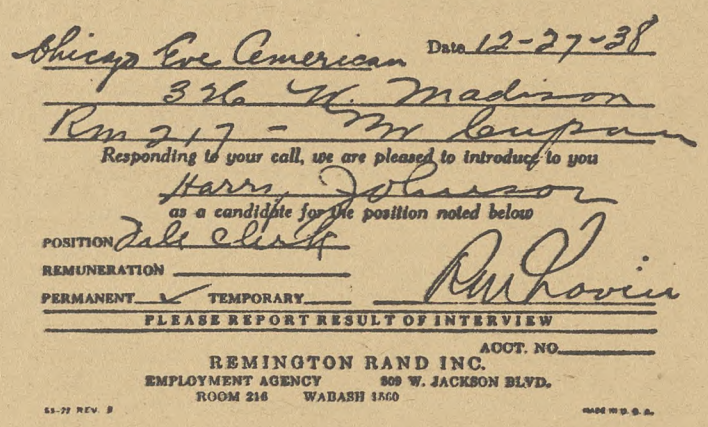
File Labor Board Charges Against U. S. Marine Body

WASHINGTON — Charging that the Maritime Commission has refused to bargain collectively with the union chosen by seamen on Commission ships to represent them, the National Maritime Union, CIO, has filed charges of unfair labor practices with the National Labor Relations Board.

The complaint, filed by William L. Standard of New York, counsel for the CIO seamen, declares that "the United States Maritime Commission is a governmental agency engaged in a proprietary enterprise through its agents, the Southgate Nelson Corp. and in competition with private enterprises in the shipping industry," and is therefore subject to the provisions of the Natl. Labor Relations Act.

"Its failure and refusal to negotiate in good faith with the NMU," the petition states, constitutes a violation of the Act, as "the Maritime Commission is operating these vessels for profit in the same manner as the private operators who are operating with government subsidies."

Scab Card


Chicago Eve American Date 12-27-38
326 W. Madison
Rm 217 - Mr Lempan
Responding to your call, we are pleased to introduce to you
Harry Johnson
as a candidate for the position noted below
POSITION File Clerk
REMUNERATION
PERMANENT ✓ TEMPORARY
R M Lovin
PLEASE REPORT RESULT OF INTERVIEW
ACCT. NO.
REMINGTON RAND INC.
EMPLOYMENT AGENCY 809 W. JACKSON BLVD.
ROOM 216 WABASH 1560

Remington-Rand, inventors of the Mohawk Valley plan of strikebreaking, are up to their usual anti-union activities again. In Chicago, the company's employment agency is trying to draft scabs to take jobs on Hearst's American and Herald-Examiner. Here's the card given one job applicant, who turned his information over to striking members of the Newspaper Guild.

Textile Union Signs 20 New Contracts

New York — Twenty new closed shop and sole bargaining contracts in various parts of the country have been announced by the Textile Workers Organizing Committee, CIO. Included in these are closed shop agreements signed for the first time in the history of the Philadelphia upholstery and drapery weaving industry.

The Philadelphia contracts, providing for a 40-hour week, eight-hour day, time and a half for overtime, seven holidays, arbitration of grievances, equal division of work and other improvements, were signed by A. Theodore Abbott & Co.; Alta Weaving Co.; Craftex Mills, Inc., of Pa.; Robert Lewis Co.; Zenith Mills, Inc.; Vigilant Mills, Inc.; and Ionic Mills, Inc.

In New York, the standard bias binding agreement was signed by: L. Gerstein; Excelsior; Venus Trimming and Binding; Standard Bias Binding, Fairsex Novelty Co., Inc., H. & D. Klein and M. Doers.

Succeeds Gorman

New York — George Baldanzi, former president of the Federation of Dyers, has been selected by the executive board of the United Textile Workers, to act as president to replace Francis J. Gorman, ousted for attempting to form a dual union.

Chemical Firm OK's Contract

Detroit. — The contract committee of Local 12093, District 50, UMWA, renewed its contract with the American Agricultural Chemical Co. with improved seniority and vacation provisions.

The company agreed not to employ outside mechanics or labor, except in isolated cases where particular skill is needed for the work. Vacations will be granted during 1939 to employes who have worked steadily for five months or more during the fiscal year.

It has been the practice of the company to hire contractors for all construction work. Local 12093 members will now get this extra work except in the event of a shortage of inside mechanics.

The vacation provision is important since a great many workers will not get more than five or six months' steady work during the year. They will now be granted vacation rights on a par with the older workers in the plant.

Organization is progressing in the Florida plant of Agrico and the District hopes to announce an equally good agreement covering the southern workers soon.

WPA RECOGNIZES UNION

Washington—WPA Administrator F. C. Harrington has recognized Local 1 of the United Federal Workers, CIO, as collective bargaining agency for the Washington administrative staff of WPA.

League Offers Play On CIO Convention

NEW YORK—A living newspaper dramatization of the CIO national convention suitable for simple production by CIO locals has been published by the New Theatre League, national center of labor theatres in New York City.

The play dramatizes the highlights of the convention, including the report of John L. Lewis and the most exciting events and important resolutions of the historic gathering. It is scheduled for a showing before CIO educational directors in New York soon.

The League recommends it for production, especially in those locals where reports on the convention have not yet been made.

Inquiries on the script, entitled "The CIO on the March," may be directed to the New Theatre League, 132 West 43rd St., New York City.

CIO Helps Win Pay Lifts For 90,000 in Steel

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON—Ninety thousand steel workers are due to receive substantial wage increases February 1 as a result of CIO activity.

Acting upon recommendations of the Public Contracts Board, Asst. Sec. of Labor C. V. McLaughlin ruled that steel companies in 18 northern states must pay the prevailing wage rate of 62½c an hour if they wish to obtain government orders for steel.

Particularly hard hit by the order are the Republic and Bethlehem firms, whose anti-union policies have been accompanied by wage rates lower than those of the corporations with union contracts.

Action to bring about the government's order, made under the terms of the Walsh-Healey Act, was started last summer by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee through its chairman, Philip Murray. The Act affects all purchases by the government amounting to $10,000 or more.

Importance of the order was seen in the fact that last year the government spent $63,000,000 for iron and steel products, amounting to 9 per cent of all government contracts placed.

HIT CIO FOES

Bethlehem Steel, which has sold more material than any of the other firms to the government, has been a bitter foe of the SWOC.

Only recently an intermediate report of the National Labor Relations Board accused it of violation of the Wagner Act, and called for dissolution of the corporation's old company union.

By its refusal to deal with the CIO steel workers' organization, Bethlehem was paying wages almost 10c an hour less than its unionized competitors, and was therefore able to underbid them on many jobs. Girdler's Republic Steel was in a similar position, Murray told the public contracts board at the initial hearings last summer.

BASIS IS GONE

Now, with the possibility of undercutting wage rates removed it is felt that Little Steel's resistance to bona fide unionism may soon evaporate. The corporations have spent millions of dollars to fight the SWOC, and wasted a score of lives, but organization work has continued steadily in their plants.

The 18 states in which the SWOC minimum wage rate was held to be the "prevailing rate" included all important eastern steel producing areas, as well as Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana and those sections of West Virginia near Pittsburgh where large amounts of steel are manufactured.

Hearst Strike Wins New Support

Chicago — Increasing support for the strike of the Chicago Newspaper Guild against Hearst's two papers in the Windy City was being received here as the fight to win a contract and prevent unlimited firings went into its eighth week.

Strike headquarters anounced the formation of an American Federation of Labor Committee to Aid the Guild Strike. The group, composed of more than 50 union leaders, is headed by representatives of the AFL teachers union and the typographical union.

From CIO unions throughout the country came pledges of support. The CIO maritime committee, meeting in Chicago, adopted a resolution pledging all possible aid.

Meanwhile, the Natl. Biscuit Co. in New York revealed to the Guild that it was dropping all advertising from the two struck papers.

Pressure From Workers Checks Tory Campaign To Cut WPA Funds

The CIO Position

Statements of CIO representatives appearing before the Senate Appropriations Committee considering the deficiency bill for WPA:

Secretary James B. Carey: "As usual during depressions, industry has made many technological improvements which displace workers, and has placed millions more on part time. The displaced workers are without hope of jobs when industry starts up again, and those on part time are put on full time before the wholly unemployed are taken on.

"Those hundreds of thousands of the unemployed who will be thrown off WPA rolls if the cut goes through will have no hope. I would like to ask the senators and those anonymous representatives who voted for the cut in the House just how many American citizens they are willing to starve in order to carry through this myth of balancing the budget.

"Many months ago the CIO took the position, when John L. Lewis, our president, declared: 'Each worker has the right to a job and must be guaranteed security of employment. This is a basic American right.

" 'If private industry cannot guarantee this right to our people, the federal government must do so with public funds'."

* * *

Unemployment Director Ralph Hetzel: "I say to you with great solemnity that the issue of adequate WPA funds is the most serious one that confronts the Congress.

"The Congress must decide whether or not this administration and this form of government shall provide to the American people relief from unemployment and security from hunger.

"If this Congress blocks attempts to give the common people of this nation elementary security, the Congress will take upon itself in history the blame for turning the people's faith away from democratic institutions and toward alien and un-American faiths.

"It is not hard now for the Congress to give the people what they need. They do not ask for very much. But unless action is taken now, more and more difficult will grow the fight to keep our democracy."

Washington—A majority of the members of the U. S. Senate favor a WPA appropriation of at least $875,000,000, as recommended by President Roosevelt, Ralph Hetzel, CIO unemployment director, declared late last week on the basis of a preliminary survey.

The WPA bill, having been slashed by $150,000,000 in the House, is now under discussion by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The stemming of the Tory cut-relief drive, Hetzel said, "is a reflection of the increasing sentiment throughout the country that is absolutely necessary to appropriate $875,000,000 as a minimum." Hetzel said information from the House shows increasing sentiment for a reversal of its WPA-slash action taken last week.

CIO ASKS BILLION

The CIO, he noted, is still pointing out to members of Congress that the relief situation will be handled adequately only thru a billion dollar appropriation, as demanded by President John L. Lewis.

The slash, President Roosevelt warned Congress, will result in the dropping of a million and a quarter workers from the WPA rolls, and will work hardship on four or five million of their dependents.

The President told his press conference that the question constantly on his mind is, who will feed the needy? The cities are deep in debt, he pointed out, and unable to take on further relief expenditures.

Appearing before the Senate Appropriations Committee at their hearings were Sec. James B Carey of the CIO; Ralph Hetzel, CIO unemployment director; Mayor LaGuardia of New York, representing the Conference of Mayors; Col. F. C. Harrington, WPA administrator, and David Lasser, of the Workers Alliance.

The CIO protests to Congress grew in number following receipt of a letter sent by Hetzel to all affiliates, in which he said that "a group of conservative Democrats banded together last week with the Republicans to slash the amount of the appropriation and to put in the appropriation bill several crippling amendments.

"The Democrats" he charged, "headed by Woodrum of Virginia, pulled a special behind-the-scenes maneuver to prevent any Congressman from putting on record how he voted on cuts on WPA funds.

"These Congressmen worked it out so that the unemployed will never know who is responsible for voting to throw them off WPA jobs."

Green Forces Split Between CIO, AFL In Canada

MONTREAL—Notice of suspension from the Trades and Labor Congress has been sent to all CIO unions in Canada, following an executive council vote forced by Pres. Wm. Green of the American Federation of Labor.

Canadian unions have heretofore maintained their unity in the Congress, despite repeated efforts of AFL headquarters officials to bring about a split in Canada similar to that which they caused in the United States by expelling the CIO unions.

The suspension order brought immediate protest from CIO leaders in Canada. D. W. Morrison, vice-president of the Trades & Labor Congress and District 26 president of the United Mine Workers, declared that the action had been taken despite the fact that the last convention of the Trades and Labor Congress "decided by a practically unanimous vote against any division in the ranks of labor in Canada."

The suspension, he said, "is not the desire nor does it reflect the attitude of labor generally in Canada, whether members of the CIO or AFL."

Silby Barrett, international board member of the UMW and Canadian director of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, declared:

"The executive officers of the Trades and Labor Congress pledged themselves in convention in September to a united trade union movement.

"Six hundred fifty delegates pledged themselves for a united trade union movement.

"Ninety per cent of trade unionists of Canada will denounce the decision of the Congress executives as most dictatorial. The executives have no authority to expel any unions which are affiliated with the Trades and Labor Congress."

In announcing the suspension, R. J. Tallon, secretary and acting president of the Trades and Labor Congress, indicated that the suspension was forced by the unyielding attitude of Green and his associates. He expressed the hope that friendly relations would still continue between CIO and AFL unions in Canada.

USED THREATS

Threats of withdrawal of per capita tax payments and even reorganization of the Congress were methods used by the AFL leaders to force a split.

"We are not declaring war on the CIO" Tallon declared. "From the individual point of view each and every one of our members have for the last two years striven to maintain unity in the ranks of the Canadian labor movement. We still want it.

"In our letter of expulsion we reaffirm our friendliness and good spirit. We hope to continue that way."

The Congress Council vote for suspension was 3-1. Morrison, upholding the CIO position for unity, cast the dissenting vote.

CIO Unions Grow Fast In Canada

Toronto — The success of the CIO unions in adding to the total strength of CIO labor is indicated in the recent report to Parliament by Federal Minister of Labor Norman Rogers.

"An outstanding development during the fiscal year 1937-38 was the marked increase in trade union membership throughout the dominion," he says.

The combined Canadian union membership is 343,751. Those adding to the increased membership during this period were mostly CIO unions.

The minister continues: "It is worthy of note that striking progress was made during 1937 in the organization of workers in many industries hitherto largely unorganized. The largest gains of the year were recorded in the steel, automoblie, garment, lumber, rubber, metal mine, mill and smelter, coal mine, electrical and radio industries."

CIO unions have conducted membership drives in all the above-mentioned unions showing that their policy of industrial unionism has greatly benefitted Canadian labor. AFL unions have no such record for the period mentioned by the cabinet member.

State Union In Drive In West

San Francisco. — Membership in the State, County and Municipal Workers, CIO, has increased 25 to 35% in California since the union started its drive in the Golden state a few weeks ago. The state CIO Council and Labor's Non-Partisan League have both pledged full support to the SCMW campaign in California.

Special emphasis is being placed in the drive on the 100 per cent unionization of the State Relief Administration staff.

CIO Sends Delegate To Cuban Labor Congress

Washington — Joseph Kovner, assistant CIO counsel, left for Cuba last week to act as CIO fraternal delegate at the Cuban Labor Congress, whose meetings start in Havana Jan. 23.

The meeting was called to unify labor ranks on the island, where until recently unions have met bitter opposition from the government.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II January 23, 1939 No. 4

Who Are the Splitters?

Those who desire further proof of who is responsible for present divisions in labor ranks, are invited to examine what has been happening in Canada.

The CIO from the first has stood for a united labor movement. In the United States the movement was split, against its will, by the action of the AFL executive council in expelling the CIO unions.

In Canada, both CIO and AFL unions remained united in the Trades and Labor Congress and in nearly all the local trades councils, despite the split in the United States.

It has been the policy of the CIO in Canada, as it was in the United States, to continue this unity as long as possible. And this policy has succeeded for three years there, because it has also been backed by the AFL membership, as shown by repeated convention decisions of the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress.

But the top leaders of the AFL have long been trying to divide Canadian labor in the same way they divided the movement in the United States.

Repeated orders have been issued from AFL headquarters in Washington to drive the CIO unions out of the local trades councils in Canada, and to disaffiliate them from the Trades and Labor Congress.

These orders have been resisted up to now because of the strength of Canadian union sentiment for labor unity. But the pressure from AFL headquarters seems finally to have had effect in the reluctant decision of the executive council of the Trades and Labor Congress to obey William Green's splitting orders.

Vice President D. W. Morrison of the Trades and Labor Congress, who is also president of District 26, United Mine Workers of America, as the one CIO representative among the Congress executives, has upheld the CIO stand for unity throughout.

In opposing any split, he declared: "My stand is that of strict adherence to the decision of the recent convention of the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress held at Niagara Falls, that there would be no division in the ranks of labor in Canada.

"The organization of which I have the honor of being an officer and a member, the United Mine Workers of America, stands for unity in the ranks of labor, not only in Canada but in the United States as well."

If the craft leaders finally succeed in splitting the labor movement in Canada, the CIO unions will still continue to stand and work for labor unity.

This they can do with a clear conscience, for the record shows beyond any shadow of doubt who are the splitters of the labor movement. The CIO has stood consistently for the labor unity which is also desired by most of the rank and file of the AFL. The disruptors of this unity are the AFL craft leaders who evidently believe that they can only continue to rule through division.

Something You Are Entitled to Know

The United States is still a democracy. The representatives who are elected to Congress are supposed to carry out the wishes of those who elect them.

If they fail to do so, the voters have the right at the next elections to choose other representatives who will be more responsive to their wishes.

But if the people have no means of knowing how their representatives vote on important issues, they are deprived of one of their essential democratic rights.

Few issues are of more general importance than the recent vote in Congress to cut $150,000,000 from the President's estimate of needed WPA funds. Yet a bloc of tory Democrats and Republicans succeeded by a maneuver in having an unrecorded vote on this issue.

This undemocratic dodge to prevent the people back home from knowing how each representative voted, is not going unchallenged by Labor's Non-Partisan League.

The League is compiling from newspaper sources, from direct observation from the gallery, and from checking with the Congressmen—a complete record of the votes cast.

You are entitled to write to your Congressman to inquire whether he voted for or against an adequate WPA appropriation. If you fail to get this information from him, write to Labor's Non-Partisan League, Earle Building, Washington, D. C.

Marie Antoinette—1939

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

The Politics of Human Misery

SNOW was falling in Washington and horror pictures like Dracula and Frankenstein were showing in local movies when Congress debated WPA appropriations.

Well-fed Congressmen, whose own jobs were assured for two years, calmly debated how many unemployed they should turn off the WPA rolls to starve in the dead of winter.

Senators got excited about whether the cut in appropriation they favored would cast out 500,000 unemployed, 1,000,000 or 1,500,000.

The act put on in Congress was more sinister in its implications than any of the horror movies.

The reactionary Democrats and Republicans who sneaked past the tellers in an unrecorded House vote to slash WPA funds, acted to create more prolonged misery for more helpless human beings than any of the fiends of fiction.

The Dracula of the movies was a well-dressed gentleman whose idea of a good meal was blood sucked from the veins of living victims.

But he at least picked on the plump and well-fed, and the limits of his personal appetite restricted the scope of his endeavors.

The victims of the WPA cuts, on the other hand, are the least-nourished and most unfortunate men, women and children of the nation, whose number is legion.

Reps. Jekyll and Hyde

The Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde of fiction found imitators in Congress who made him look like a single-track sissy.

The debate brought out many instances of Republican demagogues who won votes in the elections by attacking the low rates of WPA wages and promising to raise them.

Yet these same Republicans voted to slash the funds which made even these low wages possible.

They were joined by scores of reactionary Democrats whose pre-election lip-service to the New Deal has turned into a vicious attack on all that the New Deal has done for the unemployed.

These pre-election Jekylls turned into post-election Hydes without any of the physical contortions which the fictional character found necessary.

They simply concealed their perfidy from the voters by a parliamentary maneuver, to avoid going on record. The committee broke precedent by presenting the subject in such a way that a roll-call vote could not be had on the real issue of the amount of the appropriation.

Appeasing the Rich

The defense of those who voted to starve the unemployed is that such "economies" are necessary to restore confidence in business.

Chamberlain is generally criticized in this country for his policy of "appeasing" the Fascists by sacrificing to them the weaker democratic countries.

The American tories follow a similar policy of trying to appease the appetites of profiteers at the expense of the weakest and most helpless section of our population.

The indications are, however, that the appetites of neither Fascists nor big business are so easily appeased. They seem rather to grow with the eating.

A Caste System

One of the most shocking aspects of the debate on WPA is the tendency it revealed on the part of many of the tories to treat the poor and needy as a pariah and outlaw caste.

Amendments were actually proposed not only to cut off WPA relief but also to deprive WPA workers of the democratic rights which other citizens enjoy.

One amendment, offered by Rep. Schafer of Wisconsin, called for involuntary servitude and compulsory scabbing, by proposing that WPA work be denied to any worker who goes on strike against a private employer.

An amendment of Rep. Starnes of Alabama would have denied WPA work to any worker who belongs to a union or any other association engaging in political activities.

The amendment actually passed by the House, to withhold relief from anyone who seeks to influence the vote of a WPA worker, is in itself a denial of democratic rights to the unemployed. It could be interpreted to destroy the right of a WPA worker even to talk with his fellows on matter of common political interest.

Frankenstein-Creators

No American can afford to be indifferent to the issues raised by the WPA debate.

To throw huge numbers off WPA jobs is a threat to the wage standards of all who are employed in private industry.

The reduction in purchasing power decreed means less income for business and professional people. Each previous relief cut has resulted in business slump.

And the treatment of the unemployed as political pariahs strikes a blow at all our democratic liberties.

One horror movie the Congressmen should not have missed. That is Frankenstein. For by voting to starve and oppress the unemployed, they are themselves creating a monster of misery which will eventually turn on its creators.

WANT EXTENSION

New York—The Natl. Consumers League, in a statement issued by its secretary, Miss Mary Dublin, has written to Congress calling for an extension of the activities of the LaFollette civil liberties committee.

Miss Lewis Deplores Small Labor Voice At Lima Confab

WASHINGTON — Miss Kathryn Lewis, member of the United States delegation to the Pan-American Conference in Lima, Peru, has returned home more convinced than ever of the importance of labor representation at such international conferences.

Miss Lewis, who is executive assistant to her father, Pres. John L. Lewis of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, is the first CIO representative to be named by the President as delegate to a Pan-American Conference.

Although she was much pleased at the general achievements of the conference in promoting amity among the countries of both American continents, Miss Lewis deplored the small representation accorded to organized labor in the various delegations.

ONLY U. S., MEXICO

"The only countries which had delegates who were members of labor organizations were the United States and Mexico," she said.

"The conference did very little on labor questions, and I doubt that such conferences can be expected to do much more until there is more adequate labor representation among the delegations.

"To secure such representation, stronger labor organization must exist in the various countries. In some countries perhaps this result could be achieved if more emphasis were placed upon democratic institutions and democratic procedure."

ADDRESSED SEAMEN

Among the experiences of the trip which Miss Lewis remembered with the greatest pleasure, was a ship's meeting of the National Maritime Union, CIO, which she addressed on the S. S. Santa Maria on her way home.

The meeting was held on the ship's after deck, and she was impressed by the vitality and vigor of the members' discussion of union affairs.

The ship's crew was almost 100 per cent CIO, she noted with pride, all of the unlicensed personnel belonging to the NMU and the radio operators to the American Communications Association.

Miss Lewis joined with nearly all the other United States delegates in commenting on the excellent service and seamanship evidenced by CIO crews both on the S. S. Santa Clara, on which they went to Peru, and on the S. S. Santa Maria, on which they returned.

LABOR PROGRAM

Actions taken by the conference on labor matters included resolutions adopted on housing, on the migration of labor and immigration problems, and on pay provisions for workers with larger families.

But Miss Lewis considered that much more should have been done to help raise the terribly low wages and living standards of the workers in many countries.

"There are a number of beautiful labor codes on paper," she said, "but I am afraid their enforcement does not always live up to the promises they embody.

"Much has been said about the popular houses and restaurants run by the government in Peru, for instance, but after six years this program is still only getting under way, and in any case it is a mere drop in the bucket insofar as it affects the low wages and living standards in that country."

THREE ACHIEVEMENTS

Miss Lewis considered the three main achievements of the conference to be the resolution on reducing trade barriers, the declaration of American principles and the declaration on the solidarity of American countries. She also stressed the importance of the resolution calling for freedom of organization and expression of thought in countries where such freedom does not yet exist.

Paying a special tribute to Secretary Hull, head of the delegation, Miss Lewis declared that he had a "magnificent achievement" to his credit in promoting, strengthening and extending the foreign policy of the United States.

"That official representatives of 21 republics should be able to meet together in this fashion in troubled times like these, was heartening evidence of the amity existing between the American countries," she said.

She also noted that Daniel Tracy, AFL leader who was another delegate, had "contributed greatly to the work of the conference." His presence on the delegation, as well as that of Republican leader, Alfred Landon, she said, symbolized the unity of American labor and of the American people in relation to the country's foreign policy of defending democracy and promoting international good-will. Landon's intelligence and ability won praise from all the delegates, she added.

Miss Lewis was impressed by the evidences of foreign Fascist penetration in Latin America, which she saw on her trip. She considered that the conference performed an important function in uniting the American countries against such anti-democratic influences.

Warn of Changes In Unemployment Pay Bills

Washington — The CIO legislative committee is sending out to all affiliated unions copies of the CIO-recommended bill for amendments to state unemployment compensation laws.

In practically every state, changes are being proposed for these laws. In many states, employer groups and even state officials are advocating amendments which will limit benefits and fail to eliminate the red tape and delays that have blocked the speedy payment of unemployment compensation benefits.

CIO organizations are urged to take immediate action before it is too late in order to secure the necessary changes and oppose dangerous moves adverse to labor's interests.

Tells of Conference

Miss Kathryn Lewis, daughter of John L. Lewis and a member of the U. S. delegation to the recent Pan-American Conference at Lima, Peru, who tells THE CIO NEWS in an exclusive interview of her impressions of the South American situation.

Marine Engineers Point To Gains at Convention

WASHINGTON—New contracts, increased membership and complete satisfaction with affiliation to the CIO marked the past year's activities of the Marine Engineers Beneficial Assn., as reported at the annual convention meeting in this city.

According to the officers' report presented to the 34 delegates, 54 new and improved collective bargaining agreements were secured or renewed during the past 12 months, and membership gains were held despite a period of severe unemployment.

UNANIMOUS FOR CIO

These factors, plus the report by Delegate William J. Garrett on the Pittsburgh CIO convention of last November, prompted the unanimous vote for retention of CIO affiliation that was taken at the MEBA Convention.

The delegates, representing locals from the Atlantic, the Pacific, the Gulf, Great Lakes and inland waterways, heard Samuel J. Hogan, MEBA president, report on progress and urge extended organizing drives on both seagoing and inland vessels.

One of the principal struggles facing the Association, according to convention reports, is the fight to enforce compliance with the eight-hour day law for marine engineers. Shipowners, several delegates reported, are using many legal and semi-legal tricks in the attempt to evade this law.

LEWIS SPEAKS

John L. Lewis, president of the CIO, spoke to the delegates the third day of the convention, extending the support of the entire membership of the CIO and expressing satisfaction at their progress.

"Something had to be done for these workers. Something was done — and the results speak for themselves.

"America needs the CIO. It needs the Marine Engineers Beneficial Association. Our country is in danger, because of new forces in the world that are at work to change the relations between nations, because of the basic problems we have here in the United States."

Maritime Unions Plan Campaigns

Chicago—Campaigns to complete the organization of unorganized maritime workers and to combat anti-labor policies of the U. S. Maritime Commission featured the first meeting of the CIO Maritime Committee just concluded here.

The Committee, headed by Joseph Curran, president of the Natl. Maritime Union, was set up last month following a decision to unify all maritime organizing work passed at the CIO convention in Pittsburgh. John Brophy, CIO director represented the national office of the CIO.

The objective of the Committee, as stated by President John L. Lewis at the time, is "the coordination of present maritime union campaigns, presentation of a legislative program, and opposition to the present anti-union tactics of the U. S. Maritime Commission."

FIGHT FINK HALLS

One of the chief weapons the Maritime Commission has been using against the Natl. Maritime Union is the government hiring hall, designed, according to the Committee, to break down the system of union hiring halls established after much struggle by the NMU.

"The Commission, in its capacity as operator of vessels in private trade, dug up a statute, passed as far back as 1872, under which the government hiring halls were established," the Committee said.

"Since the marine strike of 1934, on the Pacific coast, union hiring halls have been recognized by Pacific coast employers and the Roosevelt administration as the proper function of the unions. The activities of these halls are a matter of public record, and have met with the consistent approval of all parties concerned."

CIO SUPPORTS DEMAND *for* Amalgamated Label On Clothing

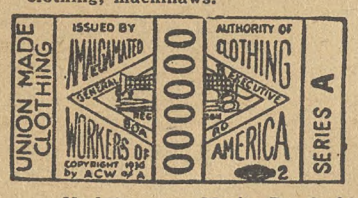
The Constitutional Convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations unanimously adopted a resolution in support of the union label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

The resolution reads:—

"Resolved, that this Convention of the CIO go on record as urging all members of its affiliated organizations to demand the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America label on all men's and boys' apparel in daily wear and work clothing of all kinds and to refuse to buy articles of apparel not so labeled."

Men's, Boys, children's suits, overcoats, pants, men's uniforms, sheep-lined leather and sport clothing, mackinaws.

—ON—
Overalls, Work Clothes, Work Shirts



Neckties

Men's, Boys' shirts, pajamas, underwear, white duck clothing, children's wash suits.

Gloves

The Amalgamated label is a guarantee that the product was made by Amalgamated members who enjoy union standards of wages and hours, and that the product is of the best workmanship.

Make sure that the Amalgamated label is on the coat, on the pants, on the vest and on every article of men's and boys' wearing apparel.

JOE GIVES ED SOME REASONS WHY—

Workers Support The Wagner Act

JOE: So you want the Wagner Act amended?

ED: Sure. It's caused a lot of trouble—strikes and stuff.

JOE: How do you know that?

ED: I read it in the papers, of course.

JOE: Did you know that since the board started work it has averted nearly 600 strikes involving over 156,000 workers?

ED: No, that's the first time I heard that.

JOE: Did you know that although there were twice as many American workers organized in 1937 as there were in 1927, the time lost because of strikes was only up 8%. The point I'm making is that union membership was up 100%, but time lost by strikes was up only 8%. That's a pretty good showing. It's my idea that this was due to the work of the labor board.

ED: Well, all I know is what I read in the papers.

JOE: And here's something else you didn't read in the papers. There was less time lost because of strikes in the first eight months of 1938 than in the same period of any year since 1931.

ED: You mean there was less time lost than even during Hoover?

JOE: That's just what I mean. Labor is tending to use the peaceful methods of the labor board and other agencies instead of going on strike. Before the labor board was set up the only protection labor had was to go on strike. Now it feels able to protect its rights under the law. To sum it up, Ed, all this talk about the Wagner Act causing labor unrest is a lot of tripe.

THE BOSSES SAID "NUTS"

ED: But, by golly, there were a powerful lot of sit-down strikes back in 1936.

JOE: Sure there were. Don't you remember, the lawyers of the Liberty League told the employers that the Wagner Act was unconstitutional and they didn't need to obey it?

ED: Yeah, I remember that, all right. That's what my brother-in-law thought about prohibition till they threw him in the jug.

JOE: Well, we'll leave your brother-in-law out of this. But a lot of employers thought these high-priced lawyers knew what they were talking about, so they just said "Nuts" to their workers when they tried to bargain collectively. Naturally, there was plenty of trouble. But there was trouble because the employers would not obey the law.

ED: Well, maybe you're right, Joe. You got a lot of figures and facts there that make a powerful impression. But I got one question that'll put you up a stump.

JOE: All right, shoot. We can take it.

ED: All right, isn't it a fact that the Wagner Act is one-sided?

JOE: What do you mean?

ED: Well, doesn't the law prohibit the employer from doing a lot of things, but it doesn't say anything about the worker doing anything wrong?

JOE: That's about right.

ED: Well, that's all I want to know. Anything that's one-sided is not for me. I believe in fair-play, by golly.

JOE: That's fine. So do I. Now, let me ask you a question. You don't object, do you, because the laws against robbery don't restrain the victim as well as the robber?

This dialogue, designed for use in labor radio broadcasts, was prepared by the publicity department of the United Rubber Workers of America, CIO.

ED: Why, if anybody tried to stick me up, Id—

JOE: Exactly. You feel you have the right to protect yourself against a robber. Now one more question. Do you think the law is one-sided when it compels building owners to obey the sanitary code, even if they don't like it?

ED: Why, of course not. You can't let any small minority endanger the majority.

ED: Well, if the law just gives the workers their rights, that's all right. But it doesn't stop there. It tells the employer how he's going to run his business.

JOE: The law simply says that an employer cannot interfere with the right of his workers to join any union they want. That's all the Wagner Act says.

ED: Well, I've been told different.

JOE: Don't take my word for it. Here is an official statement on what the Wagner Act really means. I'll read it to you:

"The statute goes no further than to safeguard the right of employes to organize and to select representatives of their own choosing for collective bargaining or other mutual protection without restraint or coercion by their employer. THAT IS A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT. Employes have as clear a right to organize and select their representatives for lawful purposes as the respondent has to organize its business and to select its own agent or officers."

ED: Who said that?

JOE: Chief Justice Hughes. He said it when he delivered the opinion of the Supreme Court that the Wagner Act is constitutional.

ED: Well, I guess maybe you're right on that. But there's one thing that sticks in my craw, and that is taking away all the rights of the employer when he has to deal with the labor board.

JOE: How do you figure that out?

EMPLOYERS' PROTECTION

ED: Well, the union makes a charge against the boss, and then the labor board hauls him over the coals and he never has any opportunity to defend himself. The board collects the evidence against him and then it tries the case and then it sentences him. That isn't right.

JOE: Somebody's been kidding you, Ed. Let me explain what happens.

ED: I don't want any soft-soap, now. I want the goods.

JOE: OK, that's what I'll give you. Now, here's just what happens. When a union or a worker feels that the law is being violated a complaint is filed with the board. But that doesn't mean the board hauls the employer over the coals. No, sir. The board itself investigates the complaint before it takes any action whatever. Nearly half the complaints filed under the act are dismissed by the regional directors of the board without trial, on the grounds that they are not supported by the evidence.

ED: Is that a fact?

JOE: Yes, that's a fact. But, if the board finds there is evidence of violation, it holds an open hearing, at which the employer has a full opportunity to present his side of the case. If the evidence warrants, the board then issues an order. But this order is not enforcible.

ED: It isn't?

JOE: No. Before an order of the board becomes enforcible it must apply to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for an enforcement order. But, all along the line the employer has the right to appeal to the courts, and employers have been doing that right along. Nearly 20 cases have been passed upon by the Supreme Court already. And here's something to remember, Ed, in every case except two or three, the Supreme Court has upheld the board. That certainly indicates that the board is not biased or dictatorial.

THE AFL LEADERS

ED: Well, you got me there, all right. But, by golly, if the law is so all-fired fair, how come the AFL is against it?

JOE: You mean some leaders of the AFL are against it. Go out on the street and talk to any AFL member and see how he feels about it. Why, all kinds of city, state and local federations have gone on record against amendment of the Wagner Act.

ED: Well, maybe you're right at that. I can remember when the same AFL leaders said unemployment insurance was communistic. I wish they'd tell that to my brother-in-law when he collects his every week—

JOE: Yeah, I know your brother-in-law, but we're talking about the Wagner Act. The thing is that these AFL leaders don't like the CIO and they hate the labor board because it has treated CIO unions as genuine bona fide unions.

ED: Now you're just being prejudiced, Joe. Why, I read in the papers that the labor board is biased against the AFL.

JOE: Oh, yeah? Well, listen to this. Figures released by the board show that up to the end of last September the board had handled 49 cases involving disputes over craft and industrial unions. In 24 of the 49 cases the board adopted the AFL view. The board upheld the CIO in only 21 cases. In the other four, both sides won in part. That doesn't look like the board is prejudiced against the AFL, does it?

ED: Yeah, but how about the elections the board has conducted?

JOE: Well, it's true that the CIO has won 77% of its election contests with the AFL, but that is not because of the board's actions. Apparently the American workers, given freedom of choice, prefer the CIO. The labor board naturally does not dictate to workers what union they must join.

ED: That's OK with me. I believe in majority rule. But, listen, don't you think the board goes too far when it kicks out contracts that have already been made?

JOE: The board usually doesn't interfere with contracts at all. It doesn't tell either the employer or the union what kind of contracts they must sign. It only acts if there is evidence of a violation of the law in connection with the contract.

ED: Yeah, but they have kicked out AFL contracts, too.

JOE: That is because in some instances AFL unions have signed closed shop contracts with employers although most of the workers in the shop were not members of the AFL. The board has held this denies workers the right of free choice guaranteed them under the law. How would you like to be compelled to join a union against your will if a mere handful of people signed a closed shop contract with your employer?

ED: I would tell them to—

JOE: Skip it, Ed, you're on the radio. As a matter of fact, the AFL has profited by this power of the board. In at least 15 cases the board has invalidated company union contracts at the request of the AFL. And in at least one instance it kicked out a contract signed by the CIO.

ED: Well, if the board has been so fair, how come all the shooting?

JOE: Ed, that is a long, long story. In a nutshell, it's just like this: certain big employers in this country don't like unions. They don't like to pay decent wages. They don't want to cut down on speed-up.

ED: So what are you going to do about it?

JOE: We're going to tell Congress what the people really want. Main Street elected them, but Wall Street is telling them what to do. It's up to you and me and every other fair-minded citizen to get out our pens right now and shoot a postcard to our Congressman and Senators at Washington, D. C. Let's tell them the folks back home want NO TAMPERING WITH THE WAGNER ACT!

Here's One Way

Of handling labor problems. Police use teargas on men, women and children in effort to break a strike . . .

Here's Another

U. S. Steel officials renew their contract with the CIO, early in 1938, following peaceful negotiations in accordance with the Wagner Act.

Board Backs CIO Union At Maytag

Washington — Thirteen members of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, CIO, who were fired by the Maytag Company of Newton, Iowa, for union activity have been ordered reinstated with back pay in report filed by a trial examiner for the National Labor Relations Board.

The examiner also recommended that the company bargain with Local 1116, UERMW, as sole union representative for production workers.

The case grew out of a strike at the company's Newton plant last May, called in protest against a 10% wage cut which the management insisted must be included in a contract being negotiated at that time, following a consent election won by the CIO union by more than 80%.

Armstrong Cork Signs Contract

Pensacola, Fla.—The first victory in this section by District 50, United Mine Workers, was won when a contract was signed between Local 12122 and Armstrong Cork Co. of this city.

H. W. Prentis, Jr., president of this concern, has recently been active and loud as an officer in the reactionary National Association of Manufacturers, and this fact makes the signing of the agreement extremely important.

When District Fifty appeared in the city, a wage increase of 8% was put into effect by management. After a whirlwind campaign of three months, Representative N. B. Maxwell and the negotiating committee secured in the contract the following provisions:

Sole and exclusive bargaining rights; strong and detailed seniority rules; eight-hour day, 40-hour week, with time and one-half for overtime; vacations and holidays with pay; leave of absence; safety and health regulations; use of bulletin board; and arbitration provisions in case of disputes.

Roth

Jack Roth, executive secretary of the Trade Union Athletic Association of New York City.

Injunction Granted!

Philadelphia. — Federal Judge Oliver B. Dickinson went off the deep end in district court here last week.

"The idea of a peaceful picket or peaceful picketing is a myth," he claimed, at the same time granting a preliminary injunction to the Tri-Plex Shoe Co. against striking members of the CIO shoe clerks' union.

The union has been conducting a strike against the company's 10 stores in the city since last autumn, charging that the firm was reducing its workers to a "state of peonage" by forcing them to sign individual contracts with the management.

CERTIFIED

New York—The American Communications Assn., CIO, has been certified by the National Labor Relations Board as sole collective bargaining agency for workers at RCA Communications in this city.

MORE SECURITY

Washington—Extension of social security laws was urged upon Congress in a special message from Pres. Roosevelt.

Union Athletes

Why a labor sports program? The CIO NEWS here tells of the success of New York City unions in developing athletic activity and competition. New York's program will be of interest to unions elsewhere which encourage sports activities among their members.

New York — There'll be a new kind of labor convention in this city on February 25 and 26.

Meeting in the headquarters of the Transport Workers Union will be representatives of scores of unions — CIO and AFL — whose only competition is on the basketball floor, in the swimming pool, on the baseball diamond or in the ice areans. For the Trade Union Athletic Association, which has been ploughing steadily ahead in recent years, it will be a big step towards the day when every union in New York City will have its own team in almost every branch of sports.

The TUAA was organized in the spring of '37. A lusty infant at the time of its birth, it has quickly grown to the point where sports experts in the nation's biggest city regard it as one of the outstanding outfits in New York.

That first summer the TUAA confined its activities to the diamond. Seven teams entered the baseball league, and the AFL Building Service Employes walked off with the pennant.

"We felt that this was a great beginning," Jack Roth, TUAA executive-secretary, recalls. That Roth was right was amply demonstrated when the call was sounded for a basketball league that winter. The number of teams was doubled, and 86 games were played.

It was the quintet representing the CIO Furrier's Joint Council that brought home the basketball bacon, with the electrical and radio workers trailing along in second place.

LOTS OF INTEREST

"Throughout that entire basketball season," Roth says, "challenges came into our office from the Cleveland Labor Athletic League, the Workers Sports Assn. of Montreal, the Philadelphia CIO Athletic League, and others. We decided to sponsor a national playoff. The Otis Elevator Workers, champions of the Cleveland league, and the Workers Sports Assn. team came to New York.

"Here at Textile High School, the SWOC played the Furriers, and the Montreal team played the meat cutters union. The furriers and the meat cutters won, before audiences that packed the galleries. The New York style of basketball still seemed the best in the country."

BIG GROWTH

By the spring of 1938, trade union athletics was definitely riding the crest of the wave. Despite entry fees of $25 for each team, 1040 players were doing their stuff—10 times as many as the previous year.

Games were played in public parks and school fields. Twilight games were played during the week and on Saturdays and Sundays all during the daylight hours. The elevator operators, who had won the 1937 championship, couldn't make the top floor with the hotter competition, and the cleaners and dyers union grabbed the pennant.

The baseball season was just an introduction to bigger things. More soccer teams were formed. A handball tournament, with more than 100 contestants, showed the fur workers running away for the pack again.

TRACK AND FIELD MEET

But, says Roth, "it was the track and field meet which took place on August 21, 1938, that captured the imagination of all sports fans.

"When we mentioned that we were going to run a track and field meet we were laughed at. We were told that the labor movement has no athletes, and that it would be a failure. We also had to break through barriers set up by the Amateur Athletic Union—barriers which have out-lawed the track and field meet and also the participants."

The number of union entries was more than 200—and, Roth notes with justifiable pride—"the records weren't bad for the first real trade union track and field meet held in America."

Goldberg of the Firemen's Union, for instance, did the mile in 4:40. Collins of the Building Service Employes topped the bar in the high jump at 6 feet two, while a hop of 18 feet 10½ inches gave Sippio of the furniture workers first place in the broad jump.

Right now the basketball league is near the half-way mark, with the furriers and the office workers leading their respective divisions. Playoffs are scheduled for the weekend of the convention next month.

WHY LABOR SPORTS

Why labor sports? Well, Roth points out, when workers were unorganized, anti-union employers used to maintain athletic leagues in their plants to forestall the boys from organizing. Now lots of workers have realized the necessity for maintaining a sports program to help build their union and to keep all the members interested in its welfare.

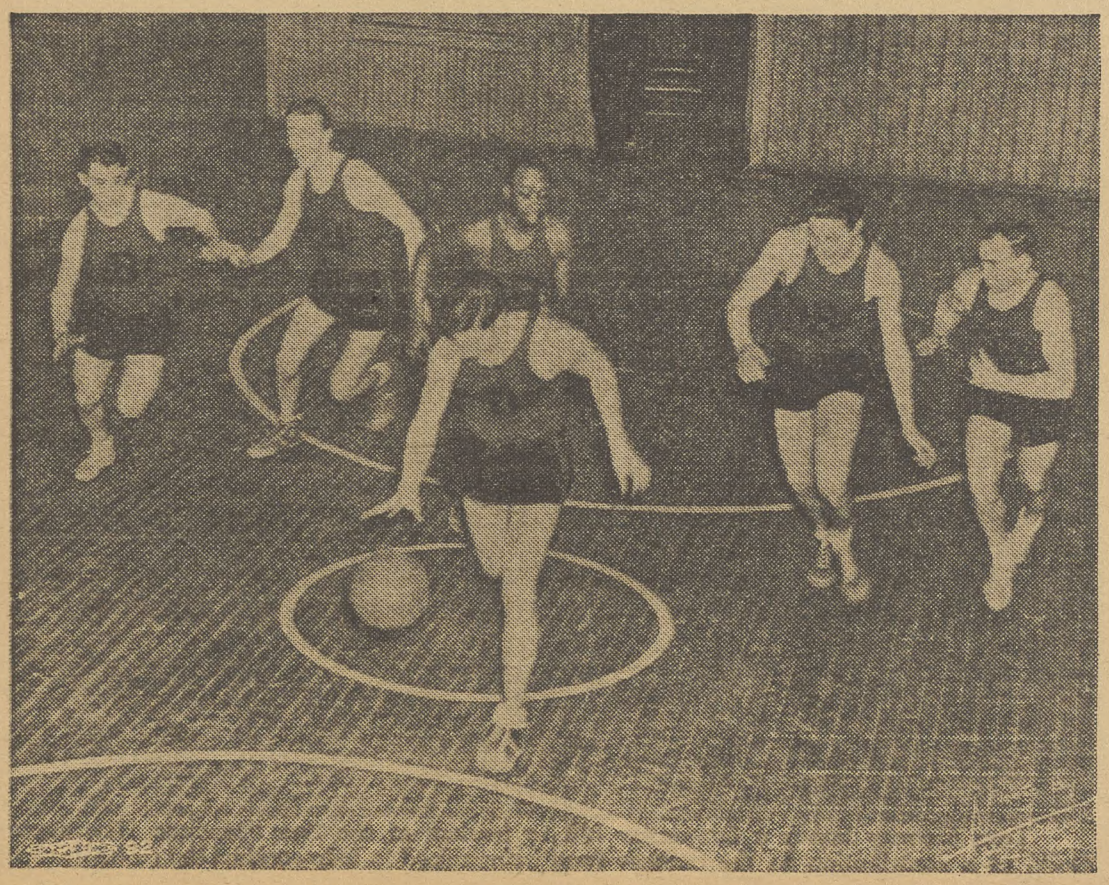
"The demands placed before us by numerous unions is so great that it becomes necessary for us to consolidate our gains in order that we may serve the labor movement better. We want to adopt a constitution, and pronounce championships within the trade union movement over the following sports: Baseball, basketball, track, swimming, ping-pong, boxing, wrestling, bowling, handball, soccer and ice-skating."

Any further information about the activities of the Trade Uunion Athletic Association may be obtained by writing to Jack Roth, executive secretary, 171 West 64th Street, New York City.

Safe at Second

It was an easy stolen base for this member of the American Communications Assn., CIO, during a game with the Hotel & Restaurant Employes, AFL, in New York.

Ready for Competition



A member of the Building Service Employes' quintet dribbles down the floor as his team gets warmed up for a league game sponsored by the Trade Union Athletic Assn.

Nazis, Labor Spies Honor Dies; Texas CIO Raps Probe

WASHINGTON—Open shoppers, libel artists and Nazis continued to pour honors on Martin L. Dies of Texas, head of the House Committee allegedly investigating un-American activities.

The Constitution Educational League, Inc., of New Haven, Conn., amid a fanfare of publicity, bestowed on the nation's leading red-baiter its "Americanism award for 1938."

The League has provided its Tory friends with loads of false information to be used in the fight against the CIO. One of its pamphlets, it has been charged, was sold in a 100,000-lot to Tom Girdler of Republic Steel, and large quantities were distributed to other haters of labor around the nation.

BACKED DOWN

The pamphlet offered a reward of $1000 to anyone proving a falsehood in its text. Labor Research Association of New York sent a registered leter to the outfit pointing out some 20 errors and asking for payment. So far, it has failed to collect.

At hearings of the LaFollette Senate Civil Liberties committee, testimony showed that the heads of the Constitution Educational League knew little about the constitution and even less about education.

'HEIL' FROM NAZIS

More support for the Dies witch-hunting expedition came from Fritz Kuhn, head of the German American Bund in the United States—the direct branch of Hitler's organization for spreading Nazi propaganda in other countries.

"Mr. Dies' wish (for more funds for the committee) should by all means be gratified," says a front page editorial in Deutscher Weckruf und Beobachter, Kuhn's newspaper.

The Dies Committee supposedly was commissioned to investigate Fascist as well as Communist activities, but its diatribes against the CIO and the New Deal, together with its light treatment of the Nazis, have apparently won it the support of the Hitlerites.

TEXAS CIO ANGERED

Meanwhile in Dies' home state of Texas, the Congressman's activities won less favor.

Resolutions endorsed by the Texas State Industrial Union Council, as well as local councils in Houston and Harris County, and three lodges of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, protested the committee's handling of its probe.

Accusing Dies of having but one purpose—"to smear progressive thinking and to curb and discredit organized labor," —the resolution said it might have used its funds to better advantage "had it seen fit to uncover the reastionary and sinister vigilante groups in Texas."

RAIL UNION'S ATTACK

The committee received another blow when President A. F. Whitney of the powerful independent Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen called upon Congress to refuse it any further funds.

In a letter addressed to Rep. Sabbath, new head of the potent House Rules Committee, Whitney said the railroad men "endorse Pres. Roosevelt's indictment of the unfair and un-American tactics employed by the committee throughout the course of its investigation and hearings." The Brotherhood, he added, "is unalterably opposed to the granting of any additional money to the disreputable Dies Committee."

Kress Strike

Hilo, Hawaii — Employes of the S. H. Kress store here are out on strike for recognition of their union, the United Retail Workers, and reinstatement of their president, Thomas Nakashima.

The union has asked the National Labor Relations Board to investigate the unfair labor practices of the Kress store.

Open Drive To Free Billings

San Francisco.—A new fight to win freedom for Warren K. Billings was started this week when George T. Davis, the labor's prisoner's attorney, filed application for pardon with the governor.

Mooney, meanwhile, was enjoying his first freedom in 22 years and throwing his weight behind labor's cause on the west coast. He took his first airplane ride to Los Angeles, where he appeared before a labor mass meeting on Jan. 15.

Previously he appeared at the state convention of Labor's Non-Partisan League in Sacramento. On Jan. 22 he is expected to address the annual meeting of the San Francisco-Oakland Newspaper Guild.

Two film offers have been forwarded to him, it was revealed here. Warner Brothers and Metro have suggested contracts, but Mooney has not indicated whether he is interested in the propositions.

District 50 Signs Flock of Pact Renewals

NEW YORK—The open season on contract renewals has just come to an end for Local Unions here affiliated with District 50 of the United Mine Workers of America in the paint, drug and chemical division.

The District Office is pointing with pride to unusual strides made in the new agreements and in mid-season wage reviews for which many contracts provide.

The high points are:

Glyco Chemical on a mid-year review of wages granted $1 and $2 increases. **Valentine Paint Co.** with plants in Brooklyn and Newark, and the Edward Smith Co. renewed a contract for a year and gave a $2 increase under strike threat. In **Colonial Paint,** a three-day strike won $1 increase immediately effective and an additional $1 increase on July 1st.

10% BONUS

A bonus equal to 10 per cent of the workers' salaries was given in the **Gas Purifying Co.** on a mid-year review of wages. **Monroe-Sanders** employes won a $3.50 increase which was the largest chalked up in any of the District 50 shops. **Arnesto Paint Co.** renewed its agreement, added two more holidays and 5c per hour increase for the lowest category of male workers.

Diamond Candle renewed its contract with the union in an atmosphere quite different from the long strike conducted last year to win collective bargaining rights. The closed shop and a $1 increase came with the new agreement in **Sterisol Ampoule. American Steel Wool** renewed a fine contract on the same terms.

Wilbert Extracts came through with a $1 increase and an additional holiday for the employes, while Barclay gave a $5 Christmas bonus, a $1 increase immediately effective and $1 at the end of August.

U. S. Gypsum Signs New Agreement

Chicago.—U. S. Gypsum officials concluded negotiations for a new one-year agreement with Local 13014 in its East Chicago plant with an expression of complete satisfaction on the conduct of labor relations over the past contract year.

The new contract recognizes the growth of understanding and cooperation between management and the Union. Simple recognition of the Union was replaced in the new contract with the granting of sole bargaining rights. Stronger seniority provisions and a better overtime arrangement were written into the new contract.

Men called back to work will receive a minimum of four hours' pay. If they work over two hours and forty minutes, however, they are to receive time and one-half. No hours are to be deducted from the regular work week because of such extra overtime.

Men of the Negotiating Committee who won the new agreement with the assistance of Field Representative Louis Weiner were: Ernest Brown, President of Local 13014; Harold Bundy, Hammond, Ind.; Otto Quick, Lansing, Ill.; Elbert Goucher, Black Oak, Ind.; A. Marley, Hammond, Ind.; and Joe Angerson, Calumet City, Ill.

Gov. Olson Names Union Leaders To Key Posts

Sacramento, Calif.—Gov. Culbert Olson has appointed two labor men to important positions in the state government.

Germain Bulcke, head of the San Francisco local of the Intl. Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, CIO, and J. F. Marias of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, have been named to the important Board of Harbor Commissioners.

Labor bills already introduced into the new session of the state legislature call for the passage of a "little" Wagner Act for California, prohibition of injunctions in labor disputes, and the outlawing of local anti-picketing ordinances. The last one is aimed at the vicious bill passed in Los Angeles in the fall, and at others adopted in a number of agricultural counties at the behest of large fruit and vegetable growers.

Attack Bill To Weaken Union

New York. — The Transport Workers Union, which has closed shop contracts covering more than 50,000 transit workers in greater New York, this week appealed to all organized labor to join in the fight against enactment in the state legislature of the Wicks Bill.

The bill, introduced by upstate Republican Senator Arthur H. Wicks, will deny employment on city-owned or operated transit lines to any who could not come within the regulations of the civil service law.

The bill would affect about 29,000 men and women now employed on the IRT and BMT subway, elevated and bus systems when those roads are merged with the city's Independent Subway System under the city ownership plan.

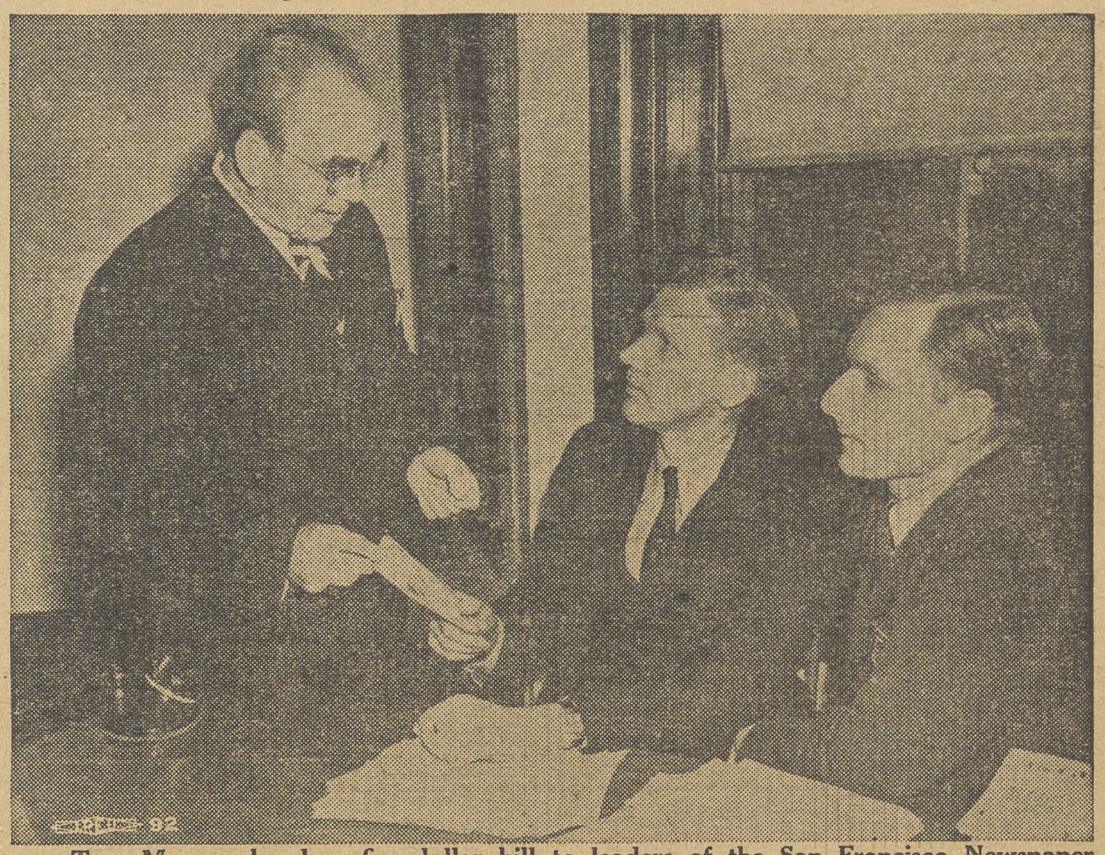
District 50 Certified In Nashua, N. H.

Nashua, N. H. — Certification by the Labor Board and a working agreement with management are the latest gains made by the Johns-Manville workers in this city.

As members of Local 13012, District Fifty, UMWA, they have overcome every obstacle in their path over a period of several months, including the company's insistence on a 10% wage cut.

Machinery has been set up to take care of any grievances that may arise in the plant. With these distinct gains, it is evident that a satisfactory long-term contract will result from further negotiations this spring.

Mooney Aids Guild Strikers



Tom Mooney hands a five-dollar bill to leaders of the San Francisco Newspaper Guild as a contribution to the defense fund being raised to help conduct the strike against the Hearst-owned Chicago Herald-Examiner and Evening American. The $5 was half the amount given Mooney by prison officials when he left San Quentin. The other $5 was donated to a strike of AFL retail employes in San Francisco.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 5 — 20 — January 30, 1939 — Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 — $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

TORIES CUT $875,000,000 WPA BILL BY ONE VOTE

CIO Seamen Win Praise for Rescue On High Seas

NEW YORK — A year ago members of the CIO National Maritime Union were the object of a giant smear campaign aimed at smashing their union by attempting to show "red" activities, general negligence on shipboard, and disregard for passengers.

Now, for the second time in a month, NMU crews are being praised for heroism on the high seas.

It was an all-union crew on the S. S. Esso Baytown, which rescued passengers on the ill-fated Imperial Airways clippership flying from Bermuda to New York.

Similarly, it was an all-union crew on the S. S. Schodak which saved the lives of 22 men and two women from the Norwegian steamship Smaragd in a howling mid-Atlantic gale only a few weeks previously.

In neither case was the fact that the rescue crews were composed of NMU men given recognition by the same Tory papers which last year had been giving front-page attention to the anti-union slanders of the late Sen. Royal S. Copeland and other stooges of the shipowners.

PRAISE FROM CURRAN

"The crew of the Esso Baytown," said Pres. Joseph Curran of the National Maritime Union, "has written a record to which the entire American people can point with pride.

"Union crews are, by virtue of being union men, efficient and the most capable on the American merchant marine.

"In the recent period, NMU crews have answered SOS calls on six occasions, saving many lives.

"The NMU is proud to salute these seamen who are carrying forward the internationally famous tradition of U. S. seamen, which runs back to the days of the clipper ships.

TIME FOR APOLOGY

"We believe, moreover, that this would be an appropriate time for those people in high office and certain newspapers which have maliciously slandered union seamen, to make a public apology and admit that they were wrong."

Recognizing the heroism of the Baytown crew, the New York City Council unanimously passed a resolution which declared that the sailors had "lived up to the best traditions of the sea."

Charge Shoe Firms Worst Chiselers

Washington, 1939 — Administrator Andrews at his press conference this week stated that among the worst violators of the wage-hour law, are the many shoe firms in New England, especially in and about Lewiston and Auburn, Maine.

He stated that as soon as investigations are completed, he would proceed to prosecute all violators.

Mooney Aids Maine Strikers

Tom Mooney, veteran labor leader, sent the following wire in support of the jailed Maine shoe strikers to John Brophy, national director of the CIO:

"Resurrection by anti-labor Maine industrialists of an ancient statute with which to railroad union leaders to prison has as its purpose the destruction of the labor movement in Maine.

"This time it has been used against the United Shoe Workers. If these tory industrialists succeed in this frame-up, they will use this law to wipe out the entire labor movement in Maine.

"Labor must rise up on its hind legs and protest and fight this vicious law and its corrupt use. I will do all in my power to help this case and call on every branch of the labor movement to rally in this struggle.

"My warmest fraternal greetings and salutations to our imprisoned union brothers."

Slap Hearst

Washington — Frederick H. Houck, chairman of the Baltimore News-Post unit of the American Newspaper Guild, discharged for union activity August 5, 1937, has been ordered reinstated with back pay by the National Labor Relations Board.

Amendment To Limit Firings Gain Support

WASHINGTON.—The McKellar amendment, which would have restored the President's demand for $875,000,000 to the WPA deficiency appropriation bill, was defeated by a 47 to 46 vote late last week.

Labor pressure during recent weeks cut into the conservative majority, and almost resulted in a rout of the Tory forces on Capitol Hill.

Though the $875,000,000 bill was defeated, the Senate, it was predicted, is sure to pass a bill limiting the firing of workers on WPA rolls to only five per cent of the number during February and March. As a result, the anti-New Deal victory which conservative forces had been hopefully predicting proved to be a dud.

The CIO battle against slicing of the WPA fund was led by Vice-President Sidney Hillman, who warned that "now is not the time to gamble on recovery." He called the $875,000,000 asked by Pres. Roosevelt the "absolute minimum necessary to sustain the current recovery."

Unemployment Director Ralph Hetzel, encouraged by labor's fight against the cuts, declared late last week that "the tide now seems to be turning in Congress."

Calling upon union members to let their Congressmen know of the opposition to carrying out Tory policies on the unemployed, he warned, "but the fight is not over and it will not be over until the appropriation of at least $875,000,000—probably the minimum to assure our continued recovery—is safely passed by both the Houses of Congress."

Sen. Borah of Idaho, veteran Republican, was one of those in the upper house who warned of the dangers that lie ahead if millions are to be deprived of their already meager incomes.

Additional evidence came in a statement issued by the Conference of Mayors, which pointed to the fact that not one of 104 large American cities would be able to handle the relief problem if hundreds of thousands are dropped from WPA.

Steel Local Active

Charleroi, Pa. – With a signed membership in the Steel Workers Organizing Committee of nearly 100 per cent, Local 1187 at the Allenport plant of the Pittsburgh Steel Company, announces it has concluded a most successful year. The plant employs about 2,000 men when working full time.

The local boasts of a football and a soccer team which won a number of games during 1938, and sponsors recreational activities to spread the spirit of union fellowship among its members. During the holidays, candy, oranges and popcorn were given to the children of all the Allenport plant employes.

Seamen Who Rescued Ten Crash Victims

These are seamen of the S. S. Esso Baytown, members of the National Maritime Union, CIO, who manned lifeboats and rescued passengers and crew of an Imperial Airways clipper flying from Bermuda to New York. Left to rights S. H. Taylor, John Goodwin, Tom Brady, John Thomashek, Powell Smith and Joseph Minor.

$500,000 Profit on $2.50 Weekly Wages

Pecan Sheller Gets No Exemption On Wage-Hour Law

WASHINGTON—Pecan nuts will be shelled and cleaned at human wages. Julius Seligman, whose company shells half the pecans in the country, has been denied an exemption from the Wages and Hours law, and will be required to pay the minimum rate of 25 cents per hour.

Seligman's company, located in San Antonio, Tex., has long been notorious for the starvation wages paid to the workers who created a $500,000 profit for the pecan king in a recent two-year period. Five and six cents per pound has been the usual rate, which makes a weekly wage as low as $2.50 for a worker to live on. A family of four or five—including children as young as 10 — could make $10 or $11 per week, in the good season.

CIO LED STRIKE

These conditions of near starvation for 10,000 American families were first exposed by the CIO whose Cannery and Agricultural Workers union led a long strike against Seligman's proposal to cut these already meager earnings by 20 per cent.

The strike was met with every kind of police and company violence, including tear gas, beatings and wholesale arrests and evictions. In spite of this the strike was successful in preventing the cut from going through, and the workers are now organized in a Cannery and Agricultural union local.

Seligman's application for an exemption was based on the pretext that he needed to employ "learners" at 15 cents an hour for a 90-day period for each worker. Testimony before the Wages and Hours investigator brought out some interesting evidence from the workers themselves.

This is what one of them had to say:

"That is the only way the pickers can make over $3.00 or $4.00, with the help of other kin folks. In pecan shelling plants, where the old people work, say, like the old woman and old man, after school the children come out of school and they gather around these old people and help them after school."

BELOW THE LOWEST

And the investigator, summing up, added:

"For years they have been employed under shocking living and working conditions. Their meager wages were insufficient to meet the lowest standards of civilized life. WPA relief, church aid and private charity have had to bridge the gap between their slender earnings and starvation.

"The conditions prevailing in this part of the industry are precisely those which Congress stated, in Section 2, were to be eliminated by the Fair Labor Standards Act.

"Those conditions are: starvation wages, child labor, wretched housing and living conditions with attendant ill health, degradation and inefficiency, unsanitary working conditions, and dissatisfaction leading to labor disputes and strikes."

ASK AID FOR FARMERS

Yarkima, Wash. — (FP) — The United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers, CIO, is asking the Federal Warm Security Administration to build a labor camp for families here, similar to those already established in California.

Steel Union Wins Back Pay For 22 Men

Maywood, Ill. — A united and militant stand by steel workers, backed by quick action on the part of organizers of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee won reinstatement with back pay last week for 22 employes of Vulcan Mfg. Co. here. The men were fired last November, two days after holding their first meeting for the purpose of forming a local union.

Charges were immediately filed with the Labor Board by Organizers Harry Harper and John Riffe. Following an informal hearing, the Board ruled in favor of the men. The company, without waiting for a formal hearing, rehired the 22 men and paid them $800 in back pay. It also agreed to negotiate for a contract as soon as the union can show a majority in the plant.

That won't be long, say the enthusiastic members of the local. They predict a 100% union shop within a month.

CIO Statement On Auto Union

Following is the complete text of the statement issued by CIO Vice-Presidents Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman on the situation in the United Automobile Workers of America:

The Congress of Industrial Organizations is giving complete support and recognition to the International Executive Board of the United Automobile Workers of America and Mr. R. J. Thomas, the president of the organization.

Three basic principles have been consistently maintained by the CIO in its relationship with the UAWA, as one of its international affiliates:

1. Complete recognition of the independent autonomy of the UAWA.

2. The observance by the elected officers and members of the UAWA of its Constitution, and recognition of the supreme authority, between conventions, of the International Executive Board.

3. The complete observance by the UAWA of its contractual obligations with employers for the full protection of its members.

REACHED AGREEMENT

In the fall of 1938, a situation confronted the UAWA, because of disputes which had arisen within the organization, that threatened the existence of the union. President John L. Lewis, of the CIO, appointed Messrs. Sidney Hillman and Philip Murray as a committee to contact the officers and the international executive board of the union, for the purpose of investigating the situation.

As a result of conferences which were held in Detroit, an agreement was arrived at which was unanimously accepted by the executive board, the international officers of the union and Mr. Martin. Under this agreement, a joint committee, consisting of Mr. Martin and President R. J. Thomas, Sidney Hillman and Philip Murray, was established to settle such disputes as may be referred to the committee by the international executive board or the international president of the UAWA.

TWENTY-EIGHT CASES

From the date of the agreement, the only questions that have been passed upon by this joint committee have been such matters as were referred by Mr. Martin. The Committee solved 28 separate and distinct problems that were referred to it. The committee's reports were unanimously agreed to by its members, including Mr. Martin, and recommended to the international executive board for adoption. All of these reports were unanimously approved by the board.

Until a week or two ago, Mr. Martin has publicly praised the work which Messrs. Murray and Hillman have done as members of the co-ordinating committee. At the CIO convention in Pittsburgh, in November, 1938, Mr. Martin on several occasions publicly gave recognition to the accomplishment of Mr. Hillman and Mr. Murray in establishing peace within the ranks of the UAWA.

During this period of the operation of the co-ordinating committee, the United Automobile Workers of America has made remarkable progress in its efforts to establish its relations with employers on a firm foundation.

There have been fewer strikes and a greater appreciation on the part of the organization as to its responsibilities in the proper administration of its affairs. This has been directly attributable to the salutary effect which the representatives of the CIO had upon the organizational structure of the United Automobile Workers' International Union.

MARTIN FLOUTED RULES

Since the execution of the agreement between the UAWA and the CIO, Mr. Martin has flagrantly flouted the provisions of the constitution of the United Automobile Workers of America, and disobeyed the decisions of the international executive board. Mr. Martin has refused to accept the decisions of the board and has refused to participate in its meetings. Although joining in the recommendations of the co-ordinating committee, he has later refused to carry through the decisions of the international executive board in approving the reports submitted by the coordinating committee.

On Wednesday, January 11, and again on Thursday, January 12, Mr. Martin communicated with Mr. Hillman, requesting that Mr. Hillman and Mr. Murray come to Detroit to discuss the question of having the UAWA call a special convention. Pursuant to this request, Mr. Murray and Mr. Hillman arrived in Detroit, Monday, January 16.

Mr. Martin's position was that a special convention would have to be held to finally settle the outstanding disputes. His request was submitted to the executive board by Mr. Hillman and Mr. Murray. The international executive board thereupon called a special convention of the UAWA for March 20, which was the earliest date that the convention could be called under the provisions of the constitution, thereby meeting the request of Mr. Martin.

SUSPENDED FIFTEEN

Immediately thereafter, without any justification, Mr. Martin purported to suspend 15 members of the international executive board while the board was in session, in direct and flagrant violation of the constitution of the UAWA.

Through force and violence, Mr. Martin subsequently illegally took over the headquarters of the international organization and took away from the headquarters records of the international organization. Mr. Martin subsequently convened a small group, composed of four ex-members of the executive board and himself, establishing a dual organization, and purported to call a dual convention of his own.

SUSPEND MARTIN

The international executive board, acting within its constitutional authority, has suspended Mr. Martin and the four former members of the executive board who have thus participated in attempting to establish a dual organization to the United Automobile Workers of America.

Mr. Martin's activities are in complete defiance of every democratic principle enunciated in the constitution of the UAWA. his activities can only lend strength to the enemies of organized labor and to the reactionary employers.

The international executive board had no alternative to the action it has taken. The Congress of Industrial Organizations supports fully and completely the position of the international executive board. Dual unionism and arrogant defiance of the constitution of a labor union, with which Mr. Martin has definitely identified himself, cannot be tolerated.

At Los Angeles

Tom Mooney and Harry Bridges, CIO west coast director, as they chatted on the stage of the Los Angeles Coliseum during a big mass meeting held in Mooney's honor. Thousands of Southern California workers paid tribute to the labor martyr.

Charge Nazis Keep Workers In Slavery

Paris—All armament factories in South Germany are working at high pressure with the right to change to another job forbidden except in special cases where official permission is given, according to information received by the Foreign Bureau of German Trade Unions here. The Bureau is connected with the International Federation of Trade Unions.

"The freedom of movement of the workers, especially skilled workers, has been completely done away with. They have to stick at work like slaves," the Bureau information service states.

Owing to the number of men called up for military service or for work on the Rhine fortification, girls and women are being increasingly employed to relieve the shortage, with the result that the accident rate has risen sharply since the women are inexperienced.

CIO Supports Auto Board, Pres. Thomas

WASHINGTON—Complete support for the international executive board of the United Automobile Workers and for the union's new president, R. J. Thomas, has been accorded by the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

A statement by Vice Presidents Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman fully approves the action of the board in suspending Homer Martin for repeated violations of the union constitution and for attempting to set up a dual organization.

Suspended with Martin are four members of the executive board who have also participated in the dual union attempt.

Murray and Hillman point out that in its relations with the UAW, the CIO has consistently adhered to the following principles:

1. Complete recognition of the independent autonomy of the UAW.

2. The observance by the elected officers and members of the UAW of its constitution, and recognition of the supreme authority, between conventions, of the international executive board.

3. The complete observance by the UAW of its contractual obligations with employers for the full protection of its members.

ON COMMITTEE

Murray and Hillman, together with Thomas and Martin, were appointed as members of a coordinating committee under the agreement to end factional strife in the union, which was unanimously accepted by the executive board, the international officers and Martin himself.

"Since the execution of the agreement between the UAW and the CIO, Martin has flagrantly flouted the provisions of the constitution of the United Automobile Workers of America, and disobeyed the decisions of the international executive board," the CIO representatives state.

FLOUTED DECISIONS

"Martin has refused to accept the decisions of the board and has refused to participate in its meetings. Although joining in the recommendations of the coordinating committee."

After the executive board had voted to call a special convention on March 20, Martin purported to suspend 15 members of the board while it was in session "in direct and flagrant violation of the constitution of the UAW." Through force and violence, the CIO statement declares, Martin illegally took over the headquarters of the union and took away its records. He then convened a small group of followers to establish a dual organization and purported to call a dual convention of his own.

BOARD WITHIN RIGHTS

"The international executive board, acting within its constitu-

Continued on Page Five

Dies Gets Razz

Chicago — Delegates to the Religion and Labor Institute just ended here were not fooled by the un-American Martin Dies and his committee.

They took time in their deliberations to pass a sizzling resolution denouncing the Texas witch-hunter and demanding no more public money for his anti-labor crusade.

The resolution said "the Dies committee has permitted its investigation to serve as a national rostrum for any willing crackpot and malicious or irresponsible reactionary."

Senate Tory Bloc Checked In WPA Fight

WASHINGTON—Progressive forces throughout the United States once again delayed the plan of Congressional Tories to rush through a slash of $150,000,000 in the WPA deficiency appropriation.

The debate in the Senate contrasted with the previous contest in the House of Representatives, where conservative Democrats joined with Republicans to vote through the cut before labor forces had sufficient time to register their protest against the cuts.

But a deluge of wires and messages, as well as delegations from labor groups in nearby states, helped stiffen the progressives' stand. Leaders of the CIO, including Vice-Pres. Sidney Hillman, rank-and-file of the unions, and representatives of city mayors, showed the disaster which would follow a purge of the WPA rolls.

As a result, the Tory steamroller slowed down, and developments indicated that the tide was turning in the upper house.

Result

Harrisburg, Pa. — The number of Pennsylvanians on the dole has risen to a new 3-year peak of 772,921, the state department of public assistance reported this week.

Department officials attributed the increase largely to "the effects of December WPA curtailment." Eighteen thousand persons went on the dole in one week, more than half of them because of the loss of WPA jobs. Almost as many were forced to turn to relief because of wage cuts or firings in private industry, the figures showed.

FLOOD OF PROTESTS

As the debate continued in the Senate, new swarms of protests against cutting the WPA appropriation flowed into Washington. Unions deluged Congress with demands that the slash in the appropriation voted in the House of Representatives be removed by the Senate.

SEES 'SUBTERFUGE'

Ralph Hetzel, CIO unemployment drector, saw this move on the part of the commititee as a "real victory for those who have been opposing WPA cuts."

Hetzel hastened to add, however, that the full appropriation of

The CIO position was further developed by Vice-Pres. Sidney Hillman, who said in a public statement that "now is not the time to gamble on recovery.

"There is no sign on the business horizon to indicate that either recovery or re-employment have gone far enough to

Continued on Page Five

Lead Auto Union

Executive Board of the United Automobile Workers of America, which this week received CIO support in its fight against dual unionists led by former President Homer Martin. R. J. Thomas, elected head of the UAW until its March 20th convention, is shown second from left in the front row. CIO Vice-Presidents Hillman and Murray charged Martin has defied the union's constitution, broken his agreement to maintain peace in the union.

Oregon CIO Maps Fight On Picket Bill

PORTLAND, Ore.—A show-down fight against Oregon's new anti-picketing law and other progressive measures aimed to protect the rights of labor were included in the program drawn up at the CIO convention held here to form a state industrial union council.

Some 200 delegates from more than 50 CIO local unions and councils in Oregon, meeting in Harmony hall January 14-15, elected officers to head the Council for the coming year and went on record in favor of a number of clear-cut plans for meeting the challenge of labor-hating forces in the state which are trying to throttle trade unions.

John Brost, of Portland, former head of the longshoremen's union, was elected president of the new Oregon CIO Council. H. L. Proctor of Klamath Falls was named vice-president and Ralph Peoples, of Portland, was chosen secretary-treasurer.

FIGHT SUBTERFUGE

The convention went on record as vigorously opposed to Governor Charles A. Sprague's proposal to the legislature that the Oregon unemployment compensation act be amended. The Social Security Board has so far withheld certification of the act, following charges made by labor that the anti-labor initiative passed in November virtually outlaws trade unions and violates provisions of the unemployment compensation law.

The Governor proposed the amendment of the compensation law to exempt the social security program from the interpretation of a labor dispute as defined by the new anti-picketing act, while the CIO demands that the anti-picketing act be repealed.

SEEK PUBLIC RECORD

The delegates also voted to demand that the names of contributors sponsoring the anti-picketing bill campaign be made public as provided for under the corrupt practices act.

Among the outside speakers addressing the convention were Harry Bridges, West Coast CIO regional director and president of the longshoremen's union; Father Michael Mulcaire, head of the economics department at the University of Portland; the Rev. George Poor, of the University Park Methodist church, and State Senator Harry M. Kenin.

Richard Francis, CIO director in Washington state, presided at the convention.

Hail Court Ruling In Hague Case

Washington — The decision of the Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia, affirming the injunction against the anti-union activities of Mayor Frank Hague of Jersey City was described by Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, as a "vindication of a hard-fought struggle for democracy in Jersey City."

"The decision of the Circuit Court upholding Judge Clark's injunction against Hague is a vindication of a hard-fought struggle for democracy in Jersey City," Pressman said.

"Hague's autocratic rule of Jersey City has been challenged by the working men and women of his community. Under the leadership of the CIO, they have organized as other citizens throughout the nation have done, to protect their democratic rights and to secure better living conditions through collective bargaining," he added.

Slight Error Department

(Reprinted from The Nation)

Some weeks ago the Chicago Tribune, which calls itself "the world's greatest newspaper," carried an article sensationally headlined: "CIO Strangles San Francisco; Industries Die." The article "revealed" that because of labor strife, "the Chevrolet automobile assembly plant, employing 3,500 men, was moved to Los Angeles. Shortly afterward the Tribune published a note explaining that the Chevrolet plant had never been in San Francisco."

Poll of Churchmen Favors WPA, Unions

NEW YORK—The government should provide work for those unable to get jobs in private industry, members of the Congregational and Christian Churches maintained in a poll conducted by the Council for Social Action.

More than 30,000 members participated in the vote, conducted by one of the 10 largest Protestant groups in the country.

The church group found that its members also favor organization of labor into national unions, consumer cooperatives, extension of public ownership of utilities and further social control of our economic system.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II January 30, 1939 No. 5

The Attack Opens on the Wagner Act

After a year or more of preparation, the Congressional offensive against the Wagner Labor Relations Act has at last been launched.

Manufacturers' associations, chambers of commerce, tory politicians, reactionary newspapers long ago began firing the advance barrage of propaganda against the charter of labor's collective bargaining rights.

But now that the zero hour has struck, it is not the be-spatted cohorts of the Union League Club that leap from their arm-chairs to the attack.

No serried ranks of bankers advance from the trenches of Wall Street as the shock troops of reaction.

Even the political brass hats of the tory army hold back, preferring to assail the air with martial oratory rather than to engage in personal combat.

Who then are the intrepid troops that lead the long-prepared attack?

They are officials arrayed in the uniform of labor who lead the assault on labor's act, and they bear on their escutcheons the initials "AFL."

* * * * *

The American Federation of Labor's amendments to the Wagner Labor Relations Act have been introduced in Congress by Senator David I. Walsh, of Massachusetts.

They are hailed with delight by all the forces of reaction which have been seeking to discredit the National Labor Relations Board and to destroy the act which it administers.

The AFL amendments are designed to split up existing industrial unions by making craft unit elections obligatory.

They would curtail the power of the Labor Board to invalidate employer-imposed contracts.

They would grant employers greater power to determine when elections should be held, to influence their employes' votes, and in general to favor unions of their own rather than the workers' choice.

But these amendments, bad as they are, are pleasing to the forces of reaction chiefly because they open the way to still further assaults on the Wagner Act.

* * * * *

The CIO stands adamant against any amendments to the Wagner Labor Relations Act, because it has long recognized that reactionary capital is looking for any possible opening to deprive labor of the collective bargaining rights it has won under this act.

But the AFL leaders, blinded by factional spite, have fallen into reaction's trap. They are themselves providing the opening through which anti-union employers hope to follow up with more drastic revisions of the act.

An increasing number of AFL bodies throughout the country, however, are refusing thus to play reaction's game. They are joining with the CIO and Labor's Non-Partisan League in the growing popular demand that there be no tampering of any sort with an act which has brought such outstanding gains to labor.

Refuse To Pardon Maine Shoe Workers

Auburn, Me. — Despite a rising tide of protest against the continued imprisonment of nine organizers of the United Shoe Workers for engaging in a strike in the Lewiston-Auburn area in Maine, in the spring of 1937, Gov. Barrows and his council have refused to grant a petition for pardon filed in behalf of the nine.

This decision came shortly after a hearing before the Governor and his Council at which every witness asked for full unconditional pardon except the representative of a company union organized during the strike, who asked that the pardon be conditioned on a promise that the organizers leave the state of Maine and promise not to return.

Among those who appeared and urged the release of the organizers were Raymond Rogers and Sidney Grant, attorneys for the United Shoe Workers and a delegation representing business and labor interests in Massachusetts from which the majority of the organizers originated.

This refusal exhausts the last appeal in a long series of legal maneuvers to set aside or quash the decision which sentenced nine persons to serve five months in jail for "injury to the business" of one of the firms involved in labor difficulties by calling and participating in a strike against that firm.

A Break in the Dam

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Dictators in Glass Houses

IF a drunk comes up and tells you you're drunk, it's no good trying to prove to him you're sober.

You can walk a chalk line without swaying, you can let him smell your breath, you can produce affidavits to prove that you are a lifelong teetotaler, but he'll still say you're drunk.

To the man who sways, all around seems swaying.

When Japan invaded China, she accused the Chinese of aggression. Hitler made similar charges against the Czechs.

When the AFL executive council split labor's ranks by driving out the CIO unions, William Green berated the CIO unions for "withdrawing" and called them splitters!

In the fury of factional controversy, it is common for the aggressor to accuse his victims of the very crimes of which he is himself most guilty.

This is partly a deliberate cover-up, and partly due to a sort of self-intoxication.

You can't prove you're sober to a drunk. China can't convince Japan of her aggressions. And Green has yet to confess that it was he and his crowd who split the labor movement.

But still there is such a thing as the record. If you and the drunk land in the jug, the judge will be able to tell which is the sober one.

There are certain tests whereby world opinion may tell which nation is the aggressor.

And in labor controversy, there is a court of opinion which is the final arbiter and to which all factions make their appeal. That is the judgment of the millions of working people who make up the labor movement.

The CIO's Record

The CIO has been accused of almost everything.

Lawless employers have accused it of lawbreaking because it would not condone their lawlessness.

Anti-union industrialists, even as their gunmen shot down defenseless strikers, have accused it of violence.

Craft officials, driving the axe of division between union brothers, have accused it of splitting.

The CIO has not wasted much time trying to convince its enemies, who have hurled such false accusations like hand grenades without regard to their truth.

But it has guarded its true record of service to American workers as something precious; and this record has been upheld in the court of labor opinion.

Splitting Canadian Labor

Many books have been written about the recent history of labor and the rise of the CIO. Not one of these gives credence to the fantastic AFL versions of what caused the split between CIO and AFL. The record is too clear for any impartial investigator to ignore.

In Canada, a similar record is being written today. The CIO unions there, as in the United States, have fought to maintain a United labor movement. But now the splitters' axe of the AFL top leaders is being wielded to divide Canadian unions whose only wish is to remain united.

Splinter Dictators

Labor's enemies have battered in vain at the great industrial unions organized by the CIO. Foiled in their open attacks, they have for sometime now concentrated on attempts to cause internal dissension.

AFL leaders have aided such attempts by trying to break off splinter groups from such powerful unions as the United Mine Workers, the Textile Workers Organizing Committee, and the United Automobile Workers.

All of the CIO unions have their own democratic procedure, their trusted leaders, and the strength that comes to the workers from unity in a single organization.

But petty dictators set themselves up from time to time, representing little more than themselves and responsive only to the outside union-busting forces that egg them on. And it is these tinpot dictators who raise the cry of "dictatorship" against the CIO, one of the most truly democratic movements that have ever been known.

UAW Unity

The record of CIO dealings with the United Automobile Workers will show that it has been scrupulous in the extreme not to infringe the union's autonomy at any point, and that the most careful democratic procedure has been followed throughout.

Every step that has been taken by the CIO to aid the UAW in maintaining unity, has been taken at the request of and by agreement with the duly elected representatives of the union.

The recent peace plan was unanimously approved by every officer and executive board member of the union.

Yet the individual who has been suspended from office for violating this peace agreement, for defying the instructions of the duly elected executive board and for setting himself up as a would-be dictator, has the nerve today to fill the press with charges of "dictatorship" against the CIO!

Canadian CIO Heads Rap AFL Splitting

TORONTO, Canada—Following is the statement issued by 13 leaders of the CIO in Canada, attacking the split in labor's ranks forced by top leaders of the AFL:

We, the undersigned representatives of the CIO unions, deeply regret that the Executive of the Trades & Labor Congress of Canada has taken steps to suspend the CIO unions upon the arbitrary instruction of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor. This action, which is obviously not in the interests of the labor movement in our Dominion, violates the decision for unity enthusiastically approved by the 54th Convention of the Trades & Labor Congress of Canada.

We have done everything in our power to preserve the unity of the international trade union movement, realizing that any conflict in our ranks would serve only the interests of reactionary finance. The greatest degree of labor unity is essential for the improvement of our living standards, and the preservation of our democratic rights, which are today faced with increasing attacks from reactionary industrial and financial interests.

TORIES ENJOY LABOR CONFLICT

The growing organization and unity of labor is regarded by reaction as a threat to its special privileges. It is these reactionary interests who desire to see labor in conflict in order that they can promote their plans for undermining the trade union movement, the foundation of economic and political democracy in our Dominion.

It is because of these vital considerations, that we receive under protest, the decision of the Executive of the Trades & Labor Congress of Canada.

We have no quarrel with the membership of the American Federation of Labor in our Dominion. They have no quarrel with us. This was most clearly demonstrated by the resolution for unity adopted at the last Convention of the Trades & Labor Congress of Canada.

We have worked together in the closest harmony for the advancement of our common economic and legislative interests—and thus the interests of our nation.

MEMBERS WANT UNITY

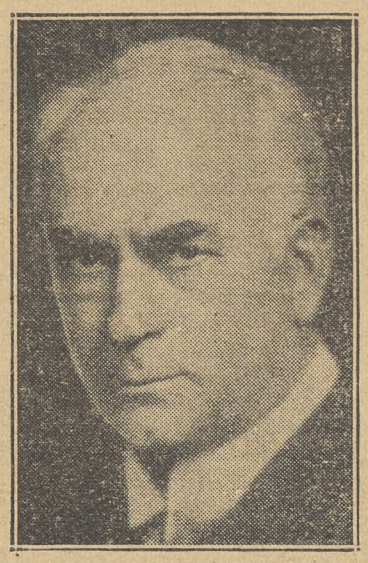
The arbitrary action of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor in prevailing upon the officers of the Trades & Labour Congress of Canada to suspend our unions, will not for one moment affect that deep understanding and community of interests which animates the membership of the international trade union movement both in the AFL and the CIO in Canada.

We are mainly concerned with organizing the thousands of as yet unorganized workers in our Dominion, in order to help them obtain a greater measure of economic security and political democracy. We will, therefore, continue, in the future as in the past, to cooperate with our fellow-trade unionists toward this end.

We are fully confident that this spirit of cooperation which moves the membership of the international trade unions in our dominion, will in the near future re-unite us within our Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

(Signed): D. W. Morrison, president, District 26, United Mine Workers; Robert Livett, international board member, United Mine Workers; Silby Barrett, Canadian director, Steel Workers' Organizing Committee; Richard Steele, Canadian secretary, SWOC; Sol Spivak, manager, Amalgamated Clothing Workers; Charles H. Millard, board member, United Automobile Workers; Thomas Church, board member, Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers; Roger Irwin, vice-president, American Newspaper Guild; N. H. Eagle, Canadian director, United Rubber Workers' Union; Joseph McKenzie, organizer, URW; C. S. Jackson, vice-president, United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers; Ken Scott, representative, United Shoe Workers; Leo Robin, organizer, International Fur Workers' Union.

Hits Dies



Rep. Kent Keller of Illinois, who called the Dies probe of un-American activities an affront to decency. He called upon Congress to deny further funds to the committee.

Oklahoma CIO Unions Form Council

McALESTER, Okla.—Joining the growing list of CIO state councils, delegates to the Oklahoma CIO convention held here last week, set up the 27th state body affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

William W. Allen, Oklahoma City, a member of the Oil Workers International Union, was unanimously elected president of the New Oklahoma Industrial Union Council. Tom Bolen, Okmulgee, representative of the Federation of Flat Glass Workers, was named vice-president, and James Johnson, Heavener, of the United Mine Workers, was chosen secretary-treasurer.

Oklahoma CIO unions formerly were affiliated with a bi-state council, the Arkansas-Oklahoma industrial union council, but voted at a convention held last month in Fort Smith, Ark., to set up a separate state group.

FORM COMMITTEE

An executive committee was chosen at the convention composed of six representatives of international unions with locals affiliated to the council. Other members representing additional affiliated groups will be added later.

David Fowler, CIO regional director and district president of United Mine Workers in Oklahoma presided at the convention.

When Spending Stops Recession's Near

WASHINGTON — Prosperity depends upon government spending!

This fact, overlooked by Tory opponents of the President's call for an $875,000,000 WPA appropriation, has been clearly proved since the depression stock market crash of ten years ago.

Proof of the success of the government's spending policies was contained in CIO Pres. John L. Lewis' report to the CIO convention last autumn.

A chart accompanying the report shows government expenditures zooming upward early in 1934, in the middle of 1935 and at a similar time in 1936, and again during the first half of 1938.

In each case, the index of business activity followed closely the pattern set by Uncle Sam. Only a few months after government spending turned downward in 1936, business took a nose dive. Almost as soon as U. S. spending started again early last year, recovery from the "recession" commenced.

CIO leaders point out that a halt in WPA activity at this time would probably plunge business into a new depression, even before it had recovered from its last setback.

Protest Grows In Fight On WPA Cuts

Continued from page three

justify reducing the WPA rolls at this time," he continued.

"The further progress of the current recovery movement depends very substantially upon the continued provision of adequate funds for WPA.

"Every known consideration indicates the necessity of an appropriation of at least a billion dollars for the next five months on WPA. Certainly the President's request for $875,000,000 is the absolute minimum necessary to sustain the present recovery."

CIO Supports Auto Union Board

Continued from page three

tional authority, has suspended Martin and the four former members of the executive board who have thus participated in attempting to establish a dual organization in the United Automobile Workers of America," Murray and Hillman declare.

"Martin's activities are in complete defiance of every democratic principle enunciated in the constitution of the UAWA. His activities can only lend strength to the enemies of organized labor and to the reactionary employers."

(The full text of the CIO statement will be found on page 5.)

All affiliates of the CIO have been notified, in a letter from Director John Brophy, to deal only with President R. J. Thomas, addressing communications to him and Secretary-Treasurer George Addes at the Fort Shelby Hotel, Detroit; and to give full support to President Thomas and the executive board of the UAW.

Charles Taft, noted liberal of Cincinnati, has been appointed by President R. J. Thomas as counsel for the UAW in its suit to restrain Martin from interfering with the affairs of the union.

A letter from Martin accusing John L. Lewis and the CIO of "dictatorial tactics" and purporting to resign from the CIO executive board, was promptly answered by Murray and Hillman in a statement which declared:

"Homer Martin's letter is further indication of the haphazard, irresponsible methods he has employed in his relations with the members of the UAW, with the officials of the CIO and with the automobile manufacturers. He reveals the same dictator-mania which was responsible for the contract violations which have occurred at times, and for the almost continuous bickering in the official family of the auto union.

"It should be clear that the UAW is not severing its relations with the CIO but only that Homer Martin is deserting both the UAW and the CIO. Of course, he cannot resign from the executive board of the CIO. He is no longer a member. Seventeen members of the UAW board, acting under their constitution, have suspended him from office and divorced him of the right to call himself a spokesman of the auto union.

"The loyalty of the auto workers to the CIO is not questioned. It has been shown again in recent days by the flood of resolutions and letters from auto workers and their local unions. All these manifestations agree that the responsibility for the auto union's difficulties lie at Martin's doorstep.

"Martin's letter is a collection of desperate distortions penned by a defeated man. Within a few months, Martin will be remembered only as a temporary impediment to the establishment of orderly and honest collective bargaining in the automobile industry."

90% Want Unity In Canada

By MIKE RYAN

Halifax, N. S.—Ninety per cent of Canadian workers want unity in their ranks and are opposed to the suspension by the executive council of the Trades and Labor Congress of CIO organizations.

This is the Canadian labor situation as seen by Silby Barrett, regional director of the CIO in Eastern Canada and also international board member of, the United Mine Workers, representing District 26.

The three members of the executive council who voted to suspend the CIO organizations broke their pledge to work for unity given to Canadian labor, Barrett said.

FORGET PLEDGES

He declared that the executive council members at the last Congress convention had pledged themselves to bring about unity in the ranks of labor but instead had become satellites of the AFL.

"It is a great pity," said Barrett, "to read of the action they have taken, and to me it looks as if these three officers (the three members of the executive council who voted for the suspension) are taking their dictation from William Green instead of acting as they were authorized to do at the recent convention.

"The United Mine Workers and steel workers whom I represent are opposed to their action, and I am confident that if the workers of Canada were given a referendum vote on the matter at least 90 per cent would vote against the stand taken by Messrs. Tallon, Bengough and Trepannier.

"It is indeed a sad state of affairs if we have to accept dictation from executive officers of the American Federation of Labor."

The will of the rank and file of unions was not considered when three AFL members of the executive council effected the temporary suspension of CIO organizations.

On the contrary, the council members defied a unity resolution passed by the last convention of the Congress which declared for harmony within the labor movement and went so far as to instruct the executive council to continue efforts to heal the breach between the CIO and AFL in the United States.

Negro Congress Urges Extension Of Civil Rights

Washington. — Protection of civil rights, extension of social and economic security, and world peace are the major aims in the legislative program of the National Negro Congress, released from here in the form of a circular letter to all Senators and Representatives.

Principal item in the civil rights program is passage of federal anti-lynching bill, supported last year by the CIO and other progressive groups, and blocked by a filibuster of southern Senators.

After that comes repeal of poll taxes that prevent millions of Negro citizens from voting in the south. The letter points out that such taxes and other disfranchising devices keep large sections of Southern white people as well as Negroes from the ballot boxes.

Strict federal laws to stop labor spying are also urged, as well as laws to stop anti-labor employers from inciting race hatred "for the purpose of preventing trade union organization of labor."

For economic and social security, the Negro Congress urges extension of present benefits, adequate federal relief appropriations, a national health program, and a federal farm program to guarantee decent income levels to all farmers regardless of race.

The Congress also opposed all amendments to the Wagner Labor Relations Act, in line with the CIO policy of preserving the Act against attempts to cripple it.

La Follette Committee Charges Employers, Thugs to Blame For Strike Violence

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON — The strikebreaking racket, which has brought wealth and power to "Stinkfoot" McVey, "Benny-the--fink" Gross and Pearl (his mother wanted a girl) Bergoff, received what may be its death blow as the Senate Civil Liberties Committee announced it would seek legislation prohibiting anti-labor employers from using agencies whose practises have made the fink business "notorious."

In a 202-page document, Sen. Robert LaFollette and Sen. Elbert Thomas placed the blame for much of the violence in American labor relations squarely on the shouulders of corporation executives who have not hesitated to employ underworld characters with known criminal records to attack peaceful, striking workers.

The report covers hearings of the committee conducted during the past three years. It lists 35 detective agencies and 150 strikebreakers who help form the grimy army of underworld thugs utilized by big business to fight unionism.

An appendix to the report "shows that a large group of persons exist that are available for strike work in all the large industrial sections of the country. In the business of strikebreaking, these men are known as finks.

"Some of the men that compose this group make strikebreaking their life work, moving from strike to strike, from San Francisco to New York and from Chicago to New Orleans.

CRIMINAL RECORDS

"A third of the men listed have criminal or arrest records. Their crimes include burglary, larceny, rape, assault and other types of violence. Many of these men are members of a strikebreaking fraternity, recruited by detective and industrial service agencies for the anti-labor employer.

"Typical examples are 'Chowderhead' Cohen, Sing Sing alumnus with four convictions for felonies; 'Boilermaker' Williams, veteran slugger and muscle man of the Railway Audit and Inspection Co., Inc., of Pittsburgh, Pa., and 'Whitey' Cronk, who has worked for virtually all the strikebreaking agencies in the country, from 'Blackjack' Jerome on the west coast to Pearl 'The Red Demon' Bergoff in the East.

NICE BOYS

"Some of the other well-known strikebreakers are known by the following colorful nicknames: 'Phoney Lou' Cohen, 'Stinkfoot' McVey, 'Weasel Benny' Epstein, 'Chi' Pullman, 'Crying Nat' Shaw, 'Benny-the-fink' Gross, 'Snake Eyes Kid Steinie' and 'Eat-em-up' Jack Fisher."

FINKS CAUSE VIOLENCE

Use of commercial strikebreaking firms "tend to produce violence and disorder," the report found, most of it "attributed to the activities of professional strike followers and the employers who use them."

Once on the job, the detective agencies are interested in provoking and maintaining violence, the committee added, in order that employers will continue to see need to use the finks to protect them.

"No employer who has accepted the principle of collective bargaining in good faith can consider using such persons against his employes," the committee said. Pointing out that their purpose is to discredit bargaining, it charged that "through their acts of intimidation, coercion, and provocation, such persons violate the rights of free speech and free assembly and the freedom of association of employes."

VIOLATES U. S. POLICY

Use of finks, the report asserted, "violated the policy of labor relations enunciated by the Congress" of the United States.

Detective agencies offer employers their services not to keep peace or to protect property but simply "for the purpose of destroying unions and the process of collective bargaining, according to the committee.

"The strikebreaker, furnished as a part of strike service by most agencies, is, in most cases, not a qualified workman but an incompetent mercenary, posing as a workman for the purpose of breaking strikes. He usually receives compensation higher than that of the regular employes and is discharged after the strike

"The strikeguard furnished by most agencies is not a man trained and qualified for police and patrol duty. He is, for the most part, a specialized kind of ruffian, 'a regular fink', well versed in violence, often dishonest, and sometimes a gangster."

BIG PROFITS

Propaganda artists furnished by the detective agencies are little more than agents provocateurs or spies, the report charged. Profits of the agencies which turn the thugs loose in strike situations are "enormous, ranging from 25 per cent to 100 per cent."

In the summer of 1936, Remington-Rand paid out $145,000 for finks. RCA Manufacturing spent $156,000 to break a strike at its Camden, N. J., plant during the same year. Of $93,491.42 received by the Burns Agency for strikebreaking work during the walkout of building service employes in New York, more than $45,000 represented gross profits.

The National Corporation Service of Youngstown, Ohio, took in between $130,000 and $140,000 for strikebreaking activities in 1934, allowing the head of the rat agency to pay himself $26,000 for his year's work. The Burns Agency received $329,000 in the years 1933-36 for industrial guard services, more than twice as much as it received for espoinage work.

One humorous sidelight was uncovered by the Senators when they found that the finks complain that part of their $5 or $10 daily wage must be turned back to their bosses—"the nobles of the profession"—in the form of a kickback. They make up for it, however, through thievery.

According to one witness, "the strikeguards at the Willard Storage Battery strike in Cleveland walked off with storage batteries, which they sold at less than established prices . . ."

"The New York City elevator strike offered irresistible temptations. One Park Avenue apartment was looted by a strikebreaker of a mink coat and jewelry valued at $55,000."

Strikebreaking is closely tied up with espionage, with propaganda work, and with the purchase of industrial munitions, the report showed—all parts of a general plan to break strikes. Guards frequently provoke violence to convince the employers that more guards are necessary—all in order that the fink agency may prosper.

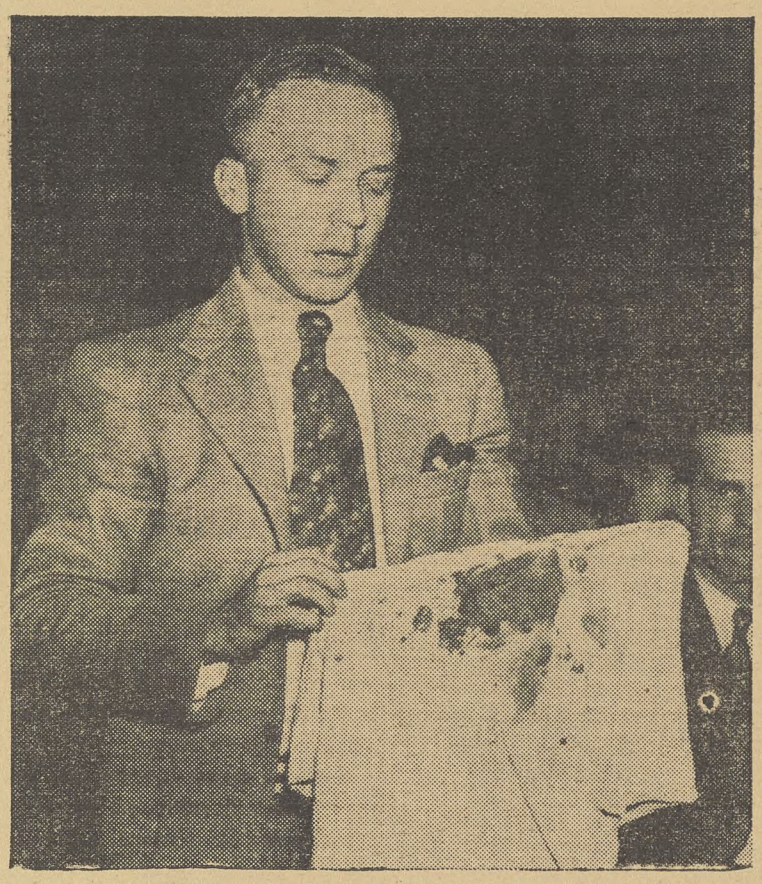
FINKS BRING DEATH

The report cited a number of illustrations to show where such "promotional" activities had resulted in injuries and even death to workers. Because of the probability of such incidents, detective agency bosses like to have their men deputized by the local law enforcement bodies in order that any murder or mayhem arising out of fink-inspired riots may be chalked up to "law and order."

Do employers know what they are letting themselves in for when they hire finks? Yes, replies the committee—"in recent years at least, employers have reasonable notice of the sort of men that will be supplied to them for strike duty by detective agencies.

"It should not cause an employer any surprise that the men recruited for him by a detective agency are of criminal or violent character, thieves, petty grafters or worse.

When Finks Work



A witness appearing before a LaFollette committee hearing displays a bloody shirt—the result of an attack by armed guards and strike-breakers on a group of peaceful strikers during a steel strike.

U. S. May Probe Loss Of Rights

NEW YORK—U. S. Attorney-General Frank Murphy revealed that he is considering the establishment of a new division in the Department of Justice to handle cases involving the violation of civil liberties.

Murphy announced that members of his staff have been asked to "make an exhaustive study of the federal civil liberties statute, and the protection of the rights of the people thereunder.

"The study is being made," he added, "in order to determine whether the Department of Justice should have a unit of administration to effectively preserve civil liberties.

NEED FOR VIGILANCE

"It seems to me," Murphy said, "that where there is social unrest—and I have been through no scant amount of that myself for a long time, since 1930—it is there that we ought to be more anxious and vigilant about protecting the civil liberties of an insecure people."

In Washington, Murphy's office announced that the Federal Bureau of Investigation had been ordered to probe the eviction of Missouri sharecroppers from camps along U. S. highways 60 and 61. His action followed a request from the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, CIO.

League Pamphlet Lights Fuse Under Wagner Act Foes

WASHINGTON—Facts and figures on the working of the Wagner Labor Relations Act, and an analysis of proposed amendments sought by enemies of the Act are given in a new pamphlet, "Protect the National Labor Relations Act," put out by Labor's Non-Partisan League from headquarters here.

The pamphlet shows how every important amendment proposed would weaken the Act as an aid to collective bargaining, and how they are designed by anti-labor forces to change the Act from a law that promotes labor organization to one that could be used against the interests of the workers.

The first section of the pamphlet discusses the Act in detail, shows how it has been a great help to organized labor, and gives a brief record of why it was enacted, how Congress intended it to operate as a means of preventing and settling industrial strife, and how it has worked in this way.

MEETS CRITICISMS

The second section deals with criticisms that have been made of the Act, showing how untrue they are and how their real source comes from a desire to limit or handicap collective bargaining.

It takes up the familiar cry that the Act is "one-sided" against employers, pointing out that its function is to protect workers from unfair practices used by anti-union bosses, and to correct inequalities that in the past have given the employer all the advantages in fighting unionization.

It also gives the facts to answer the Tory complaint that the Act has increased industrial strife, citing figures to prove that the exact opposite is true.

Attacks on the Act and especially on the Board that administers it from top leaders of the AFL are answered, the pamphlet again citing figures to prove that the AFL has won more appropriate unit decisions than the CIO.

WRITE TO CONGRESS

Finally, the pamphlet urges that all workers and progressives should write to their Senators and Representatives urging that the Act be left unchanged.

"The responsibility for repelling this attack on the Wagner Act rests first of all upon the workers of America. They must take the leadership in defense of their Bill of Right," the pamphlet ends.

"The enemies of the Act can be kept at bay only if the workers and other progressive Americans are united in their demand that the Natl. Labor Relations Act shall not be amended."

Copies can be secured at five cents each from Labor's Non-Partisan League, Earle Bldg., Washington, D. C.

FDR Asks Health Program

New Homes For Old

A department dealing with the need for better housing and how to obtain it, conducted by the CIO Committee on Housing.

"Is public housing a threat to private enterprise?" Many business groups think that it is.

What's worse, many city councils — in Milwaukee, Indianapolis, Portland, Richmond, Providence and dozens of other places — have been convinced that it is. As a result, they have refused to set up local housing authorities and have stood stubbornly in the way of anything that would help provide good, low-rent housing for workers . . .

Actually, however, public housing is very far from being a threat to private enterprise. In fact, it is a very definite and unmistakable stimulus to private enterprise.

If business men don't always realize this, we should not be too impatient. We must realize that many business men just don't know the facts. We must teach them — and local governments also—the truth about housing.

LESSON FOR BUSINESSMEN

The first thing we must explain to them is that low-rent housing projects built by public housing authorities tap a market which private builders can't reach.

The rentals charged on USHA-aided projects range from $8 to $22 a month for an entire dwelling — depending upon the city. This means that the tenants will be families earning from about $500 to $1,100 or $1,200 a year—and rarely much more.

No private builder can build decent houses available to this income group. The private home construction industry is interested only in families earning $2000 a year or more.

Therefore, it's arrant nonsense for anyone to claim that low-rent housing projects might hurt the business of the private builder!

MORE CONTRACTS, MORE SALES

The second thing we must explain to business men is that public, low-rent housing means better business.

It means contracts for contractors. All projects financed by the United States Housing Authority are constructed by private contractors. The local housing authorities award all the contracts.

In addition, public housing projects invariably provide the spark for a real construction boom—at least in their immediate vicinity.

Public housing means additional orders for the companies which manufacture or process steel, brick, timber, cement, glass, electrical equipment, etc.

It means big sales of land. All project sites are bought and paid for at their real value.

It means higher realty values. Housing projects replace slum areas (which drag down realty values) with well-designed wholesome neighborhoods.

Hillman Sees Big Gains In '40

New York — Ten million workers will belong to the organized labor movement by the end of 1940, Sidney Hillman, CIO vice-president, predicted this week.

Hillman, who heads the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and the Textile Workers Organizing Committee, was speaking to delegates of silk workers gathered here for a conference.

Pointing to a 3,500,000 growth in organized workers since 1935, he said that with growing signs of business recovery, labor will be able to increase its strength to the ten-million mark by the end of next year.

AGAINST WPA CUTS

Recalling that the 1938 recession was due principally to a drop in government expenditures, Hillman warned the delegates to protest to Congress against any cut in the WPA appropriation at this time.

"The proposed cut in WPA expenditures," he said, "will not only affect the million WPA workers who would be dropped from the rolls, but indirectly, thousands of workers in private industry because of the drop in purchasing power.

"There is only one way, properly, to curtail government expenditures. When private industry itself takes workers off the relief rolls, and not before. Certainly, no one proposes that the government continue to spend indefinitely, but private industry must do its share towards solving the problem of unemployment."

Murray Hails Steel Pay Ruling

By HOWARD McCARTNEY

Pittsburgh—The decision of the U. S. Government to set a 62½-cent minimum hourly wage on steel produced for federal contracts "can be regarded as a complete victory for the Steel Workers Organizing Committee," Chairman Philip Murray declared this week.

Pointing out that the decision "upholds the claims made by the SWOC," Murray said its effect will be to "remove certain definite inequitable wage differentials which give competitive advantages to a number of steel manufacturers who clung, through the years, to a low wage policy."

MEANS RAISES

Murray pointed out that Bethlehem Steel has been paying as low as 56½ cents an hour in some of its plants, and in the future will have to increase its minimum rate to the prevailing wage set by the SWOC and upheld by the government—62½ cents.

As a practical result of the award raising the basic labor rate, semi-skilled and skilled workers should receive similar increases on a proportionate basis.

ACTIVITY AT BIG STEEL

Meanwhile in mills of the U. S. Steel Corporation, a renewed drive is on to consolidate union forces, build the SWOC lodges and increase dues collections.

In Big Steel Mills in the Youngstown - Pittsburgh - Johnstown districts, the drive was started through monthly meetings of grievance committeemen, and through creation of an unofficial committee consisting of the chairman of each of the grievance committees from the 30 or more plants.

All U. S. Steel subsidiaries—Carnegie-Illinois, American Steel & Wire, National Tube — sent delegates to the first meeting in Pittsburgh recently. Upwards of 100 delegates were present.

Five Shipping Firms Must Deal with CIO

Washington — Five San Francisco steamship companies have been ordered by the Labor Board to bargain collectively with the International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union, and to stop interfering with membership in this union of watchmen employed by them.

The five companies are the American - Hawaiian Steamship Co., Grace Line, McCormick Steamship Co., Matson Navigation Co., and Sudden & Christenson.

Highlights Of Health Message

"The health of the people is a public concern; ill health is a major cause of suffering, economic loss and dependency; good health is essential to the security and progress of the nation."

* * *

"The objective of a national health program is to make available in all parts of our country and for all groups of our people the scientific knowledge and skill at our command to prevent and care for sickness and disability; to safeguard mothers, infants and children, and to offset through social insurance the loss of earnings among workers who are temporarily or permanently disabled."

* * *

"We have reason to derive great satisfaction from the increase in the average length of life in our country and from the improvement in the average levels of health and well-being. Yet these improvements in the averages are cold comfort to the millions of our people whose security in health and survival is still as limited as was that of the nation as a whole fifty years ago."

Message To Congress Calls For 10 - Year Plan

WASHINGTON — Pres. Roosevelt this week set the ball rolling on a long-discussed federal health program aimed at cutting the ten-billion dollar yearly loss sustained by the nation through illness and disability.

The President forwarded to a Congress a summary of the report of the Interdepartmental Committee to Co-Ordinate Health and Welfare Activities, and called for the passage of legislation to fulfill the committee's request for an $850,000,000 yearly health program.

Senator Robert Wagner of New York will soon file a bill carrying out the committee's recommendations, he has announced. The whole program has the support of the CIO, which, at its Pittsburgh convention passed a resolution endorsing the committee's requests and calling for speedy enactment of its program. Miss Josephine Roche, chairman of the committee, was the sole guest speaker at the convention and her speech discussing the government's contemplated health program brought cheers from the delegates.

"On the average day of the year about 5,000,000 persons are disabled by disease," the report showed. "About half of these persons are permanently disabled. Nearly 2,000,000 permanently disabled are less than 65 years old."

"Sickness is "much more frequent and more severe and survival is more precarious among low-income families than among families in moderate or comfortable circumstances," the message warned. "Despite their greater need and the fact that they spend proportionately equal or greater amounts from their own incomes for medical care, low-income families receive far less care than those in better circumstances."

LISTS FIVE FACTORS

Five factors were cited as showing that Mr. and Mrs. America are in need of the benefits of the national health program:

"1. Services to prevent sickness are grossly insufficient for the nation as a whole.

2. Hospitals and other organized failities are too few, too small or wholly lacking in many communities, particularly in rural areas. The financial support of hospital services is meager and uncertain, especially the support of services for patients who cannot pay for the care they need.

3. One third of the population on relief or in the low-income brackets receives no medical service, or, inadequate service.

"4. A far larger part of the nation suffers from the economic burdens created by illness. The largest of these burdens arise from the variable costs of medical services, costs which can be budgeted by the large group as a whole but not by the individual family.

"5. Wage earners and their families need protection against loss of income during periods of temporary or permanent disability.

"These needs can be met only by the application of the resources of the nation."

CIO Pledges Aid To Cuban Unions

HAVANA, Cuba—Full fraternal support to the progressive labor movement of Latin America was expressed by Joseph Kovner, CIO assistant counsel, who has been attending the Natl. Congress of Cuban Workers in this country.

"The CIO, representing the progressive organized labor movement in the U. S., will lend its fraternal support to the development of genuine labor movements among the workers of Latin America, and to the existence of democratic political institutions which are indispensable to the growth of genuine labor unions in any country," Kovner told the Congress delegates.

The Congress, first of its kind to be held legally in Cuba in several years, was called to establish a unified labor movement with full legal rights. At present labor does not have the right to form a national organization in industries other than railway and maritime. The right to strike is also denied.

FULL RIGHTS PROMISED

These rights will very soon be granted, the Cuban Secretary of Labor told the 1,000 delegates, in outlining the progress toward democracy that the Batista government intends to make in the next few months.

Commenting on this, Lazaro Pena, leader of the Cuban labor movement, said in the "declaration of Cuban labor;"

"The Congress will undoubtedly play an important role in the establishment of democracy in Cuba, and as such give an example to all of the workers of Latin America and the U. S.

"Up to now Cuba has been under a dictatorship. The Batista government has promised democratic reforms, but these will only become effective if this Congress accomplishes its objective."

MAP SOCIAL PROGRESS

In addition to the main aim of setting up a unified labor movement, the Cuban Congress is working for:

1. Improvement and extension of social legislation.
2. End of discrimination against all workers.
3. More representation of workers in the Constitutional Assembly.
4. Prevention of war and defeat of fascism.
5. A program of culture and education for workers.

Kovner pointed to the past record of American and other foreign capital in exploiting Latin American workers, and said that the CIO believed that "these conditions are intolerable, and the economic relations of the American countries must be based on the cardinal principle that decent standards of living for workers must be maintained and the exercise of civil liberties protected."

Hearst Empire Continues Decline; Chicago Strikers Get United Support

NEW YORK—William Randolph Hearst took a hop, skip and a jump down the road to eventual oblivion this week, as two more of his pubications went out of business.

The Pictorial Review, Hearst announced, would stop with its March issue, soon to be on the newsstands.

The Wisconsin News, scene of an American Newspaper Guild strike victory three years ago, was suddenly closed without previous warning.

A half dozen other Hearst papers have met the axe in recent months.

Meanwhile, in Baltimore the National Labor Relations Board cracked down on the anti-labor policies of the Hearst-owned News-Post. It ordered the reinstatement of Fred Houck, fired for Guild activities in 1937, and the payment of $3,000 in back salary.

In Chicago, Hearst seemed intent on putting the Herald-Examiner and Evening American out of business the hard way, obstinately keeping up his losing fight with Guild strikers seeking protection of their jobs. With circulation and prestige melting daily, Hearst made a bid for public support by signing a contract with the "Newspaper Editorial Association," a fake AFL union which has been repudiated by AFL unions in the city. Leaders of the Typographical Union have pledged their support to the Guild strike, pointing out that a Guild victory will strengthen the position of all labor in the Windy City.

The strikers last week received words of encouragement from CIO leaders attending a maritime union conference in Chicago.

"You are striking to establish the right of self-organization by newspaper workers everywhere," they were told by John Brophy, CIO national director.

"In taking the stand for this right, you are on the battlefront. Hearst, lord of the press, insists his will must rule. You'll have to establish democracy by struggle. As people in all walks of life become more aware of the real issue, they are coming to your support. For you represent advancing civilization in industrial relations, while Hearst represents the autocratic way. You are carrying the banner of decency and reason."

Brophy was followed by Joseph Curran, president of the National Maritime Union.

"Hearst and his ilk don't belong in a country like ours," Curran said. "Hearst and his ilk belong in a country like Hitler's. I pledge you the full support of ourselves and our allied unions to see that he lands there eventually. You're going to win this strike 100%."

"If Hearst doesn't yield," asserted John Green, head of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers," this struggle is going to break Mr. Hearst and you're the ones who are going to do it."

Circulation of the two papers has already been reduced by 195,000, according to strike leaders, while advertising lineage is in a nosedive. Some 283 firms have already pulled their ads, reducing advertising space in the paper by more than 200,000 lines over the same period a year ago.

In every large city throughout the nation, CIO and AFL groups are aiding the Chicago strikers. National advertisers in the struck papers are receiving protests from labor groups and are being urged to drop their space from them.

Telling Mr. Hearst

Down State Street, Chicago's "main stem" march Newspaper Guild strikers to tell the public about the fight against the Hearst-owned Herald-Examiner and Evening American. Below, prominent CIO leaders tell the striking Guildsmen of their support for the walkout. Left to right, Don Stevens, O. D. Burge and Harry Wohl, local Guild leaders; John Brophy, national CIO director; Pres. John Green of the Marine and Shipbuilding Workers and Joseph Curran of the Natl. Maritime Union.

(Pictures by Striking Hearst Photographers)

Sugar Workers Go CIO

Houston, Tex. — Organization of the sugar refinery workers, who are among the lowest paid in the South, has just been completed at Sugarland, Tex., 30 miles from Houston.

As a result, 98 per cent of the workers at the Imperial Sugar Refinery plants are now members of the CIO. The Imperial company owns and controls the town of Sugarland. The organizing of the employes was a remarkable achievement considering the obstacles.

Three years ago the American Federation of Labor attempted to organize the same workers but failed.

Quarry Union Gains

BARRE, Vt. — The Quarry Workers Intl. Union gained 13 new locals during 1938, the first year in which the 35-year-old organization had been affiliated with the CIO.

Substantial increases in membership have been reported by the union's national headquarters here. In addition to signing a number of contract renewals, agreements were reached with several companies which had previously maintained open-shop policies. None of the contracts provided for wage cuts, while in several cases, increases were obtained.

WON STRIKE

The union recently won a two-week strike in Anderson, Ind., signing a contract with the National Tile Corp. which won seniority rights and grievance machinery for 300 workers.

Another new agreement gave 5c-an-hour wage raises to 104 workers.

The international has just formed a women's auxiliary, provided for in an amendment to the constitution.

Oil Union Gets Pact In Texas

Port Arthur, Tex. — One hundred oil workers here, members of the CIO International Oil Workers Union, have won a contract with the Great Lakes Coal and Coke Co., covering wage increases, sole collective bargaining rights, and other benefits.

The increases range from five to 13 cents per hour, and are retroactive to January 1. In addition, the contract guarantees 14 days paid vacation, seven holidays, grievance adjustment machinery, and seniority rights. Men laid off get 180 extension of seniority.

The contract is the first to be won in the Sabine area, according to Homer Coffman, local president, and was negotiated by J. E. Crail, international representative, and a local committee.

Houston CIO Plans Big Program to Aid City's Unions

HOUSTON, Tex.—An elaborate program, both cultural and educational, which seeks to unify and strengthen the labor movement in this area, has been formulated by the Houston and Harris County CIO Councils.

Under joint sponsorship of the CIO and AFL, Houston for the first time arranged a "Labor Appreciation Day," featured by an all-star boxing card.

The project already has made rapid progress in bringing about a spirit of co-operation and fellowship between the two rival unions. City and county officials are participating and the day was to be officially proclaimed by Houston's mayor.

6,000 TICKETS

About 6,000 tickets were sold to the boxing event. The local fight promoter, Hugh Benbow, turned over his Olympiad to organized labor for the night and arranged to have the outstanding fighters in the Southwest carded.

Another project underway, and being sponsored by the Harris County CIO Council, is a "Labor Little Theater." The little theater movement is being backed by all of the liberal organizations in Houston and will be on a year-around basis.

New League Unit Formed In Vermont

Barre, Vt.—Delegates from the various unions and co-operative groups convened in Barre to set up a county unit of Labor's Non-Partisan League and elected the following officers: Chairman, John C. Lawson, Secretary and Treasurer of the Quarry Workers, CIO; Fred Fisher, Vice-Chairman of the Workers Alliance, James F. Christie, Quarry Workers; James Kidd, Granite Cutters (AFL).

Labor has, at long last, in this state, come to realize that in order to get much needed labor laws enacted by the legislature, in Montpelier assembled, it must unite on the political front as well as the economic front.

New York CIO Fights Bill To Hit Unions

New York — CIO unions representing 500,000 workers in New York state are urged to help the fight against the anti-labor Wicks bill now in the state senate, in a circular letter sent out by Allan S. Haywood, president of the N. Y. CIO Industrial Union Council.

The bill, Haywood explained, would put all transit workers in New York under civil service. "While on the surface this bill may appear harmless and to the uninformed even desirable," Haywood said, "it carries with it the most vicious anti-union implications."

Close to 30,000 transit workers would lose all seniority rights and many thousands would lose their jobs completely, Hayood explained, since civil service would not recognize the closed shop contracts and seniority rights the workers now have through their union, the CIO Transport Workers.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 6 | February 6, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

AFL LEADERS AID TORIES OPEN WAR ON WAGNER ACT

They Furnished Strikebreakers

The following detective agencies were listed by the LaFollette Committee as having provided guards, strikebreakers or "missionaries"—propaganda spreaders—to employers engaged in labor disputes:

Addis Detective Agency, Saile Pierson Detective Service, Harry Stahl, Philadelphia; Dan H. Boyle & Co., Austin Cusack, Harry A. McGrath Secret Service, National Corporation Service, Cleveland; Thiel Detective Agency and Waddell & Gibbons, Chicago; Bergoff Service Bureau, W. Howard Downey and Associates, Eagle Industrial Associates, Foster's Industrial & Detective Bureau, Industrial & Railway Service Bureau, Wm. A. Martin Detective Agency, New Jersey Engineering Co., Val O'Farrell Detective Agency, Pinkerton's National Detective Agency, Railway Audit & Inspection Co., Sherwood Detective Bureau, N. S. Shaw, and George Williams Agency, New York.

A. A. Ahner Detective Agency, St. Louis; Baldwin-Felts Detective Agency, Roanoke, Va., Bluefield, W. Va.; Cal Crim Detective Agency, Cincinnati; H. C. Cummings, Reading; Karl (Schmidt) Detective Agency, Ashtabula, Ohio; Manning Industrial Service, Newark, N. J.; Pennsylvania Industrial Service and Star Employment & Commissary Co., Pittsburgh.

In addition the National Metal Trades Association, with offices in New York and Chicago, and the Associated Industries of Cleveland, both employers' agencies, were found to provide strikebreaking services for their member corporations.

Bay State CIO Plans Convention

Boston, Mass. — An official call to the second annual convention of the Massachusetts Industrial Union Council, to be held in the Hotel Bridgway, Springfield, Mass., February 11-12, has been sent out to all CIO affiliates in the state.

A pre-convention mass meeting will be held Friday, February 10.

Recalling the obstacles overcome by the Council during the past year, the call, signed by President Michael F. Widman and Daniel J. Boyle, secretary-treasurer, states that "today we face a new situation when the organized labor movement will play a greater part than ever before in shaping the destinies of our Commonwealth and nation."

The convention will make plans "for a further consolidation of our work and an increase in our organization to meet our increased responsibilities," the call declares.

The Massachusetts CIO Council was set up at a convention held in November, 1937.

Amendments Would Help Fake Unions

(*See Stories Page 5, Editorial Page 4*)

WASHINGTON—Opening fire on the Wagner Act, the top leaders of the American Federation of Labor stepped in where the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers and the Chamber of Commerce feared to tread, offering a list of nine amendments which would rob labor of many of its gains during the last three years.

The AFL leaders' nine suggested amendments—introduced into the Senate by Sen. David I. Walsh of Massachusetts—would make possible a rapid growth in company unionism, by tying the hands of the National Labor Relations Board.

The amendments, if accepted, would make almost mandatory the designation of craft union units in Labor Board cases, dealing a severe blow to industrial unionism.

Meanwhile Pres. Whitney of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen placed his organization of several hundred thousand members squarely on record to protect the Wagner Act from reactionary raids.

Chairman J. Warren Madden of the NLRB, in a radio debate with Pres. Charles Hook of the Natl. Association of Manufacturers, pointed to the fact that the Act and the Board had strengthened democracy and extended industrial peace.

Lewis Asks LaGuardia For Confab

Washington. — John L. Lewis, CIO president, has asked Mayor La Guardia of New York for a conference with a special committee of New York CIO unions concerning the problems of labor relations in New York city transit.

Lewis' request was made in a wire to Mayor La Guardia, which read in part as follows:

"I have conferred with the representatives of the CIO Transport Workers Union, and I am impressed with the growing seriousness of this question and the increasing anxiety among the members of the Transport Workers Union because of the threat to their security."

The proposed Wicks bill in the New York Senate to put transit workers under civil service was cited as an example of the attack on conditions won by the union after long and difficult struggle.

MANY JOBS THREATENED

Under this bill, it was pointed out, many thousands of transit workers would lose their jobs because of arbitrary tests that would be imposed. At the same time, transit efficiency would suffer, since these men have proved their ability through many years of service on the various systems.

In addition, measures like the Wicks bill would rob the workers of all seniority rights, of pensions earned through long service, and of collective bargaining rights won through their CIO union.

DyersCouncil Backs CIO

West Warwick, R. I.—Support of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee and the CIO was voted unanimously by some 50 delegates who attended the meeting of the Dyers' Federation New England Council held here the latter part of January.

The delegates also backed unanimously the ousting of Francis Gorman, president of the United Textile Workers, and acknowleged George Baldanzi as president until a convention is called.

Bay State Unions For Wagner Act

Washington. — The twelve CIO Unions in Massachusetts affiliated with District 50 of the United Mine Workers of America rallied last week to support the Wagner Act against amendment.

They passed resolutions and sent telegrams to Senators Walsh and Lodge urging that they recognize the wishes of their constituents and defend the Wagner Act against amendment.

CERTIFY LOCAL

Washington—The Federation of Flat Glass Workers, CIO, will be the sole bargaining agency for about 3600 employes in a unit composed of seven plants of the Libbey - Owens - Ford Glass Co., Toledo, Ohio. The union was certified by the Labor Board after a comparison of union membership records and company payrolls disclosed that the CIO union represented 2,287 out of a total of 3,643 workers.

Name Mine Mill Union In Alaska

Washington — Workers at the Alaska Juneau Gold Mining Co. won a decisive victory when the National Labor Board certified Local 203 of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, CIO, as sole collective bargaining agency at the mine.

The certification followed a recent secret ballot election which the local won, 521 to 332 for a joint committee of three AFL unions, locals of the Machinists, the Electrical Brotherhood, and a Federal local.

FOUGHT COERCION

The workers voted for the CIO in spite of a long campaign of coercion and intimidation by the company and the AFL, which acted the part of employer stooge in the attempt to defeat the CIO and avoid genuine collective bargaining.

Office employes and technical engineers were excluded from the certification order, though watchmen were included. Of the close to 1,000 workers voting, only 39 cast their ballots against any kind of union representation.

COLLECT $145,000,000

Washington — Nearly $145,000,000 was paid into the U. S. treasury as a result of the surtax on undistributed profits levied during the year 1936, according to the Treasury Dept.

Helped Prevent WPA Slash

Through demonstrations like this one in New York, organized workers and jobless led by the CIO held up a Tory plan to drop a million unemployed from the WPA rolls. As passed, the $725,000,000 appropriation bill limits firings to 5% during February and March, makes it possible for the President to seek additional funds in the spring.

Daily Pay 75c For Tenant Farmers, So CIO Helps End 'National Shame'

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON—When you have a social problem of your own making that you can't solve, the thing to try is to take the victims and put them where they can't be seen and their protests can't be heard.

This is the system that generations of cotton planters have used on the sharecroppers. It worked for many years—until the sharecroppers started to organize in the CIO and to demand their rights as American citizens and human beings.

Now, thousands of them in the CIO Cannery and Agricultural Workers Union have determined to put a stop to this age-old habit of planters using their labor at starvation wages and then throwing them out into the fields and the roads when one form of exploitation becomes less profitable and another takes its place.

FIGHT STARVATION

The most effective demonstration yet staged against this regime of backbreaking work followed by eviction and starvation has just ended in the cotton section of south-east Missouri — the so-called "bootheel" of the state.

Early in January the planters began to send out the usual eviction notices to the croppers that had sweated in the cotton rows during the growing and picking season, whole families earning less than $1.00 for a day's work.

This year the number of evictions was unusually high. The planters wanted to evict the families as croppers so they could re-employ them as day laborers at 75 cents or less a day for 120 days' work. As croppers, they had to be given supplies to last them through the non-working season. As day laborers they could be fired when the season was over.

When a sharecropper family is evicted it has no place to go. Plantations in the area are closed. The croppers can't rent other farms because there aren't any farms and they haven't got money to rent with if there were. As far as the planters are concerned, the families, children and all, are just supposed to quietly disappear, the quicker the better.

But this year things were different in the bootheel of southeast Missouri. There were 21 locals of the CIO Cannery and Agricultural Workers in the area, under the leadership of O. H. Whitfield, Negro officer of the affiliated Southern Tenant Farmers Union.

NATIONAL SHAME

Whitfield rallied more than 1,000 of the croppers with their wives and children and led them to a 100 mile "camp" along Missouri Highway 61. Ninety per cent of them were union members, and they made what shelter they could out of old blankets draped over fences, warmed themselves at tin stoves and dead wood fires.

The weather was cold and wet and food was scarce. Spirit was good. The croppers elected committees, held meetings, listened to speakers, sang hymns and labor songs.

And they got into newspapers. For a week the leading papers in the country carried stories and pictures showing the desperation of 1,300 American people turned out into the winter without shelter and almost without food.

CIO GETS BUSY

Immediately the CIO got busy. The St. Louis Industrial Union Council came with trucks of food and clothing and materials for tents. The national office of the CIO and of the Cannery and Agricultural Workers got assurances of relief from WPA and Farm Security and other agencies. The White House heard about the situation. A Department of Justice investigation was promised.

This was more than the planters could stand. All the other years they'd been able to evict their croppers and nobody heard about it, much less did anything. Now the CIO was there and made the nation see what was going on, and got the federal government interested.

So with the help of state cops they loaded the families into trucks and took them off the highway and dumped them in fields along the levee. They threatened Whitfield's life and ran him out of the camp and even out of his income at La-Farge.

They let the croppers stay along the river for a few days and then because the country was still stirred up by the situation they broke up this camp—which the croppers called Homeless Junction — and dispersed them once again.

The CIO intends to see that these people aren't turned loose to starve when the planters are for the moment through with them, and it intends to see they get a chance to live like decent beings and American citizens.

At Confab

Pres. Jacob Baker, of the Federal Workers, CIO, who will be a leading figure at a 3-day conference of the Cooperative League of the U. S. at Racine, Wis., February 24. Many unions are sending delegates to the sessions.

Union Shoe List

Washington. — Workers and friends of labor can be sure of the shoes they buy now. The United Shoe Workers, CIO, has put out a list of union-made shoes with names of scores of brands carrying the CIO label.

Copies of the list can be secured from the United Shoe Workers of America, 917 15th, NW, Washington, D. C.

1,800 PROJECTS

Washington — WPA workers have completed 1,800 projects extending or improving sewerage systems between July 1 and Nov. 1, WPA Administrator Col. F. C. Harrington announced.

Canadian CIO To Launch Big Campaign

By WILLIAM THOMAS

TORONTO, Ont.—A nation-wide organizing drive to enroll thousands of new members under the CIO banner was forecast by Silby Barrett, regional director for eastern Canada, following a meeting of Canadian CIO leaders here at the end of the month, their first since their unions were suspended from the Trades and Labor Congress on orders of AFL heads.

After the meeting the following statement, termed as the declaration of policy, was issued by Barrett on behalf of all the CIO unions in the dominion:

"Our membership in Canada now totals 56,000. We have established a firm foundation in the basic industries, in which previously the workers had no protection through collective bargaining. We have contracts and union recognition protecting approximately 40,000 of our members.

"However, only 15 per cent of the workers in our dominion have a measure of economic security through trade union organization. The greatest bulk of the unorganized workers is yet to be found in the basic mass production industries. Notwithstanding the vicious slander and opposition of the vested interests, the CIO in Canada has become permanently established and recognized by the federal government as a beneficial force in our dominion.

HELPED ALL UNIONS

"Thanks to this organization of the unorganized, and the splendid cooperation which existed between the AFL craft unions and CIO industrial unions, thousands of workers were added to the AFL craft unions, such as milk drivers, bakers, garment, beverage workers, etc.

"The CIO unions in Canada respect the decision of the 54th convention of the Trades and Labor Congress which overwhelmingly voted to maintain unity of the CIO and AFL unions in its ranks. The suspension of the CIO unions violates this decision.

WILL SEEK UNITY

"We will, therefore, in our fight to uphold this decision for unity, not create an independent trade union center in opposition to the Trades and Labor Congress.

"We are confident that the membership of the AFL will continue to cooperate actively with our membership in promoting the legislative and economic interests of the people of our dominion. The CIO unions will continue to organize the greatest degree of support for the important social legislation which the Trades and Labor Congress is seeking for our people."

Maritime Union Asks Protection Against Foreign Interests

NEW YORK—President Roosevelt has been urged by the National Maritime Union to stop the inroads being made upon American shipping and maritime labor by foreign interests.

In a letter signed by Jerry King, NMU secretary-treasurer, the union told the President that if not checked the foreign inroads "will in time destroy American shipping and drive our merchant ships from the high seas."

One of the practices employed by foreign shipping interests harmful to the American seamen, the letter said, is to allow shipping concerns abroad to send foreign crews here with transit visas to replace other foreign crews who have been "dumped" for trying to improve their working conditions and wages up to American standards. This places American shipping interests at an unfair competitive disadvantage, the NMU maintains.

Another practice working against the interests of American seamen, the letter pointed out, is the chartering by American shippers of foreign cargo vessels to lower operating costs, some companies even laying up their own vessels to charter foreign ships.

The President Reports

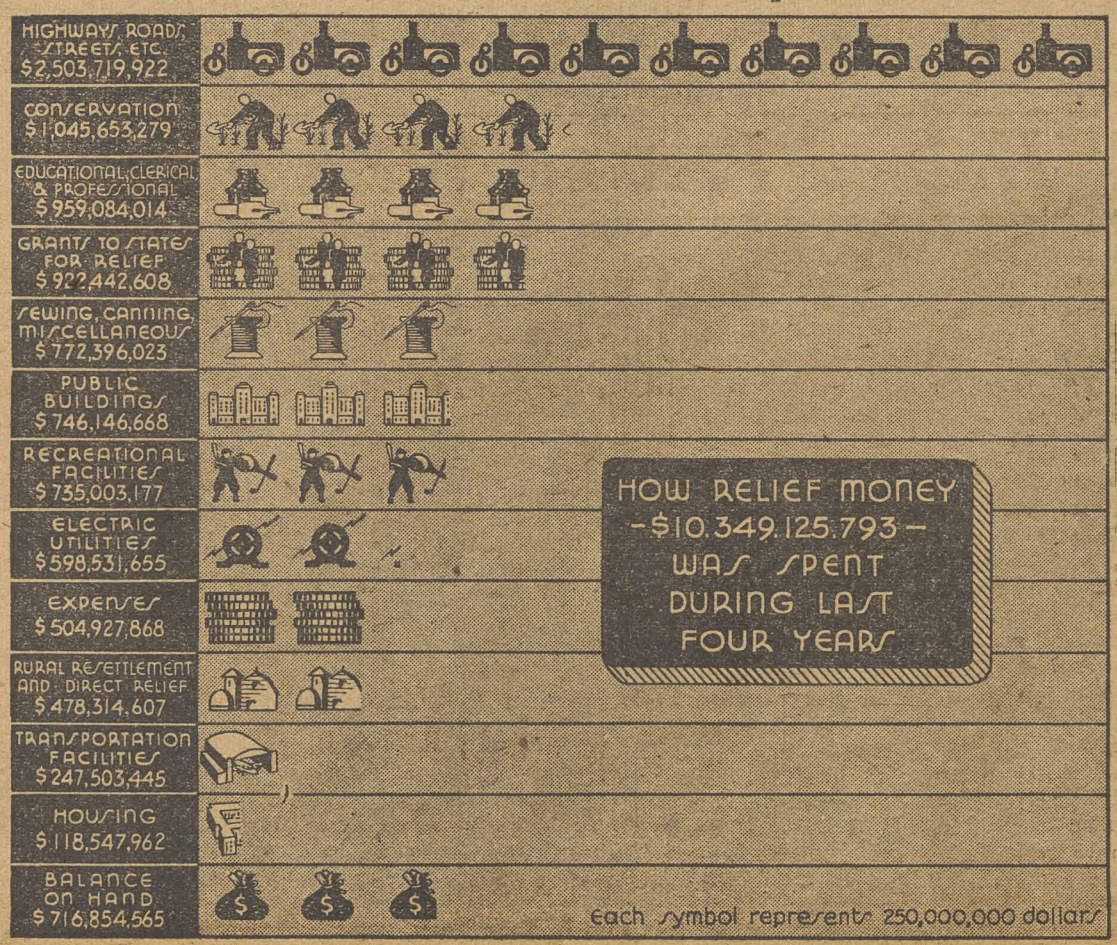


Chart shows breakdown of relief expenditure during the last four years, as reported by President Roosevelt.

Unemployment Rises, World Figures Show

Geneva, Switzerland — World unemployment figures for the final quarter of 1938 recently compiled by the International Labor Office, show that unemployment has increased in 13 countries over the corresponding quarter in 1937.

Auto Workers Cold to Efforts To Split Union

By EDWARD LEVINSON

DETROIT—The United Automobile Workers Union advanced on all fronts this week to save the union from a destructive dual-union move led by former President Homer Martin.

Pressing its charges of a collusive company union conspiracy engaged in by Martin and the Ford Motor Company, R. J. Thomas, president of the UAW, filed formal charges with the National Labor Relations Board.

On a second legal front, Martin beat two retreats. An action begun by him to suppress the United Automobile Worker, official union organ, was withdrawn by Martin attorneys.

The second Martin retreat in the courts came when the Circuit Court convened to hear argument on an application of President Thomas and the UAW executive board for an order directing Martin to surrender the union office and records now being held by Martin strong-arm men.

Martin pleaded for a delay, which was granted. UAW attorneys did not insist too strongly on an immediate hearing, for the most important union property, The United Automobile Worker and its mailing list, is in the hands of the legitimate and legal union.

DEFEATS FOR MARTIN

Outside the courts, Martin sustained other serious defeats. The CIO, through vice-chairmen Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman, announced that the CIO has recognized the constitutionally created executive board headed by President Thomas.

This action was followed by the receipt by President Thomas of telegrams of support from 42 pres-

Continued on Page Six

Liberals Seek To Block Dies

WASHINGTON—Liberals on Capitol Hill, backed by the CIO and Labor's Non-Partisan League, this week marshalled their forces to prevent the granting of additional funds to the Dies "Un-American" Committee.

Dies is seeking $150,000 to continue its red-baiting orgy.

A statement by 150 prominent lawyers; a letter signed by Executive Vice-President E. L. Oliver of the League, a resolution submitted by Congressman Kent Keller of Illinois, and scores of protests from labor groups condemned the committee's activities and urged Congress to prevent it from continuing to function.

The House Rules Committee, holding hearings on the committee's petition for funds, was asked by Oliver to withhold action until after consideration of charges preferred against the committee's former chief investigator, Edward F. Sullivan of Boston.

Sullivan was exposed by the League last summer as having been closely linked with fascist organizations and was shown to have had a police record.

Though Dies had acknowledged the League evidence with a promise to give it "careful consideration," no investigation or public hearings were ever held. Sullivan was later dismissed by the committee.

The lawyers' statement, made public by Rep. Vito Marcantonio of New York, American Labor Party member, charged that Dies had shielded fascist and Nazi organizations, while at the same time branding political opponents of the Texan Congressman as "communists."

New Glass Contract Lifts Pay $150,000

CLEVELAND—A new contract providing for wage increases expected to total upwards of $150,000 a year was signed last week by the Federation of Flat Glass Workers, CIO, and five "independent" glass manufacturers.

At the same time agreements signed early in 1938 with the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co. and Libby-Owens-Ford, the two major producers in the industry, were renewed pending a court decision on an enforcement order asked by the National Labor Relations Board against Pittsburgh Plate.

The Board recently certified the FFGW as sole collective bargaining agent for workers in all plants of the company. The firm, however, refused to accept the union as bargaining agent at its Crystal City, Mo., plant, which has been only recently organized.

END DIFFERENTIAL

Wage increases ranging from 1 cent to 8½ cents an hour are provided in the new contract with the independents, as the result of the elimination of wage differentials which had previously existed in the industry.

"We have been working toward elimination of wage differentials for years," said Irwin DeShetler, secretary of the union. "I know now that we have a definite basis to work on in future negotiations. We didn't get all we asked for, but I am satisfied."

The 52 delegates who attended the 11-day negotiation session were headed by President Paul W. Fuller, of the FFGW. The companies which signed the contract were: American Window Glass Co., Adamton Glass Co., Harding Glass Co., Schoy Glass Co., and the Rolland Glass Co.

'Outside Agitator'

San Francisco (FP) — The San Francisco Industrial Union Council, CIO, has protested to the U. S. State and Labor Departments against appointment of Capt. Fritz Weidmann as German Consul-general in San Francisco.

The council calls him "an undesirable alien."

Weidmann was mentioned frequently in the recent Nazi spy trials in New York. He is an intimate associate of Hitler and was his captain during the war.

Congress Passes WPA Bill; Limits Dismissals

WASHINGTON — Congress, after a fight which has consumed a majority of its time since the session opened early in January, this week sent the WPA deficiency appropriation to Pres. Roosevelt for his signature.

The bill provides $725,000,000 for WPA, at the same time limiting layoffs to 5% of the personnel until the end of March.

The nature of the bill makes it possible for the President to appeal to Congress for another $150,000,000 before July 1. Thus the Tory plan to "balance the budget" at the expense of the people who could least afford it, has failed to this extent.

Though this procedure makes it difficult for WPA administrative officials to do long-range planning for the future, it is a definite victory for labor and progressive forces who had raised strong objections to the dropping of a million people from the WPA rolls, as the original bill would have provided.

HETZEL STATEMENT

Ralph Hetzel, CIO unemployment director, pointed out that "the action of the Tory coalition in the senate in rejecting the President's request for WPA was greatly mitigated by the appropriations committee amendment, which prevents cuts in February and March.

"That amendment won over a number of the Senators who would otherwise have voted for the higher figure. That amendment in essence is recognition of the correctness of labor's request that WPA rolls not be cut.

"Organized labor, however, cannot help but regard votes against the President's figure as indicating opposition to labor's public request."

CIO ASKED BILLION

The CIO had originally asked for a billion dollars appropriation. Pres. John L. Lewis, in setting the CIO demand last November, had predicted that that amount would be necessary to care for all the jobless in the nation.

The pressure from CIO unions in every section of the country was held largely responsible for the decision of Congress to refuse the Tory demand for a "purge" of the WPA payrolls.

Hearst Gunmen Steal, Destroy Guild Truck

Chicago. — Gangsterism, rampant during the early days of the nine-week-old strike of the Chicago Newspaper Guild against Hearst's Chicago Herald-Examiner and Evening American, flared anew this week when Hearst gunmen held up a garage attendant, stole the strikers' $1,750 sound truck and dumped it into the Chicago river.

Three men, Don Dispenza, attendant at the Downtown Parking Stations, Inc., garage, 205 W. Wacker Drive, reported to police, came into the garage about 10:30 p. m. and asked to use the washroom. While one menaced him with a pistol, the other two cut the telephone wires, then the three climbed into the sound truck and drove away.

$500 DAMAGE

Walter Gunia, 43, of 741 West Harrison St., junk dealer, told police that some time later he came upon three men on the lower level of Wacker Drive, between LaSalle and Clark Streets, attempting to push the sound truck into the river. When he remonstrated, he said, he was ordered to "mind his own business".

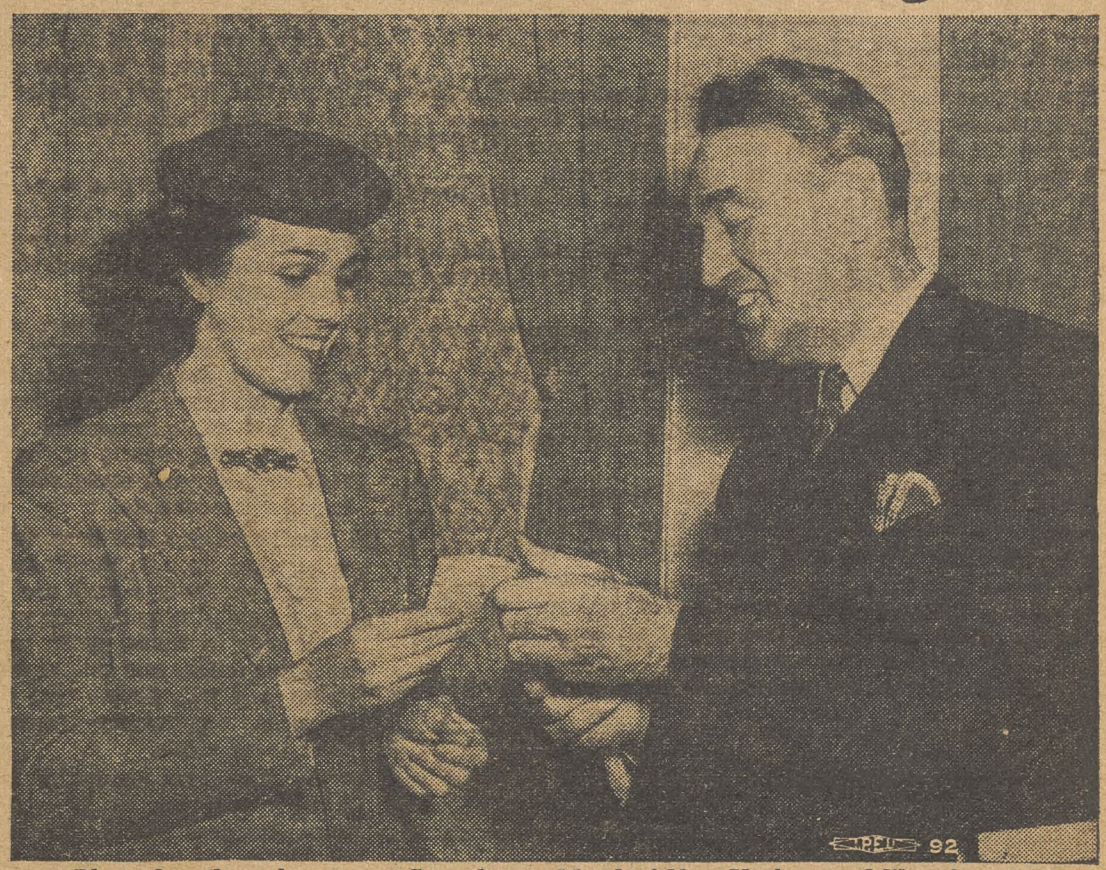
Coast Guardsmen located the sunken truck in 20 feet of water near the LaSalle Street Bridge. Recovered, Guild officials estimated damage at $500. The truck, they said, will be reconditioned and put back into service as soon as possible. Meanwhile, a rented truck is broadcasting the strikers' message.

Barred by a "conspiracy of silence" on the part of the metropolitan press and the major radio stations from preventing their side of the controversy, the strikers have used the trust to bring their story to the public. The Hearst management has made continued, but futile, efforts, to have the truck barred from Chicago streets.

BROPHY TO SPEAK

John Brophy, national director of the CIO, will speak at a mass meeting for the Guild strikers in Chicago February 17.

The Senator's Willing



Pleased to buy them, says Sen. James Mead of New York, noted liberal, as he buys tickets for a CIO-sponsored showing of Pins and Needles in Buffalo. Able saleswoman is Lillian Brill, secretary of the Erie County CIO council, and head of the local of the United Office and Professional Workers. Both Miss Brill and the Senator look mighty pleased about the deal.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II February 6, 1939 No. 6

Wagner Act Menaced

Examination of the so-called AFL amendments to the Wagner labor relations act reveals that they are not only intended to break up CIO unions but also endanger all real collective bargaining, as originally contemplated by the act.

The amendments sponsored by the AFL leaders and introduced by Senator David I. Walsh do not even follow the lines laid down by the Houston AFL convention.

Two of the worst of them were never authorized by the convention. These are the amendments which would permit employers to call for elections at the time best suited to their anti-union strategy, and the amendment to allow employers to call upon the courts for subpoenas for the production of evidence.

The latter amendment would permit the courts to expose the most confidential union files to public view and inspection by the employer, without regard to time, place or circumstance.

Both of these amendments are dangerous to all unions and can benefit only union-fighting employers. Yet they have been introduced in Congress in the name of the AFL!

Even the most specifically anti-CIO amendment, requiring craft unit elections, is of such a character that it could be used to break up many AFL unions as well as those of the CIO.

Many AFL unions are organized on a plant basis, yet this so-called AFL amendment would automatically require the board to break up all plant units into a variety of craft divisions.

The rest of the amendments are similarly a menace to all genuine labor unionism. In general, they follow the line of allowing employers more opportunity to influence their employes' choice of organization, and to build up unions which will serve the bosses' purposes rather than those of the workers.

The whole Walsh bill is an outright attack on the rights of self-organization and collective bargaining embodied in the Wagner act. It is essentially an employers' program for crippling and defeating the purposes of the act.

The CIO will fight these amendments with every means at its disposal, and AFL unionists are also already demanding an explanation from their leaders as to how they came to sponsor such an anti-labor program.

The defense of the Wagner act against the Walsh bill and all other amendments is an issue on which all genuine labor unionists can unite. Every Senator and Congressman should be notified at once that labor is opposed to any and all such curtailments of its collective bargaining rights.

A Test Vote for Labor

The vote on the WPA appropriation has furnished a test of the attitude toward labor of every member of Congress.

At least a billion dollars was needed to continue WPA work for the unemployed on the previous basis.

But even the President's recommendation for $875,000,000 was voted down by both House and Senate.

In this issue of The CIO News there is printed a list of the Senators who voted for and against the $875,000,000 appropriation.

There is also printed a list of the Congressmen who voted for this sum and against cutting it to $725,000,000. As a record vote was avoided in the House, it has not been possible to print a complete list of Congressmen who voted for the cut.

Every voter is entitled to know why his representative voted to slash WPA.

Every Senator is on record on the subject, and if your Congressman is not on the list of those who voted for the $875,000,000 appropriation, you are entitled to write and find out why.

Labor votes played a big part in electing every member of Congress. And labor now has a test of what each member has done, or failed to do, for the unemployed.

The results of this test deserve close study by every labor voter.

Play on Wagner Act Available

Akron, Ohio—Copies of the radio dialogue, "Why the Wagner Act Should Not Be Amended", prepared by the United Rubber Workers of America, are now available in printed form at the union's headquarters. An abridged version of the dialogue appeared in the CIO News January 23.

Orders can be sent to: Publicity Dept., United Rubber Workers of America, 503 United Bldg., Akron, Ohio. Price is $3.00 for 1,000 or 50c for 100.

The Front Guy!

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Un-American Activities

THE only serious criticism that can be leveled against the LaFollette civil liberties committee is that it didn't choose the right name and slogan.

It should have called itself the "Committee to Investigate Un-American Activities."

For many months now the LaFollette committee has been carefully and thoroughly doing the job of investigating and exposing the un-American activities that menace our democratic liberties.

Yet a mountebank like Congressmen Dies has been allowed to come along and promote un-American activities of the worst kind under cover of the name and slogan that by rights belong to the LaFollette committee.

Americanism

Civil liberties is just a fancy name for the rights and privileges which most Americans are ready to fight for, if you call them "Americanism."

When Dies goes on the radio and says he is protecting us against un-American activities, most of his listeners have a vague idea that he is preventing the coming in this country of conditions such as exist under foreign despotic governments.

That is to say, they don't want to be spied upon, bullied, beaten up and generally bossed around by any kind of tyrants. They want to be able to think, speak, worship, join unions and vote as they please, and they believe that the American constitution grants them these rights.

The LaFollette committee has done a real job of protecting these American rights. The Dies committee has lent every aid and comfort to the very forces that menace these rights.

Yet because Dies bellows about fighting un-American activities, members of Congress feel they can get away with giving his committee another lease of life while they turn thumbs down on the LaFollette committee.

A Kangaroo Court

Another idea that the general public has about Americanism is that it means even-handed justice and democratic procedure.

The LaFollette committee has been a model of such Americanism. Every accused person has been carefully substantiated, and the reports of the committee are as fair and as accurate as is humanly possible.

The Dies committee, on the other hand, has conducted a kind of kangaroo court. Labor spies, Fascists and every kind of crackpot have been granted a free forum to lie and slander to their heart's content.

Reputable citizens and organizations have been smeared with the most ridiculous charges without any opportunity to defend themselves.

Anti-Democratic

The LaFollette committee has carefully probed and exposed the un-American activities of labor espionage, vigilante violence and the other forces that would deprive us of our cherished democratic liberties.

The Dies committee has made such a weak pretense of investigating Fascism that it has amounted to a whitewash which has won the commendation of the Fascist leaders themselves.

Under the pretext of exposing Communism, it has devoted most of its time to attacking the very persons and movements that are doing most to uphold American democracy.

A Publicity Stunt

Actually the whole Dies "investigation" has been a gigantic and unscrupulous publicity stunt, designed to further the political conspiracy of the tory Democrats against the New Deal and progressive wing of the party.

Let any newspaper reader think back over the main impressions left in his mind by the publicity about the Dies committee.

He will recall that Frank Murphy was smeared with "red" charges just before elections; that the same kind of attack was launched against Governor Olson and his slate in California; that cabinet members were slandered and the New Deal administration pictured as honeycombed with radicals; and that the committee devoted much time to propaganda against the CIO.

Little or nothing will remain in his mind about the actual Fascists or other subversive elements whom the committee was supposed to investigate.

These main impressions are not accidental. They are exactly the kind of impressions which the reactionary interests behind the Dies circus intended to create in the public mind.

Which Committee?

The country badly needs such a watchdog to protect it against un-American activities as the LaFollette committee has proved to be. Congress should be urged to vote more funds so that its great work can be continued.

But the country certainly does not need a licensed reactionary clique to promote un-American activities under the specious pretext of investigating them.

If the Dies committee is continued, every member of Congress who votes for it should be called to task. And all true Americans should constitute themselves a committee of the whole to expose and combat the activities of the most un-American group that has ever been accorded Congressional sanction.

Defend The Wagner Act!

AFL Amendments Spell Danger for Workers, Aid Company Unions

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON—The nine amendments to the Wagner Act sponsored by the top leaders of the American Federation of Labor and introduced by Sen. David Walsh of Massachusetts, will destroy almost completely the value of the Act for American labor.

If the amendments should pass, anti-union corporations and that section of the AFL leadership which is moved only by blind hate of the CIO and industrial organization of the nation's workers, will get benefits. The workers in the AFL and the CIO alike will suffer.

These are the conclusions reached by the CIO legal department after study of the Walsh bill. The CIO will shortly issue a pamphlet attacking the amendments and demonstrating point by point how they would injure all bona fide unions and prepare the way for a giant gain in company unionism.

UNKNOWN TO MEMBERS

Among the nine amendments suggested by President Green of the AFL are proposals which were never discussed—let alone approved — by the federation's convention in Houston, Texas, last summer. Had they been offered to the convention delegates it is likely they would never have been sanctioned.

The amendments would, to all intents and purposes, prevent the National Labor Relations Board from ruling against the vast majority of company unions which have been fostered by anti-union employers.

Under the new definitions of a company union, only the most clumsy attempts to keep the workers out of bona fide labor organizations would be found objectionable. The more subtle methods which have been used by hundreds of employers would be approved.

Significantly, the amendment would guarantee the AFL the right to establish fake unions—as it had done many times in the past—in order to prevent the CIO from bringing the real gains of unionism to exploited workers.

If the Walsh Bill were enacted, it would be possible for these company-dominated unions to sign contracts with the management, and the Board, in nine cases out of ten, would be left powerless to take action to protect the interests of the workers.

CRAFT UNITS

Secondly, the bill, reflecting the hate of the CIO's accomplishments held by certain AFL leaders, is aimed directly at industrial unionism.

It would compel the National Labor Relations Board to certify each craft occupation as a separate bargaining unit — whether or not the workers involved desired to be separated from the majority.

The requests for craft elections might come from AFL leaders, from company union stooges or from the employer himself. But, in any case, the Board would be forced to smash the industrial bargaining unit.

If the AFL leadership has its way, the activities of the Board will be subject to review of the courts at every turn—a procedure required of no other government administrative body. This would delay action on important cases, and would place all the board's actions before slow, and frequently hostile, lower courts.

POWER FOR COURTS

The AFL amendments reflect the drive of Tory manufacturers to get the Labor Board completely tied up in the courts. Thus, the Board has fought long and successfully — with the support of organized labor—to prevent federal district courts from enjoining its activities. Yet, the AFL, through its proposals, would put district courts in full control of Board activities, allowing lower branches of the judiciary to interfere constantly.

STOOGE FOR BOSSES

Not content with asking amendments solely to help the fight against the CIO, the AFL bigwigs have seemingly stretched out a helping hand to all the employers who have been grumbling at the Wagner Act since it commenced to help workers organize.

One of these would allow employers to call for an NLRB election — a device which would be used to forestall organization of workers before it had fairly got started.

Demands that employers be allowed to go to the Courts for subpenas for evidence—thereby making it possible for them to delve into the private files of unions; that the Board be forced to make its files public; that employers' expenses on NLRB cases be paid by the Board; and that NLRB trial examiners be disqualified if employers think them biased—all these point to a deal between the AFL and Big Business.

The AFL leadership has always sought to justify its activities with the argument that it has been working in the interest of the workers. Its proposed amendments to the Wagner Act, however, expose Green and his supporters on the AFL executive council as players of the employers' game in their war against industrial unionism and the CIO.

Trainmen Support Wagner Act

CLEVELAND, Ohio—The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, largest of the railroad brotherhoods, is opposed to any and all amendments to the Wagner Labor Relations Act, President A. F. Whitney declared here.

Whitney made public a letter to Edward F. McGrady, in which he stated:

"In the Wall Street Journal of January 20, 1939, you are quoted as having told the members of the Bond Club of New York, that Congress will give serious consideration to the proposals of the American Federation of Labor for amendment of the Wagner Act, 'because they have been joined by all the railroad brotherhoods in this drive to change the act.'"

"For your information, the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen opposes any and all amendments to the National Labor Relations Act, because, the law as it now stands, is a good piece of legislation.

"The current efforts to correct the alleged 'one-sidedness' of the law are nothing more nor less than left-handed attempts to emasculate the provisions which guarantee genuine collective bargaining.

"Stability in labor relations will come when industrialists cease foisting company unions onto their employes and stop the vicious practice of hiring labor spys.

"Let them recognize that labor has a right to bargain collectively for fair wages and working conditions in organizations of labor's own choosing, just as the employers act through their chambers of commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers.

"No true friend of labor will seek to amend out of existence the Wagner Act."

Reports

Sen. Robert M. LaFollette, head of the Senate Civil Liberties Committee, which is now filing a series of reports summarizing its findings. CIO leaders are asking Congress to prolong the life of the committee.

19,176 CASES

Washington—Up to January 1, 1939, the Natl. Labor Relations Board states that it has handled 19,176 cases involving 4,284,608 workers.

Madden Defends Wagner Act As Aid to Democracy

WASHINGTON — The Wagner Labor Relations Act stands as a guarantee of American democracy in a world that has been turning away from freedom and toward fascist dictatorship, J. Warren Madden, Labor Board chairman, told a coast to coast audience in a radio debate here.

Madden was debating with Charles R. Hook, head of the anti-labor Natl. Association of Manufacturers, who presented a five point employers' program for amending the Act of existence.

CONFIRMS LIBERTY

The Act, Madden pointed out, for from infringing on American liberty as its enemies say, confirms the rights granted in our constitution to all people. Freedom of speech and assembly, he explained, depend on freedom to organize — which the Act puts into federal law.

"Indeed, the constitutional libetries of freedom of speech, press and assembly could not, in their aspects most important to working people, be enjoyed until this new liberty was created," he said.

"These constitutional guarantees operate only to prevent infringment by governments, and leave individuals and corporations free to prevent exercise of these rigths."

Madden pointed to the record of 15,000 cases settled by the Labor Board interpretation of the Act, and a 50 per cent drop in strikes during 1938. Of the 15,000 cases, he said, 8,000 have been closed by agreement of both parties. About 2,500 have been dismissed by the Board as lacking in merit. Another 4,000 have been withdrawn by the unions involved, usually on advice of the Board's officers. About 1,000 have been settled by compliance with Board orders or reports.

This shows, Madden said, that the application of the Act has been fair to both sides of the disputes—which otherwise "would have resulted in strikes if there had been no other safety valve for these grievances."

WOULD CRIPPLE ACT

Hook, speaking for the Natl. Association of Manufacturers, outlined an anti-collective bargaining program of amendments that would make the Act useless as far as labor is concerned. His principal point was the usual one that the Act is "one-sided" — ignoring the fact that all laws designed to make a certain line of conduct illegal are "one-sided" to the person that wants to follow that line.

Madden closed his speech, estimated to have been heard by several million people, with a quotation from Professor Brooks of Williams College, who wrote:

"In the contemporary conflict between democracy and dictatorship, whether political or industrial, the Natl. Labor Relations Board is in the center of the struggle. Its influence and its power are wholly on the side of democracy."

CIO SUPPORTS DEMAND *for* Amalgamated Label On Clothing

The Constitutional Convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations unanimously adopted a resolution in support of the union label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

The resolution reads:—

"Resolved, that this Convention of the CIO go on record as urging all members of its affiliated organizations to demand the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America label on all men's and boys' apparel in daily wear and work clothing of all kinds and to refuse to buy articles of apparel not so labeled."

Men's, Boys, children's suits, overcoats, pants, men's uniforms, sheep-lined leather and sport clothing, mackinaws.

—ON—
Overalls, Work Clothes, Work Shirts

Neckties

Men's, Boys' shirts, pajamas, underwear, white duck clothing, ch[illegible] suits.

Gloves

The Amalgamated label is a guarantee that the product was made by Amalgamated members who enjoy union standards of wages and hours, and that the product is of the best workmanship.

Make sure that the Amalgamated label is on the coat, on the pants, on the vest and on every article of men's and boys' wearing apparel.

The New WPA Appropriation

By RALPH HETZEL, Jr.
CIO Unemployment Director

WPA will not be cut in February. At least three million people are going be be employed. This is important news from an official letter to the CIO signed by David K. Niles, Assistant WPA Administrator in charge of employment.

"The 'no replacement' order that has been in effect for the past several months," Mr. Niles wrote, "has been rescinded and the states have now been notified that they may make replacements within the limitations of the budget authorizations." This letter is in reply to a request last week from the CIO that WPA be not cut.

This news illustrates what public pressure, led by labor, was able to do to stall off WPA cuts that were sought by reactionaries in Congress.

5 PER CENT CUTS

The final version of the appropriation bill has amendments that provide that WPA rolls shall not be cut more than 5 per cent below their present level in February and March. The significance of these amendments must not be forgotten. In substance they are an admission that the $725,000,000 appropriation is not enough.

Therefore they specifically end the Woodrum Amendment and allow the WPA Administrator to spend the money appropriated for the next five months as rapidly as he sees fit. In addition the Senate amendments contain a practical invitation to the President to ask for more money before the five months are out.

These amendments are actually an admission that the case stated by the CIO and by the Administration was correct and that there was no justification for cutting the WPA appropriation. The amendments were simply a device by which the conservative Democrats and Republicans would save their faces with their conservative friends and still ensure their constituents that they did not vote to cut WPA. Nevertheless those who voted against the $875,000,000 were registering a token vote against the WPA and the unemployed.

Under these amendments there is no reason why the Administration cannot, if it chooses, increase the WPA rolls for February and March and then ask for enough money to carry them at an increased rate to end the fiscal year, June 30.

SHOULD INCREASE ROLLS

It is now the job of the CIO to convince the Administration of the necessity of increasing the WPA rolls. The way is now open to meet the pressing need that exists in so many places throughout the nation.

There are a few important amendments to the law under which the WPA operates.

First, this new law has very strict provisions making it a serious crime to use the WPA for political purposes.

A blow was struck at aliens and even those who have taken out their first papers. The bill now contains an amendment which allows only citizens to receive benefits. Within 30 days all those on WPA must make an affidavit that they are United States citizens. This is a serious matter for those who have taken out their declarations of intention and who wish to become citizens but have not yet gone through the long process before receiving their final papers.

A rephrased and more severe provision was put in with regard to taking of private work. It reads as follows:

"No person in need who refuses a bona fide offer of private employment under reasonable working conditions which pays the prevailing wage for such work in the community where he resides and who is capable of doing such work shall be employed or retained in employment on work projects under the funds appropriated in the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1938 or this joint resolution for the period such private employment would be available: Provided, that any person who takes such private employment shall at the expiration thereof be entitled to immediate resumption of his previous employment status with the Works Progress Administration if he is still in need and if he has lost the private employment through no fault of his own."

As soon as this provision has been made clear by interpretation by the WPA, more information will be provided in this column indicating just what it means to the unemployed.

RELIEF FOR AGED

Some relief was provided for old people and for women with dependent children who have been recently thrown off WPA. The new bill says that no requirement of eligibility for employment shall be effective which prevents the employment of persons 65 years of age or over or women with dependent children.

Martin's Split Efforts Failing

Continued from page three

idents, secretaries or executive boards of CIO international and national unions.

Martin has been completely isolated by the labor movement. Not a single CIO union, and for that matter, no AFL organization has indicated the slightest sympathy for Martin's effort to constitute himself and five of the 24-man UAW executive board as the auto union.

PHONEY CONFERENCE

To give an appearance of some support, Martin and his group last Sunday convened a conference of so-called representatives of auto workers. No list of the organizations attending was read.

A careful tally by newspapermen of the telegrams actually read at the meeting showed there were 24 of them, most of them from individuals or from paper locals which have been suspended from the UAW for non-payment of per capita.

MOTION ON CIO

The most significant incident of the Martin session was the reception accorded a motion to "withdraw" from the CIO. Those present immediately squelched the motion.

The effect on Martin was immediately noticeable. Whereas last week he issued a venomous attack on the CIO and its officers, after the action at Sunday's meeting he drew in his horns and pretended new interest in CIO affiliation.

NLRB CHARGES

The labor board charges, which have produced a sensation here, are based on the sworn affidavits of Percy Llewellyn, president, and Paul Ste. Marie, secretary of the Ford UAW local.

Both declared that Martin offered Ford release from labor board discrimination and personal injury cases filed against the company by Ford workers, if Harry Bennett, head of the Ford Service department, would give him "verbal, personal recognition."

Martin proposed that Bennett would have to reinstate only those fired workers who pledged personal allegiance to Martin. The conspiracy also contemplated that after Bennett gave Martin "recognition" there were to be no grievance boards of shop stewards.

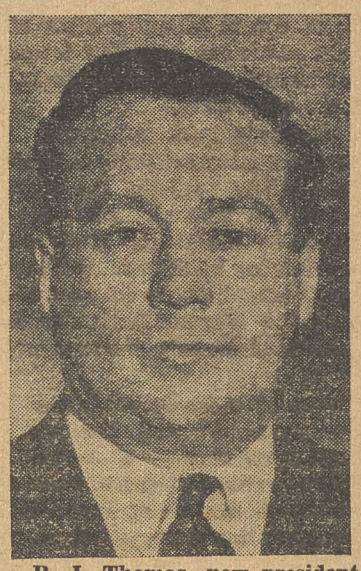
Having used Martin to stir up dissention in the UAW, Bennett has left the country for a vacation in South America. The auto workers are saying, "Martin's only friend has run out on him."

TO NAME DELEGATES

Within the next fortnight, UAW locals will start electing delegates to the convention to be held in Cleveland starting March 27.

Even at this early date it is obvious that more than 95 per cent of the organized auto workers will be represented at Cleveland. The auto workers are turning their eyes toward Cleveland where, they vow, a rejuvenated, harmonious and invincible auto union, cleansed of its betrayers will take the field.

Union Head



R. J. Thomas, new president of the United Automobile Workers of America, CIO.

How Senators Voted On WPA Bill

WASHINGTON—The following senators voted in favor of the $875,000,000 WPA deficiency appropriation asked by President Roosevelt and backed by the CIO.

DEMOCRATS—Andrews, Ashhurst, Barkley, Bilbo, Bone, Brown, Caraway, Clark (Idaho), Connally, Donahey, Downey, Ellender, Green, Guffey, Hayden, Hill, Hughes, Johnson (Col.), Lee, Lewis, Logan, Maloney, McKellar, Mead, Miller, Minton, Murray, Neely, O'Mahoney, Overton, Pepper, Pittman, Schwartz, Schwellenbach Sheppard, Smathers. Stewart, Thomas (Okla.), Wagner, Walsh and Wheeler. REPUBLICANS—Borah and Frazier. PROGRESSIVE—LaFollette. FARMER-LABOR—Lundeen. INDEPENDENT—Norris.

These senators voted for the WPA cut of $725,000,000:

DEMOCRATS—Adams, Bailey, Bankhead, Bulow, Burke, Byrd, Byrnes, Clark (Mo.), George, Gerry, Gillette, Glass, Harrison, Hatch, Herring, Holt, King, Lucas, McCarran, Radcliffe, Reynolds, Russell, Smith, Truman, Tydings Van Nuys. REPUBLICANS—Austin Barbour, Capper, Danaher, Davis, Gibson, Gurney, Hale, Holman, Johnson (Calif.), Lodge, McNary, Nye, Reed, Taft, Tobey, Townsend, Vandenberg, White and Wiley. FARMER-LABOR—Shipstead.

Sen. Thomas of Utah, for the $875,000,000 appropriation, was paired with Sen. Bridges of New Hampshire, who was against it. Sen. Chavez of New Mexico did not vote.

Vote In The House

The following members of the House voted in favor of the $875,000,000 appropriation, according to a listing compiled by Labor's Non-Partisan League:

(Republicans in bold face; Farmer-Labor in large capital letters; Progressive and American Labor Party in bold face capital letters; all others are Democrats.)

Alabama—Patrick, Hobbs, Sparkman, Steagall. Arizona—Murdock. Arkansas—Ellis. California—Voorhis, Thomas F. Ford, Tolan, Geyer, Welch, Elliott, Sheppard, Izac, Havener. Colorado—Martin. Connecticut—Smith, Shanley. Florida—Cannon. Georgia—Ramspeck. Idaho—White.

Illinois—Martin, Smith, Mitchell, McKeough, Kelly, Beam, Sabath, Schuetz, Barnes, Fries, Schaefer, Arnold, Parsons, Keller, Maciejewski, Kocialkowski, McAndrews. Indiana—Schulte, Larrabee, Landis, Johnson. Iowa—Jacobsen. Kentucky—Vincent. Louisiana—Fernandez. Maine—Oliver. Massachusetts—Casey, Connery, Healey, Flaherty, McCormack. Michigan—Tenerowicz, Hook, Rabaut, Digell, Lesinski. Minnesota—BUCKLER. Missouri—Ronjue, Nelson, Duncan, Bell, Shannon, Williams, Cannon, Zimmerman, Hennings, Anderson, Cochran. Montana—O'Connor. New Jersey—Hart.

New York—Dickstein, MARCANTONIO, Fay, O'Day, Sirovich, Celler, Cullen, Fitzpatrick, Buckley, Barrey, O'Toole, Somers, Evans, O'Leary, Sullivan, Gavagan, Curley, Byren, Schwert, Pfeifer, Michael J. Kennedy, Delaney, Martin J. Kennedy, Curley, Byren, Schwert, Pfeifer, Michael J. Kennedy, Delaney, Martin J. Kennedy. North Dakota—Burdick, Lemke. Nevada— Scrugham. Ohio—Hunter, Claypool, Harter, Kirwan, Sweeney, Crosser. Oklahoma—Johnson, Massingdale, Mohroney, Cartwright. Pennsylvania—Sacks, McGrannery, Bradley. Daly, Myers, Boland, Flannery, Walter, Allen, Eberharter, McArdle, Dunn. South Carolina—Bryson. Texas—Patman, Beckworth, Rayburn, Lyndon B. Johnson, Garrett. Utah—Murdock, Robinson. Virginia—Flannagan. Washington—Magnuson, Wallgren, Smith, Hill, Leavy, Coffee. West Virginia—Smith, Kee. Wisconsin—GEHRMANN, HULL.

Big Locals In Auto Back CIO

Detroit—Overwhelming support by the members of the United Automobile Workers for the executive board and Acting President R. J. Thomas is shown by the list of big locals which have already made known their stand at membership meetings or by board action.

By the end of January, local unions representing more than 200,000 members had already notified President Thomas of their support and that they would pay per capita tax to the board. Advances and loans of over $30,000 had been received, with more coming in daily in dues.

NUMBER THOUSANDS

Among the big locals which have already taken their stand for the CIO and the UAW board are the West Side Local in Detroit, with 30,000 members; Briggs Local, 23,000; Dodge, 22,000; Hudson, 12,000; all but one of the California locals, 20,000; Indiana locals, 25,000; Chrysler, 10,000; Toledo Locals 12 and 14, 10,900; Tool and Die Locals, 12,000; Plymouth, 8,000; Buick, at Flint, 8,000, and many others in New York, Atlanta, St. Louis, Canada, Saginaw, Flint, Bay City and other auto centers.

"This still but a partial list of those supporting the CIO and the international executive board," Thomas said. "More support is coming in every day. I have listed only those locals whose stand is definite. Many others which are pro-CIO have not yet had a chance to act."

Canadian Auto Locals Hit Martin

Toronto, Ont.—At its first meeting of the new year, the regional council of the United Automobile Workers' Union reaffirmed its loyalty to the CIO and its principles. The meeting was held in St. Catharines.

PLAN MEETING

New York — A Washington's birthday conference of teachers in workers' education will be held Feb. 18-19, at the Affiliated Schools for Workers, 302 East 35th St., New York City.

Support the Auto Workers

The United Automobile Workers of America is now engaged in efforts to set its house in order which deserve the sympathy and support of the whole labor movement.

The rapidity of this union's growth broke all records. The message of the CIO was what the auto workers were waiting for. Under the inspiration and leadership of the CIO, the UAW added hundreds of thousands of members to its ranks in a few months.

The auto workers owe much to the CIO, and the CIO owes much to the auto workers. The whole movement has rejoiced at the successes of this young giant of a union, and has sympathized with its efforts to grapple with the internal problems that sometimes come with rapid growth.

The UAW has proved too strong for its outside attackers. Its worst enemy has been internal dissension. But even this has not affected the solid base of the union, in the desire for unity of the rank and file and their loyalty to the CIO.

Now the whole situation has been clarified by the actions of a faithless and irresponsible leader who has separated himself from the union. The international executive board has taken charge, an acting president has been selected, and a convention has been called.

The whole membership is rallying to the board and to Acting President R. J. Thomas, whose authority under the UAW constitution has been fully recognized by the CIO.

But outside anti-labor forces are lending aid to all attempts to split the union. So the auto workers need the support of the whole labor movement until these attempts have been defeated.

The assurances of solidarity and support which have been sent to President Thomas and the executive board by all the unions of the CIO prove that the UAW can depend upon the assistance and friendship of the whole movement of which it is so important a part.

Seamen Rap Martin

Baltimore.—CIO seamen of the National Maritime Union here are unqualifiedly on record in support of President R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers and opposed to attempts of Homer Martin, former president, to split the UAW.

They went on record at a meeting of Baltimore port officers this week, stating:

"We reaffirm our unwavering loyalty to the CIO and its great leader John L. Lewis and express our fullest confidence in their policies and the steps they are taking to unite the auto union and to root out the influence of Henry Ford and his allies."

Labor and the Law

By Lee Pressman
CIO General Counsel

The New Attorney-General

Frank Murphy, former governor of Michigan, now United States Attorney General, easily merits labor's award for the public official who has done the most to solve industrial disputes with reason and courage.

Even his enemies have had to recognize his qualities of character and understanding. Except for a few incoherent reactionaries, everyone, including the heads of the automobile corporations, have praised him for his handling of the 1937 automobile strikes.

The loss felt when Murphy was not re-elected governor of Michigan is now being replaced by his splendid work as Attorney General.

The Department of Justice, which he heads, plays a very important part in federal policy. The Attorney General is the prosecuting arm of the government, he represents the various government agencies when they come before the courts, and he also advises the President on the interpretation of laws.

OLD REPUTATION

Until the advent of the New Deal, organized labor had known of the powers of the Attorney General through prosecutions against labor unions for carrying on boycotts and alleged violations of the anti-trust laws.

Indeed, the use of injunctions in labor disputes was first inaugurated by the Attorney General under President Cleveland in the famous Debs case. At that time, the 1894 strike of the railroad workers was smashed and Debs sent to jail for violation of an injunction brought against the strikers by the Attorney General. This case set an example for government by injunctions in labor disputes which was followed by anti-union employers throughout the country for the next 50 years.

This policy of the Department of Justice is being radically changed by Attorney General Murphy.

PROBES JUDGES

Attorney General Murphy is now conducting an investigation into the behavior of federal judges. His disclosures have resulted in the forced resignation of Judge Manton, a notorious reactionary on the federal Court of Appeals in New York.

Characteristic of Mr. Murphy's belief that human liberties deserve as much legal protection as property rights is his announcement that he is investigating the possibility of setting up a special division in the Department of Justice to enforce the civil rights statutes which protect civil liberties. This will mean that the Department of Justice will enforce long neglected civil rights statutes in a systematic way.

Attorney General Murphy has already demonstrated that he will take vigorous and speedy measures to protect civil liberties by his announcement, upon the request of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, affiliated with the CIO, that he will investigate the eviction of the Missouri sharecroppers from camps along the United States highways in that state.

The policy of the Department of Justice under Frank Murphy can best be described by his own firm declaration that "we ought to be more anxious and vigilant about protecting the civil liberties of an insecure people."

News Guild Questions 'The Impartial Press'

NEW YORK—Reporting in the nation's newspapers of the radio debate between Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes and Publisher Frank Gannett furnished proof of the New Dealer's contention that the nation's press is directly or indirectly influenced by big business.

This was the charge made by The Guild Reporter, official organ of the American Newspaper Guild, CIO, whose "Free Press" section has for months been making accusations similar to those of Ickes in his speech at Town Hall Jan. 12.

A check-up made by the Guild showed t[illegible] newspapers favored Gann[illegible] in [illegible] tio in their handling of the stories, with many of the papers giving the story headlines designed to prejudice the reader against Secretary Ickes.

SEC. ICKES

Interestingly enough, two of the papers published by Gannett gave long stories about Gannett's rebuttal of Ickes' charges, without once mentioning the fact that the Secretary had participated in the debate. Gannett had roared a blustering denial when Ickes, during the course of the argument, had accused the conservative publisher of just such tactics.

'LITTLE SURPRISE'

"Secretary Ickes' facts of life about newspapers brought out in his debate with Gannett, occasioned little if any surprise among workers in the industry, much as we enjoyed hearing them laid before such a vast audience," commented the Guild Reporter.

"Despite the papers' ranting, every experienced newspaperman can cite additional evidence of the same kind."

POWER COMPANY LOAN

Those who heard the debate on the radio recall that one of the chief points at issue was whether a loan of several million dollars made to Gannett by the International Paper and Power Co., or its subsidiary, the International Paper Co., had influenced editorial opinion in the publications.

Gannett maintained that it was merely a business arrangement connected with the purchase of newsprint for his papers. A search by the Guild Reporter showed that Editor & Publisher, newspaper trade paper, had failed to differentiate between the power company and its subsidiary at the time of the loan in 1929.

"If the papers had investigated they could not only have established that Gannett had borrowed the money and paid it back just as the Federal Trade Commission was about to expose him, but also they could have revealed that Gannett had made himself liable to five years in the penitentiary and a $2,000 fine for failing to list the paper company's ownership of his bonds in his annual post office statement."

TOBACCO STORY

Though publishers denied that a story about the harmful effects of tobacco had been played down lest large cigarette advertisers be enraged, a check of New York papers showed that it "was suppressed by 75 per cent of the press and buried by 25 per cent."

In New York, the conservative Herald-Tribune ridiculed Ickes for his use of the incident. A check by Federated Press, labor news service, showed that the Herald-Tribune itself had not carried the story. Pressed for a reason, Wilbur Forrest, official of the paper, claimed he had been "scooped"—an impossibility since the story was sent out on Associated Press wires.

INSULT TO ICKES

How the public feels about the situation was demonstrated when the New York World-Telegram, owned by the erstwhile "liberal" Scripps-Howard chain, devoted an editorial to ridiculing Ickes' assertions.

Entitled, "Old Ick — He's A Card," the piece said that Ickes' speech had a tang "the same as a livery stable on a frosty morning."

"So great was the reader indignation," the Guild Reporter noted, "that on Jan. 17, the World-Telegram was obliged to print seven letters to the editor attacking the paper. It ran six more the next day in the first edition, but then took them out afterwards, making over the editorial page to do so. The tone of the letters was that Ickes had pinched the World-Telegram's tenderest corn."

Chicago AFL Seeks Muzzle On Sec. Ickes

Washington (FP)—Assurances that Sec. of Interior Harold L. Ickes would say nothing about the contract recently signed between the AFL and the Chicago Herald-Examiner and American, Hearst papers, were asked of the Natl. Lawyers Guild by John Fitzpatrick, head of the Chicago Federation of Labor, as a condition to broadcasting Ickes' forthcoming speech over the federation's radio station, WFCL, it was learned here.

Members of the American Newspaper Guild on the papers have been out on strike for three months. Recently the federation's newly-chartered Chicago Editorial Association signed a contract with the Hearst management.

Local Lawyers Guild officials offered the speech to WCFL, and were told by Fitzpatrick that the federation's officials would have to see the speech first. The Guild, with Ickes' approval, declared it would not be a party to such censorship.

FIGHT BILL

New York — The full strength and resources of 700,000 CIO members in New York state will be thrown into the campaign to kill the Wicks bill, announces Allan S. Haywood, president of the New York Industrial Union Council.

5,000 Families to Quit Slums Each Month Under U. S. Program

WASHINGTON—By midsummer of this year, 5,000 low-income families each month will be moving out of the slums into bright, new apartments constructed under the program of the United States Housing Administration, Nathan Straus, its chief, announced in his annual report this week.

The exodus out of the blighted areas which dot the nation's cities will continue until some 165,000 new homes have been constructed through United States loans. Almost 10,000 of these have already been built, and during 1939 construction will be started on between 75,000 and 80,000 additional dwellings.

Practically all USHA funds have now been committed to building projects, Strauss noted. Loans to city housing authorities under contract now total $320,986,000, to be spent on 140 low-rent housing projects in 75 communities in 22 states, the District of Columbia and Hawaii. "Earmarked" for projects in 123 other communities is a slightly larger sum.

WAGNER FILES BILL

Senator Robert Wagner has already filed a bill in Congress which would permit the government agency to borrow and lend $800,000,000 more to continue its slum-clearance work.

In addition to providing better living quarters for a large section of the population, USHA will have created almost three-quarters of a million "man-hours" of work, Administrator Strauss estimated. It's spending is being felt in such industries as glass, lumber, electrical fixtures and cement, where jobs are being created as a result of the housing purchases.

PROVEN SUCCESS

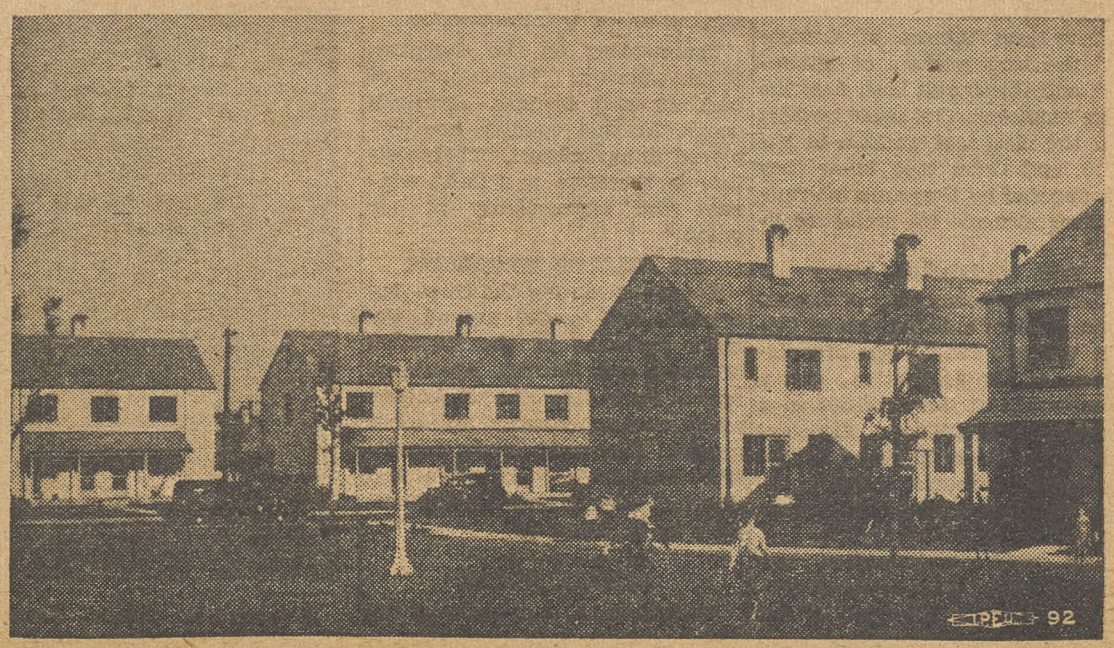
Through its first year's experience, the report explained, it has been shown "that public housing can be and is being produced as economically as private housing; that rents can be and are being reduced to the point where slum dwellers alone will be served, thus avoiding any possibility of competition with decent private housing."

Because of the small direct cost to the government, Strauss said, public housing "is one of the most economical and at the same time one of the most durable forms of public improvement."

BACK STRIKE

New York — Wholehearted support to the strike of the Building Service Employes Union here was pledged by the Furriers' Joint Council in behalf of its 13,000 members. The Council is affiliated to the Intl. Fur Workers Union, CIO.

"New Homes For Old"



Slums are coming down, new homes like this are being erected as the U. S. Housing Administration program enters its second year. Administrator Straus' first annual report noted that low-cost housing, under government sponsorship, is a proven fact.

Cuban Labor Meets In Convention

Cuban labor union representatives held their first convention in many years last month, following the withdrawal of many previous restrictions. Picture at left shows Lombardo Toledano, head of the Mexican labor movement; Leon Renteria, president of the Cuban maritime union; and Lazaro Pena, head of the Cuban Congress of Workers. In center is Joseph Kovner, CIO assistant counsel, who was a fraternal delegate to the meeting and promised American aid in the fight against fascism. At right is parade of leaders through Havana streets.

CIO Ready to Fight Fascism, Cubans Told

HAVANA, Cuba—A salute from the CIO closed the convention of the Confederation of Cuban Workers at the final mass meeting of the convention in this city.

Joseph Kovner, fraternal delegate from the CIO to the convention, gave the closing greeting in the name of President John L. Lewis and the 4,000,000 members of the CIO to an audience of 15,000 Cuban workers jammed in Havana's largest hall.

Support for the cause of workers' organization throughout the western hemisphere was pledged by the CIO delegate.

"The CIO is pledged to the support of the workers of this hemisphere, and is conscious of the solidarity of the workers of the world," Kovner said. "We know of the menace of fascism, a menace not only to workers, but to all of the spiritual and cultural values of our democratic civilization."

SAME STRUGGLE

Kovner pointed out that workers in Cuba had to struggle for their democratic rights against the same corporations that tried to suppress workers in the United States.

"The struggle is the same, whether it be for the welfare of the masses of the United States, Cuba, Mexico or any other country. In each country the forces of enlightenment and democracy are on one side, and opposed to them are forces of darkness and fascist dictatorship," he said.

"The iron miners of Oriente and the iron workers of Minnesota and Pittsburgh both face the same employer. The sugar workers and the electrical workers in the U. S. and Cuba both know they are opposed by the same interests in their struggle for social security."

FOR NATIONAL BODY

Under the leadership of Lazaro Pena, a new Confederation of Cuban Workers (CTC) was organized during the convention, with a membership of some 800,000 in a dozen nation affiliates. Principal unions are those in sugar, tobacco, maritime, tourist (hotel workers, chauffeurs, etc.)) and railways.

The new Confederation was created after long years of terror against all attempts of the workers to organize. Until the advent of the progressive labor movements in the United States and Mexico, in the CIO and the Confederation of Mexican Workers, the movement in Cuba was perforce underground.

Chief note of the convention, according to Kovner, was the unity and enthusiasm displayed in building a national Cuban labor movement. The movement is firmly based on the democratic, anti-fascist feeling of the Cuban people, he pointed out, and on the feeling of solidarity with the workers of the U. S. and of Latin America.

Latin-American Workers To Meet In New Mexico

ALBUKUERQUE, N. M.—Backed by hundreds of labor, civic and church leaders, a congress of Mexican and Spanish American peoples of the United States will be held here March 24-26.

Two international presidents of CIO unions are among the signers of the call for the Congress, H. C. Fremming of the Oil Workers International Union and Donald Henderson, United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers. Both unions have many Latin-Americans among their members, some 40,000 belonging to the UCAPAW alone.

Commenting on the Congress, Henderson said: "The majority of Mexican and Spanish American people in this country are employed in agriculture. Their welfare is therefore a definite concern and responsibility of our union."

TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS

Discussion during the three-day sessions will center around the main problems of the 2,000,000 Mexican and Spanish Americans now living in this country, as they affect workers, farmers, and other groups. Low wage levels, restrictive employment, education and discrimination are among the subjects to be taken up.

STRIKE SOLID

Newark, N. J. — A strike at the Celluloid Corp. here went into its second week, defying company back-to-work movements designed to start production.

Appointed

Thomas R. Amlie, former Progressive Congressman from Wisconsin, who has been appointed to the Interstate Commerce Commission by President Roosevelt.

'Pass-The-Biscuits' O'Daniel Names Company Unionist To Labor Job

AUSTIN, Tex.—Leaders of organized labor in Texas are planning a state-wide fight against the confirmation of Joe Kunschik, member of a company union, as new state labor commissioner.

Kunschik, 29-year-old employe of the Austin branch of the Southwestern Bell Co., is a member of the recently formed Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. Workers Union Association. He was appointed recently by Gov. W. Lee O'Daniel, the flour salesman who won the election with a campaign of hillbilly music.

Local 23, Oil Workers International Union, CIO, was among the unions sending the governor wires of protests on his action.

Reason for the appointment was stated by a columnist in a local paper as being more than friendship between the governor and the company unionist.

"It is a well figured out plan of business interests to get in a triple-edged shot at the CIO, the AFL and the railway brotherhoods," the story said.

Guild Gets Pact At Newsweek

New York — Contracts signed in New York with the Brooklyn Eagle and Newsweek magazine bring the number of new agreements negotiated by the American Newspaper Guild, CIO, since the new year up to four.

A total of 125 daily newspapers, photo and news agencies, news magazines and radio stations are now operating under ANG contracts, the Guild announces.

The Akron Beacon-Journal and the Detroit Times, a Hearst paper, are the other two publications signed up in January.

The contract with the Brooklyn Eagle, covering 445 editorial and commercial employes, replaces a limited recognition contract won in 1937 by a 16 weeks' strike. The new agreement provides for a 40-hour, five-day week, overtime pay, and guarantees greater job security. The no-pay-cut provision is continued.

80 PER CENT GET INCREASES

The Newsweek pact, granting pay increases ranging from $3 to $25 a week for 80 per cent of the staff, covers 55 editorial employes. It also includes the 40-hour, five-day week and other Guild clauses.

Typo Members Rap Leaders, Aid Drive

Chicago — In a blaze of oratorical fireworks, members of the Chicago Typographical Union — second largest unit of the International organization — overruled attempts of their own executive board to line the union up with William Randolph Hearst in his fight against the American Newspaper Guild at the Chicago Evening American and Herald-Examiner.

About a thousand members of Local 16 of the ITU, an AFL affiliate, attended the meeting. Veteran members of the union said that not in years had such booing been heard as greeted Sec-Treas. Harry B. Schaudt when he spoke in favor of supporting Hearst against the Guild strikers.

The Hearst management has taken the position that since it has contracts with printing trade unions, it is merely resisting a CIO attack on AFL jurisdiction.

The widespread support which the Guild has received from members of a number of AFL locals, in Chicago and elsewhere, has been indication that the actions of a few AFL leaders are being repudiated by the rank and file.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 7 | February 13, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

CIO SPEEDS DRIVE TO SAVE WAGNER ACT

Catholics Urged To Join CIO

Philadelphia—"Not only is it every Catholic's privilege to join the CIO, but it is every Catholic's duty to join his union."

This counsel was given by Richard L. G. Deverall, editor of The Christian Front and professor of Sociology at the Augustinian Seminary of Villanova, Pa., at a meeting sponsored here by local 46 of the State, County and Municipal Workers, CIO.

"The CIO was organized to raise wages, lower hours, and improve working and living conditions," Deverall said. "For the first time in America it took in all workers, including Negroes and the unskilled."

Quoting Pope Leo XIII as saying, "Most appropriate are these working men's associations," Deverall pointed out that the Catholic Church has always emphasized the right and duty of workers to join unions.

3c a Meal

Scottsbluff, Neb.—(FP)—"After we paid our expenses we had only 3.3c a meal for food during the rest of the year," J. A. Ramirez, Grand Island sugar beet field worker told U. S. Dept. of Agriculture officials who are conducting a hearing here to determine fair and reasonable wages for field workers.

F. J. Martinez of Sheridan, Wyoming, organizer for the CIO cannery and agricultural workers union, sought approval for a contract asking $26 an acre on a 12-ton crop, with additional payment for topping in excess of 12 tons.

Alaskan Workers Ask Protection For Wagner Act

JUNEAU, Alaska — The territorial legislature, now in session, will be asked by Alaskan labor to memorialize the U. S. Congress to refrain from passing amendments to the Wagner Act.

Labor will also press for repeal of the territory's criminal syndicalism law, for the establishment of a state mine inspector's office, and the passage of a workmen's compensation act.

Voorhis–New Deal Supporter–Appointed To Dies Committee

(See Story Page 3)

WASHINGTON.—Tory members of the House of Representatives were taken by surprise when Speaker Bankhead named Rep. Jerry Voorhis, ardent New Dealer and friend of labor, to fill the vacancy on the Dies Committee.

Voorhis, who was one of the 35 House members who had voted against continuance of the committee, had described the Dies activities as "undemocratic and un-American."

Named to replace Rep. Mosier, defeated in last year's election contest, Voorhis is expected to act as a check-rein on the committee, and to serve as the mouthpiece for liberals and progressives.

Cover of a pamphlet issued by the United Rubber Workers of America, CIO, which is helping carry on the fight to save the Wagner Act from amendment. Copies of the pamphlet may be obtained from the union in Akron, Ohio.

Vote On Funds For Board Is Big Victory

(See Stories Page 3)

WASHINGTON.—The CIO this week stepped up the speed of its campaign to prevent the passage of crippling amendments to the Wagner Act.

In Congress the National Labor Relations Board won a major victory when its appropriation bill was passed by the House of Representatives without a cut in funds for the next fiscal year.

Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, described the House vote as "a first round in labor's fight," and said that "labor's vigilance" was responsible for checking "the enemies of collective bargaining in a back-handed attempt to cripple the Act."

A concerted drive to prevent passage of Senate Bill 1,000—introduced by Sen. David Walsh of Massachusetts—was started in every CIO local throughout the United States. Reports from AFL and railway unions indicated that many of them, too, would resist the bill, which is sponsored by President Wm. Green, of the American Federation of Labor.

The Walsh-Green amendments are aimed at smashing industrial unions and would open wide the door to company unionism.

An analysis of the AFL amendments, showing how they would injure all workers and all bona fide unions, was presented in a new pamphlet issued by the CIO legal department. "The Wagner Act Threatened with Destruction!" is the title of the booklet, which will receive wide distribution.

In Massachusetts the state's CIO Council, which met in Springfield this week-end, withdrew its invitation to Sen. Walsh to address the meeting, and invited in his place Sen. Robert Wagner of New York. The council's president, Michael Widman, Jr., charged that Walsh had deserted labor's camp for that of the reactionaries.

Steel Union Lodges Flay Wagner Act Foes

Chicago. — All lodges of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee in the Calumet area have gone on record against amending the Wagner Act, Nicholas Fontecchio, SWOC district director, announced here.

The resolution pointed out that "for many years the largest majority of employers in the U. S. have denied their employes the right to organize into labor organizations and deal with them collectively." In addition, the statement charged, these anti-labor bosses have "maintained gunmen rule and spy systems" to fight their workers.

Had these employers abided by the law, it adds, industrial peace would have come to the nation, but instead these employers "have grossly violated the law and wrongfully attack the National Labor Relations Board for its administration."

Aluminum Union Plans National Pact

New Kensington, Pa. — Proposals for a national contract with the Mellon Aluminum Co. of America are being discussed by six locals of the Aluminum Workers of America.

In a call sent out last week, Sec.-Treas. George Hobaugh urged locals in New Kensington, Detroit, Alcoa, Tenn., Edgewater, N. J., Badin, N. C., and Massena, N. Y., to draw up their demands for the projected contract.

Similar discussions were under way in 1937, but the company requested Labor Board certifications of the various locals. Since then, three of the locals have won certification, while a run-off election at Alcoa is expected to result in an AWA victory.

There is little opposition to the union in Badin; a "big swing" to the CIO affiliate is seen at Edgewater; and a trend away from the AFL union in upper New York State is anticipated as the result of that organization's failure in negotiations.

Maritime Union Asks Pay Raise On 240 Tankers

NEW YORK—Wage increases of $10 to $20 a month for unlicensed seamen on some 240 tanker ships will be asked by the National Maritime Union in a proposed contract renewal with a number of oil companies now under an agreement expiring March 31.

Delegates from tanker ships will hold a conference here opening Feb. 15, for the purpose of drawing up the new contract to be submitted to the companies later this month. Frederick N. Myers, chairman of the Atlantic district committee said that demands for wage increases and other improvements in the contract are being sent in by tanker crews for inclusion in the proposed draft.

All the companies involved have granted leaves to delegates to the conference, Myers said. Each delegate is to be financed by the crew he represents.

8,000 MEMBERS

Out of 285 tankers operating out of Atlantic and Gulf ports, about 240 manned by some 8,000 seamen, are under contract with the NMU. The majority of the tankers covered are owned by Socony-Vacuum Oil Co., Standard Oil Co., of New Jersey; Gulf Refining Co., Tidewater Oil Co., Sinclair Navigation Co., C. D. Mallory, Pennsylvania Shipping Co., National Bulk Oil Carriers, Pan American Petroleum & Transportation Co., and Kellogg Steamship Co.

In addition to general wage increases, the proposed demands include a $125 war bonus for each crew member on a ship sailing in any war zone; an increase in the overtime rate from 75 to 85 cents an hour; adequate ventilation in crew quarters and other improvements in living conditions aboard ship.

Curran

Joseph Curran, president of the National Maritime Union, which will soon be discussing provisions of a new contract with operators of almost 250 tankers on the Atlantic coast.

Transit Union Pushes Fight On Wicks Bill

New York—Some 29,000 members of the Transport Workers Union, CIO, were summoned to special mass meetings to be held throughout the week in protest against "the threatened loss of jobs, seniority and pension rights and genuine collective bargaining" which the union declares would result if the proposed Wicks bill now pending in the state legislature is passed.

Austin Hogan, president of the TWU of Greater New York, who issued the call, branded the bill as anti-union and declared its enactment would "pervert the principles of civil service to rob thousands of New York City transit workers of their jobs."

GOP to Blame For Prison Strike-Moone'

San Francisco — The hunger strike at San Quentin prison was due to a 50% cut in the prisoners' food rations during the last three years, Tom Mooney declared here.

"My heart goes out to them because I know for a fact that the food in San Quentin is not sufficient to preserve good health," he said. "I know, because I lived in that hotel for 22 years."

Mooney said that he had warned the newly-appointed member of the state parole board that trouble was brewing at the prison.

INTOLERABLE

"I knew the conditions were intolerable and I conveyed the information to the incoming administration." Mooney added.

"Merriam and Republican party holdovers are responsible for this condition. They have starved state institutions by their niggardly budget policies dictated by the financial interests of California, who do not want to pay taxes, a situation which the new administration is prepared to remedy with the assistance of the people."

Seamen Win $5,700 From Finks

Philadelphia — The William J. Burns Detective Agency, leading purveyor of finks and strikebreakers, is out $5,700.

A Philadelphia court upheld damage suits filed by two maritime union members which were based on charges that they had suffered gun wounds at the hands of Burns' agents during a 1936 strike.

The two seamen, Ely Haiman and Ernest Orr, said they were shot when they tried to stop a carload of strike breakers from entering the pier of the Moore & McCormick Co., steamship operators. Orr told the court that a leg wound had prevented him from doing further work.

The Burns Agency was recently listed by the LaFollette committee as a leading strikebreaking outfit.

Wages Up $150,000 InNewPact

New York—Contracts, providing for wage increases of close to $150,000 were signed this week by two New York locals of the United Retail & Wholesale Employes, CIO.

Two months of negotiations with the United Cigar Stores were climaxed by the contract signed by Local 906, covering 603 employes in 175 stores in the metropolitan area. The union named as sole bargaining agency after it had won more than 90 per cent of the votes in a state labor board poll, won the closed shop, provision for sick leaves and time and a half for overtime.

864 Affected

The other agreement was reached by Local 1199 with the United Cigar-Whelan Stores Corp., and affected 864 workers in the company's 60 drug stores in New York City, Long Island and adjoining counties.

The agreement is the first signed with a large national drug chain and establishes higher wages and better working conditions than in any other chain. Pay raises, the closed shop, free health service and vacations with pay are stipulated in the contract.

Sign CIO Pact, Board Orders Meat Packer

Cedar Rapids, Ia. — CIO Packinghouse Workers have won a double victory in the Wilson plant here. They have secured a Labor Board decision certifying their local as sole collective bargaining agent and ordering the company to sign a contract with Local 51, PWOC.

Testimony at the Board hearing proved that the CIO union had an overwhelming majority of the workers, so much, that even Wilson attorneys admitted it.

The Board also found that the company had recognized the union and dealt with it on wages and conditions, though refusing to sign a contract. On this basis the Board report said:

"The respondent (company) has arbitrarily refused to enter into and sign any written agreement with the union, and thereby has refused to bargain in good faith."

Murphy Sets Up Federal Civil Liberties Unit

WASHINGTON — Attorney-General Frank Murphy this week established a new civil liberties unit in the Department of Justice, with Henry A. Schweinhaut who was active in the Harlan County, Kentucky, and Jersey City cases, as its head.

In his order setting up the new unit, Murphy announced that its function will be to "make a study of the provisions of the constitution of the U. S. and acts of Congress relating to civil rights with reference to present conditions, to make appropriate recommendations in respect thereto, and to direct, supervise, and conduct prosecutions of violations of the provisions of the constitution or acts of Congress guaranteeing civil rights to individuals."

TO PROTECT RIGHTS

In a democracy, Murphy commented, "an important function of the law enforcement branch of government is the aggressive protection of the fundamental rights inherent in a free people.

"In America these guarantees are contained in express provisions of the constitution and in acts of Congress. It is the purpose of the Department of Justice to pursue a program of vigilant action in the prosecution of the infringement of these rights."

MAY NEED NEW LAWS

Murphy warned, however, that new civil liberties legislation may be needed to allow his department to function satisfactorily.

In the Harlan case, it is recalled, the attorney-general was forced to build his case around an 1872 statute which made it a crime to "conspire" to deprive people of their constitutional rights. Government lawyers frequently find it difficult to "prove" a conspiracy to the satisfaction of the court.

The attorney-general's action in establishing the new unit won the praise of labor and progressive organizations. The CIO convention, it is recalled, had gone on record for the formation of a permanent government body to protect civil liberties and human rights.

Murphy has been lauded for the "new broom" which he is wielding in the Department of Justice. His actions designed to speed court handling of cases at law and to improve the quality of the judiciary are expected to have widespread beneficial effects.

New Orleans Trucking Firms Agree to Poll By Labor Board

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Two dozen trucking and drayage firms here, faced with the exposure of their corrupt tie-up with AFL officials, police, and other city officials to break the CIO, have agreed to an election to determine the union their employes desire to represent them.

Hearings on charges of unfair labor practices filed with the National Labor Relations by the Transport Workers Union, a CIO teamsters' local, ended after the second day, when the union and the employers both agreed to the terms of a stipulation drawn up subject to approval by the NLRB.

Under the terms agreed upon, an election is to be held not later than 45 days after the stipulation is approved by the Board, at which all employes of the companies involved named on one or more payrolls during any week from May 21 to June 21, 1938, shall be eligible to vote, exclusive of those discharged for cause or who resigned voluntarily.

HITS AFL CLOSED SHOP

Furthermore the Board is to order the companies to stop discouraging membership in the CIO local by discharge or discrimination against union members, and to cease giving effect to the closed shop contract signed with Teamsters Local 270, AFL, which recognizes the AFL union as sole bargaining agency.

The CIO claims that this contract was signed by collusion between AFL officials and the companies without regard to the wishes of the workers covered.

The NLRB hearings on the case opened on December 12, under Attorney Arthur Donovan, trial examiner, with enough evidence and material on hand proving the illegal conduct of the companies, to continue the hearings for a month or longer.

But at the close of the second day, the companies, evidently fearful of what further hearings would disclose, asked for a conference with CIO representatives B. Halling and Bob Robertson.

Office Union Starts Health Program

New York — The United Office & Professional Workers, New York Joint Board, last week launched a plan to cut the high cost of sickness for the union's 16,000 members in this city.

One hundred dentists and physicians will cooperate with the union in the one-year project. Any member of the union will be able to select a doctor or dentist from the group.

Fees for office calls to the doctor will be $1.50 for the first visit and $1 for following visits. For home visits, a $2 fee will be charged. While no arrangement for hospitalization is included in the plan, members have been advised to join a 3c-a-day project sponsored by New York institutions.

Complete records of the 12-month experiment will be preserved, so that representatives of the UOPWA will have statistics available when it draws up their legislative program next year.

A mass meeting announcing the plan has been called by Miss Anne Berenholz of the union's New York Council. She said Robert S. Wagner, Jr., New York State assemblyman, Allan S. Haywood, CIO regional director, Langdon S. Post.

Draftsmen for Fair Buildings Get CIO Pact

New York — CIO architectural draftsmen, working under union contracts, are designing some of the major buildings at the New York's World Fair. With the signing of a "model contract" with Pomerance and Breines, big architectural firm, members of the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians will be employed on the Brazilian, Swedish, Soviet Union and Spanish pavilions at the fair.

The agreement, running one year, puts the majority of the designers on a salary scale of $70 a week, time and a half pay for overtime, a day's vacation for each month of employment and arbitration of disputes.

Negotiations are now in progress, Philip Salaf, field representative for FAECT declared, with employer architects working on the plans for large-scale housing projects in New York City.

CIO Supports Demand For More WPA Funds

WASHINGTON — The action of President Roosevelt in asking Congress for more WPA funds will help prevent suffering among the jobless, Ralph Hetzel, CIO unemployment director, said this week.

Less than a fortnight after conservative Democrats and Republicans had started to gloat over their success in cutting the WPA deficiency appropriation to $725,000,000, the President declared that an "emergency" existed and asked for another $150,000,000 to prevent the dropping of a million people from the work relief rolls.

Prompt action on the President's request, Hetzel said, "will do much to allay a rising tide of depression among the unemployed who are faced with a two-thirds cut of the WPA under the present provision.

"Numerous reports coming to the CIO from all over the country recently have indicated that already many needy people have been turned off the WPA. Women with dependent children and aged people have been among the first to suffer."

GREAT ANXIETY

The concern which has been registered throughout the country at the probability of a major cut in WPA within the next five months "has exceeded the expectation even of those who knew the desperate need which would be caused by such a cut," Hetzel said.

"This concern has spread through a great part of the business community. More and more business men realize that continued recovery is dependent upon an adequate works program."

Roosevelt told Congress he would have refused to sign the appropriation bill had it not contained the provision limiting dismissals to 5 per cent. He added, however, that the need for WPA funds is so overwhelming that, after conferences with WPA executives, "it has been determined to hold the rolls at the present figure of 3,000,000 persons during these two months."

Furniture Union Meets For Convention After Year of Progress

ROCKFORD, Ill.—Delegates to the first national convention of the United Furniture Workers, which opens here February 13, are arriving in the city from furniture centers scattered across the country from Vermont to California.

Grown from 18,000 to 36,000 members since its affiliation with the CIO a year ago, the UFW is now the dominant labor union in the furniture industry. Its original 36 locals have been increased to 76, and wages and working conditions have been improved in a a number of centers.

PROTECTS THOUSANDS

Local 76 in New York, composed of skilled upholsterers has over 2,000 members under closed shop agreements, while Local 76-B has won contracts covering most of its 2,500 members who are employed in the general furniture industry.

In other parts of the East, Midwest, South and Pacific Coast areas, thousands of furniture workers are now enrolled in locals of the UFW. One of the largest is Local 707 in Rockford which has more than 2,400 working under contract in 13 large plants manufacturing furniture and allied products.

A permanent constitution will be adopted by the convention and general policies formulated to guide the CIO union in its activities.

The UFW was established in November, 1937, at a conference in Washington attended by the executive board of the AFL Upholsterers' Intl. Union and delegates from AFL, CIO and independent local unions. It has been governed by an executive board headed by President Morris Muster, former vice-president of the AFL Upholsterers'.

Other members are secretary-treasurer Emil Costello, president of the Wisconsin CIO Council; Max Perlow, New York; George Bucher, Philadelphia; Joseph D. Persily, Indianapolis, and Joseph E. Proudman, Jamestown, N. Y.

Muster

Pres. Morris Muster of the United Furniture Workers, who presides at the CIO union's first annual convention in Rockford, Ill. The UFW, organized in November, 1937, has won many gains in all parts of the United States and Canada.

Map Fight In Behalf Of Labor Man

San Francisco.—The San Francisco Industrial Union Council and the State CIO Council will fight "to the limit" any attempt by the State Senate rules committee to refuse recommendation of the appointment of Germain Bulcke to the San Francisco Harbor Board.

Governor Olson named Bulcke, who is president of the ILWU in San Francisco, as one of the board of three. Immediately the employers dashed into the fight with a law saying no "stevedore" could be on the board.

Nation's Workers Rush To Defend Wagner Act From Amendment

CIO Hails Vote In House

Washington.—The House of Representatives last week gave its O.K. to the appropriation bill for the National Labor Relations Board, approving almost unanimously a committee report which gave the Board a quarter-million dollar increase over its last year's budget.

The bill now goes to the Senate for final approval.

PRESSMAN STATEMENT

Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, hailed the House vote as a "first round in labor's fight to preserve the Wagner Act.

"Labor's vigilance has checked the enemies of collective bargaining in a back-handed attempt to cripple the Wagner Act through cutting the appropriations of the Labor Relations Board," Pressman said.

"Reactionaries in Congress and outside had hoped to snipe at the Act either through cutting Board funds or attaching riders to the bill. Both attempts were decisively beaten back.

"The fight to preserve the Act itself from crippling amendments getting under way. CIO and AFL unions, and progressive groups throughout the country are enlisting for a major struggle. Labor is determined to preserve the Act from any and all attempts to amend it."

House Votes Extention For Dies Group

Washington — Martin Dies will carry on.

The Texas red-baiter won a one-year extension for his committee from a House of Representatives operating under gag rule, which limited arguments against the committee to only 13 minutes.

Every Republican voted for continuance of the committee's activities. Veteran observers were surprised that so many of the Democrats helped to support the committee, which may be a noisy anti-New Deal factor in the 1940 election.

VOTE AGAINST DIES

Only 35 liberal Congressmen voted against Dies. Those who opposed continuance of the committee were:

Boland, Dunn, McGranery, Myers, Sacks, and Bradley, Pa.; Byrns, Tenn.; Casey, Mass.; Coffee, Fallgren, and Hill, Wash.; Ford, Geyer, Havenner, Izac, and Voorhis, Calif.; Fries, Keller, McKeough, Mitchell, and Sabath, Ill.; Larrabee, Schulte, Ind.; Murdock and Robinson, Utah; Scrugham, Nev.; Shanley, Conn.; Shannon, M., Sirovich, and Marcantonio, N. Y.; Tenerowicz, Mich.; and Vincent, Ky.

Magnuson of Washington and Hook of Michigan voted "present," thereby not committing themselves on the motion.

Bay State CIO Raps Sen. Walsh

Boston — Sen. David Walsh didn't appear before the Massachusettes CIO Industrial Union Council second annual convention in Springfield this week-end.

Invited to address the meeting, Walsh was invited to stay away when Bay State CIO leaders learned of his action in sponsoring amendments designed to kill the Wagner Act.

NO LONGER A 'FRIEND'

"We do not want you at our convention," the council wrote to Walsh, "and we regret very much at this time to class you among the few enemies of labor, when we had considered you labor's friends."

The letter predicted that "industrial strife, such as strikes, can be expected if the Wagner Act is amended as you propose.

"We know labor throughout Massachusetts will realize that you have failed to give them the proper consideration in the protection of one of the best laws under which labor has enjoyed real industrial democracy. Labor has made great strides in the past two years, exercising its rights under this act as now written."

INVITE WAGNER

The council invited Sen. Robert Wagner of New York to appear in place of the Massachusetts senator.

Walsh replied in a letter to the council's executive body that he has not yet decided how he will vote on the amendments which he himself is sponsoring.

Michael Widman, Jr., CIO regional director in New England, said the Massachusetts council would soon present its views on the Wagner Act to Walsh.

Union Votes Show Unity In Canada

Toronto, Ont. — Unity continues to guide the Canadian labor movement despite the suspension of CIO unions from the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

Two of Canada's largest trades and labor councils (central labor bodies) — those in Montreal and Toronto—elected CIO union members to their executive boards.

Lewis Announces Drive

Washington—John L. Lewis, CIO president, this week announced the launching of a nation-wide campaign to defeat the amendments to the Natl. Labor Relations Act proposed by William Green and introduced in Senate Bill 1000 by Senator David I. Walsh of Massachusetts.

Opening gun in the campaign to save the Act for labor was fired with the publication of a new pamphlet prepared by the CIO legal dept. entitled, "The Wagner Act Threatened With Destruction!"

The pamphlet analyzes the nine proposed amendments in the Green-Walsh bill and describes them as designed to "foster company unionism and shackle American labor to the courts."

BROAD CAMPAIGN MAPPED

At the same time, letters are being sent to all CIO affiliates and regional officers urging them to mobilize all forces to save the Act. Mass meetings, radio broadcasts, delegations to Congress, and every other means will be used to register labor's opposition to emasculation of the Act, Lewis announced.

Special efforts will be made to reach AFL unions, many of which are far from agreeing with William Green in his drive against the Act. A serious threat to all genuine labor unions, AFL as well as CIO, is seen in the amendments.

The new CIO pamphlet charges that the Walsh-Green amendments "go far beyond anything authorized or favored by the Houston convention of the AFL."

ANALYZE AMENDMENTS

Taking up the Walsh-Green-employer amendments one by one, the pamphlet describes the anti-labor features of each.

First on the list is the amendment redefining company unions which would allow employers to interfere with unions and favor one as against another—in other words, removing the checks on employers now contained in the Act.

The proposed amendments would also allow company union contracts to stand, taking away the Board's present power to invalidate them. Contracts signed with unions in collusion with employers would also be allowed to

Continued on page five

Put Heat on Burns!

NEW YORK—A demand that the private detective license of the William J. Burns Agency be denied renewal was filed with Abraham Wechsler, state director of licenses, by the Workers Defense League this week.

A similar plea, made by the League and the CIO a few months ago resulted in the Railway Audit & Inspection Co. being banned from further activity in the Empire State.

The League charged that "under the guise and protection of a previously issued license," the Burns outfit had engaged "in unlawful acts and practices and violated the rights of workers guaranteed by the state and federal constitutions and state and federal law."

Standard Oil, Remington Rand, and Lord & Taylor, big Fifth Avenue department store, were listed as firms which have used the agency for strikebreaking or espionage work.

THE CIO NEWS
Official Weekly Publication of the
CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II February 13, 1939 No. 7

It's Up to Congress

The members of Congress who voted to slash the WPA appropriation to $725,000,000 have advanced all sorts of excuses to indignant people back home who have called them to task.

They have claimed that the slash would not result in serious layoffs; that improvement in private employment would absorb the jobless; that the provision against more than a 5% layoff would prevent serious suffering; and all sorts of other arguments.

Having voted the cut and attempted to square their own consciences with such arguments, they thought they could consider the issue closed and wash their hands of further responsibility for the unemployed.

But now with his special relief message, President Roosevelt has again made it clear to the whole country that Congress cannot dodge the responsibility for wholesale layoffs of WPA workers which must follow if adequate funds are not voted.

The President has stated clearly and positively that under the present appropriation either 1,000,000 persons will have to be abruptly cut off the WPA rolls on April 1, or else between 1,500,000 and 2,000,000 will have to be cut off in a series of gradual layoffs this spring.

When the dependents of the WPA workers are also taken into consideration, this means that from six to eight million Americans face extreme distress in the near future unless Congress speedily votes an additional $150,000,000 for WPA.

The fate of all these millions of Americans now rests in the hands of Congress. No smug excuses will any longer avail against the cold and cruel facts which the President has presented.

If protestations of concern for the unemployed are sincere, the members of Congress will at once vote the needed $150,000,000. If they fail to do so, they will stand convicted of being willing to let millions of Americans suffer dire want by being deprived of WPA employment.

The CIO does not consider that even this additional $150,000,000 will provide enough WPA jobs for the unemployed. But it is a minimum appropriation which must be voted at once, and CIO unions and members will join with the President in hammering this demand home to Congress.

It's up to Congress now, and don't let your Senator or Congressman overlook this fact!

One Up for Labor

The overwhelming defeat in the House of the attempt to cripple the Wagner act by cutting the appropriation of the National Labor Relations Board, is a resounding victory for labor.

It means that labor has won the first round in its fight to defend the Wagner act. It should lend courage to every worker and every progressive in continuing the fight against the further attacks which are in store.

Even the most reactionary Congressmen dared not incur labor's wrath by destroying the Labor Board at one full swoop. But what they will do, if labor is not on guard, is to vote for deceptive amendments which would cripple the effectiveness of the Wagner act.

It is therefore doubly necessary hereafter for labor to be vigilant against any and all amendments to the labor act.

If the nature of these amendments is carefully exposed in every case, if labor voters are organized to make their wishes known to Congress, this first-round triumph can be followed by success in all succeeding rounds—until the final knockout blow is delivered to the whole campaign to destroy the charter of labor's collective bargaining rights.

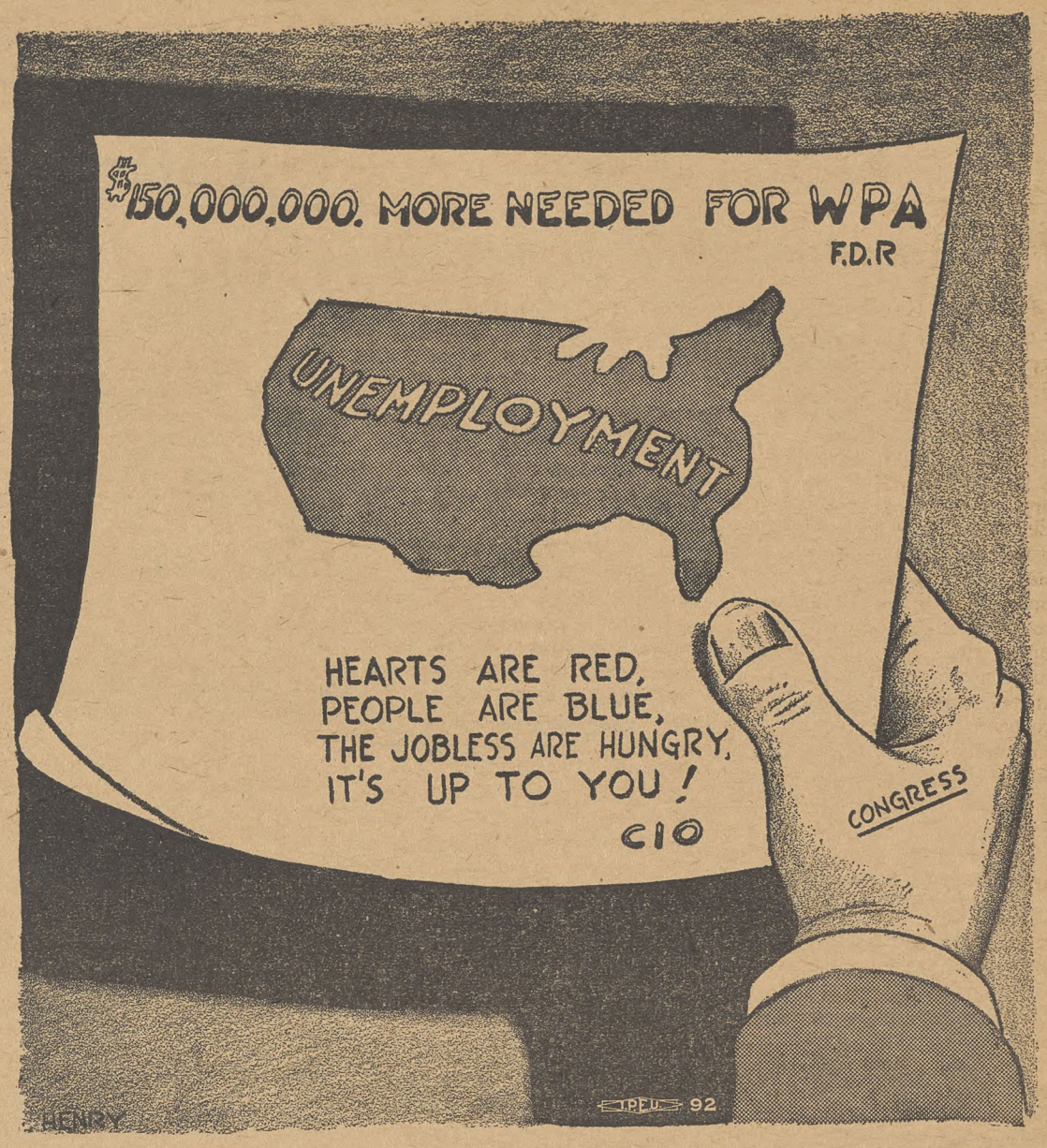
Pins Blame On Bosses

Washington—Responsibility for forgery of ballots used in the election of officers of the colossal Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., was pinned on executives of the company in a statement issued here by President Lewis Merrill of the United Office and Professional Workers.

The monopoly investigating committee had found that agents were practically forced to sign the ballots for the election of the officials of the nation's second largest insurance firm.

"The agents are not the culprits," he said. "They are the victims of a vicious system which management has refused to correct.

"This was merely one of the numerous abuses which led to organization of the men into a union."



Valentine!

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Wrong-Way Green Takes Off Again

WHEN Douglas Corrigan flew off to Ireland, he thought he was flying to California—or so he said.

William Green has sponsored a bill to destroy the Wagner Labor Relations Act, and he seeks to kid the world that he is trying to strengthen the act.

One could almost believe Wrong-Way Corrigan. But not Wrong-Way Green—not if one has read the Walsh bill which he sponsors.

CIO leaders have not always expected the best from Green. They were prepared for some pretty dirty amendments designed to harm their unions.

But they were frankly flabbergasted when they read the text of the bill which Green said Senator Walsh had introduced on behalf of the AFL.

No anti-labor manufacturers' association could have devised a worse attack on the fundamental purposes of the Wagner act than is embodied in the Walsh-Green bill.

It is not only aimed to destroy the CIO unions, but it hits directly at all genuine labor unionism.

What the Bill Would Do

An analysis of the Walsh bill is presented in the new CIO pamphlet entitled, "The Wagner Act Threatened with Destruction!" It shows:

(1) That the amendments in it go far beyond anything authorized or favored by the Houston AFL convention.

(2) That they would deprive workers of protection against company unions, by permitting employers to interfere with the organizations of their employes and favor one union against another.

(3) That they would destroy every collective bargaining unit larger than a single craft.

(4) That they would subject the decisions of the Labor Board to review by the courts at every turn, thus hampering and delaying any effective enforcement of the law.

(5) That they include many other provisions that can aid only anti-union employers, enabling them to have elections when it suits their strategy, to subpoena the most confidential union documents and to disqualify Board examiners whom they do not like.

Not Like Railway Act

It has been claimed that some of these amendments would make the Wagner Act like the Railway Labor Act. But examination shows that this is not the case.

The Railway Act repeatedly and specifically safeguards the rail unions against any interference whatever from employers.

The Walsh-Green bill would eliminate from the Wagner Act the present prohibition against employers "interfering" with labor organizations.

The Railway Act, covering an industry in which craft unions have long predominated, permits the majority of any craft to have their craft designated as a bargaining unit. But the craft divisions are very broad and the Mediation Board still has some leeway to determine the unit.

The Walsh-Green bill would allow the Board no discretion and would automatically make the craft unit the appropriate unit, regardless of the wishes of the workers in the plant or even in the craft itself.

Compulsory Craftism

These compulsory craft unit provisions are already causing revolt within the AFL itself.

Many AFL unions have long been organized on a plant basis. They would be in just as great danger of being broken up into 57 varieties of disunion as would the industrial unions of the CIO.

Employers who value orderly labor relations would also stand to lose from the forced division of their employers which the Walsh-Green bill proposes.

Instead of being able to bargain with a single responsible union representing all their employes, they would have to deal separately with multitude of tiny craft groups.

Defend the Wagner Act

There is hardly a worker in the United States to whom the Wagner act has not brought greater freedom. It has meant freedom to organize without being fired. It has meant freedom to choose the kind of union he wants, without employer interference. It has meant freedom for his union to get the most it can for him through collective bargaining.

Before the Wagner Act, the scales of economic power were greatly weighted on the employer's side to the disadvantage of the worker. The act has brought a little fairer balance by making the workers as free to organize as are the employers.

It is amazing that the worst scheme yet devised to deprive American workers of the benefits of this act should be advanced in the name of men who claim to be leaders of labor.

But it will be still more amazing if the working people of America allow Green—and the anti-union bosses whose favor he seeks to curry through the Wash bill—to get away with this conspiracy.

Every unionist should study the threats to labor in the Walsh-Green bill, and then sound the alarm—to his fellow workers and to Congress!

Your WPA Job

By Ralph Hetzel, Jr.
CIO Unemployment Director

The Administration Speaks Up

President Roosevelt has just sent a most important message to Congress. He asked for an additional $150,000,000 for the WPA during the rest of the fiscal year. He said further that WPA would not be reduced from 3,000,000 during February and March.

The President clearly placed the responsibility for WPA cuts on the doorstep of Congress. He approved the appropriation of $725,000,000, $150,000,000 less than he had asked in January—but, he said: "I would have withheld my approval of this legislation on the ground of its inadequacy to meet human need and I would have immediately asked for a larger sum if it had not been for the provision that there shall not be a reduction of more than 5 per cent of the number of employes on Works Progress projects prior to April 1, 1939."

This was the provision forced upon Congress by public protest.

TWO COURSES

The President said further that under the resolution passed by Congress there were only two courses open to the Administration.

"The first is to reduce the rolls abruptly by 1,000,000 persons on the first of April and provide an average employment of 2,000,000 persons during the ensuing three months. This would result in throwing this very large number of persons out of employment suddenly. Such a number cannot possibly be absorbed by private industry in time to prevent extreme distress.

OTHER METHOD

"The second alternative is to commence a week-by-week reduction on April 1 and to carry this reduction though to June 30. Even on the assumption that all reserves which under proper governmental procedure should be maintained, were completely expended by June 30, such reduction would require that employment by the end of June will be reduced to a figure well below 1,500,000 persons.

"In other words the program of present employment would be slashed considerably more than one-half within a period of three months."

HARRINGTON SPEAKS

Last week Administrator Harrington made his first public address.

In it he laid down policies which he would follow for the WPA. He indicated that he would follow in general the policy established by Hopkins. He said several things of special interest:

"Let me say that, although the construction part of the program has always been the largest part of it, I am well aware that there are many capable people on the relief rolls who are not construction workers but white-collar workers. And for these white-collar workers there will continue to be due provision made, within the limits of our funds.

"There is, in particular, no reason to fear that workers in the field of the arts will be neglected. These workers, though a very small proportion of our total employment, have as musicians, artists, actors and writers, made a large and significant contribution to public needs, which is deeply appreciated. The Works Progress Administration is proud of having had the opportunity to place their abilities and training at the service of the public.

NO POLITICS

"We want these (WPA) jobs to go without any partisan bloc or political coercion to the people who really need them, the people that Congress intended to have such emergency employment.

"The right of jobless men and women to public employment is a right which is just being established in America. For its preservation as an element of future public policy, I want to urge that it is now and henceforth up to every WPA worker to put in a good day's work for his day's pay—just as good a day's work as he can, whatever his rate of pay may be."

ECCLES SPEECH

A third public official spoke up strongly for the unemployed when Marriner S. Eccles, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, concluded a recent radio speech by saying:

"We did not hesitate to have the government borrow billions of dollars to protect this country against a foreign enemy during the World War. In one year alone we created a deficit of $13,000,000,000, as much as the entire cash deficit of the government during the past five years. We are again proposing to spend billions for preparedness. Yet at the same time, many are quibbling about $150,000,000 necessary to help protect our human resources.

CREDIT FOR HUMANS

"The danger for the future of democracy comes from within as well as from without. The leadership of this country, both in government and in business, must realize that if the American liberal tradition is to be preserved, then, for the millions of our citizens, the right to work must also be preserved."

Hearst Strikers Resist Gangsters, Lawsuits; Brophy to Address Meet

CHICAGO.—Members of AFL unions, railway brotherhoods and independent organizations joined forces with the Chicago CIO this week to protest the drastic labor injunction issued by Superior Court Judge G. C. Niemeyer against Chicago Newspaper Guildsmen on the Hearst-owned Evening American Herald-Examiner.

Apparently designed to demoralize the successful 10-week strike, the temporary writ restrains the strikers from virtually everything but breathing, Guild leaders charged. Nevertheless, strike activities continued as usual.

The writ prohibits "intimidation or coercion" of advertisers, subscribers, scabs, and bans the picketing of advertising. It also limits the picketing at the plant to two strikers at each entrance.

Meanwhile, Jonathan Eddy, American Newspaper Guild executive vice-president, summoned representatives from all Hearst units throughout the country to meet here March 1 to map coordinated action in the strike.

Evidence that the Guild's spirit is still strong was seen in the mass meeting scheduled for a hall seating almost 4,000 people. John Brophy, CIO national director who was to address the gathering, commented:

BROPHY SPEECH

"We in the CIO know Hearst, and we know his like-minded colleagues, the Tom Girdlers and Henry Fords and Ernest Weirs of American industry. We know them as enemies of labor and enemies of democracy and of everything that stands for freedom and decency in our country.

"Only two things have motivated Hearst — the desire for money and the lust for power. He has used a great chain of newspapers, magazines, radio stations, and other enormously lucrative properties, to gratify these two desires.

"The fight against Hearst and every other anti-labor, anti-democratic, anti-American employer will go on to victory. The forces of decency and progress have never yet lost a decisive battle in this country."

Hearst thugs and Hearst lawyers accounted for the new battles on the Guild, with the work about evenly divided between the two.

After stealing a Guild sound truck from its garage and dumping it in the Chicago River — with damages amounting to $500—the Hearst goons chose Joe Ingrassia, diminutive copyboy, for their latest beating.

He was struck viciously in the nose by one, George Roth, who had walked into the middle of the picket line to make the attack. Police rushed into the fray, escorting the gangster back to the Hearst building and arresting his victim on a disorderly conduct charge.

When Ingrassia later filed a disorderly conduct charge against Roth, however, the Chicago cops decided to make the arrest.

$50,000 SUIT

Turning to the law, Hearst management filed a $50,000 damage suit against the Chicago Guild, some of its officers and a number of citizens who have supported the strike.

In the suit the publisher finally admitted that the Guild has cut into his advertising income and circulation.

STEVENS' COMMENT

From Don Stevens, executive secretary of the Chicago Guild, came the following statement:

"Fifty thousand dollars! Who —us? That's only the salary of one of the droves of 'executives' maintained by Hearst papers which declare they have to fire $16-a-week copyboys to make both ends meet."

Launch Drive To Protect Wagner Act

Continued from Page Three

stand — leaving a wide loophole for dishonest labor practices.

This is described as one of the worst features of the Walsh-Green bill, which would destroy the Act and "destroy with it all the benefits which members of the CIO and the AFL alike have enjoyed under its protection."

Prompted by "blind hatred" of the CIO, the pamphlet explains, Green proposes to allow splinter craft union representation anywhere it is demanded.

Under this proposal, it points out, craft certification must be granted at the request of one employe, of the employer or even of many company unions.

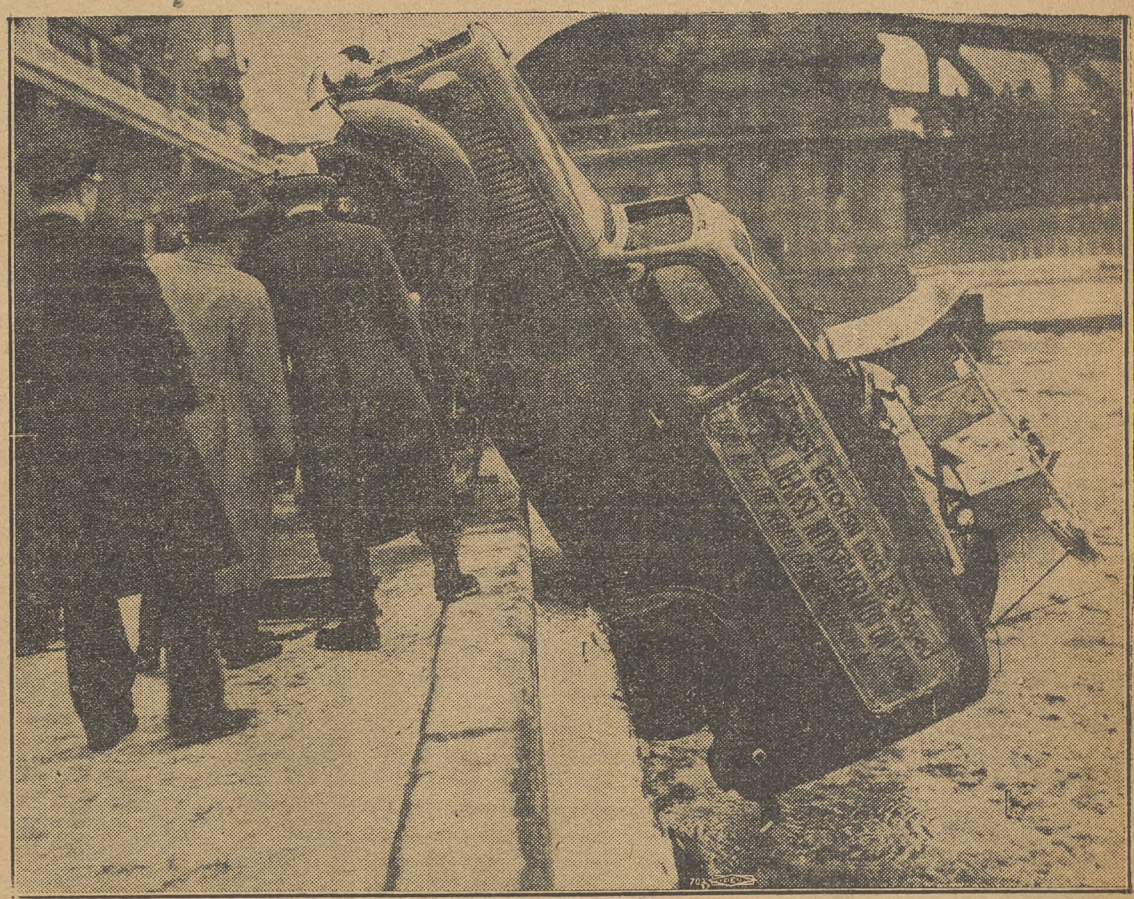
CRAFT UNITS

Mere requests would force the Board to divide the plant up into crafts — even though there were no unions claiming jurisdiction over the units involved.

Another serious threat to organization of any kind is contained in the proposal to allow employers to call elections at will. Under this scheme, an employer could call a snap election the minute an organizer appeared in his plant, and then declare with full legal backing that his workers didn't want to be organized.

Copies can be obtained from the national CIO office, 1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W. Washington, D. C. Prices are three cents each, $1.50 for 100, $6 for 500, $11 per 1,000.

Hearst Work



Members of the Chicago Newspaper Guild look on as their $1750 sound truck is pulled out of the Chicago River, where it had been dumped by Hearst gunmen who stole it from a garage. The truck, which will be repaired immediately, was used to tell the Windy City about the Guild's strike against the Hearst-owned American and Herald-Examiner.

French Labor Paper Hails Success of CIO

Washington — The CIO's Pittsburgh convention was "an important date in the history of the workers of America, and perhaps even in the history of workers throughout the entire world," comments Syndicats, official organ of the French labor movement.

The paper devoted two columns of its space to a description of the meeting. The industrial unionism of the CIO receives great respect from the French workers, most of whose unions are industrial in form.

"One things appears certain," the Syndicat's story comments, "the American workers' movement will not abandon organization through industrial unions. It has found great advantages in them . . . Labor unity is dependent, not merely on an end to personal conflicts, but rather on a greater comprehension on the part of the old AFL of the evolution of the modern world."

Auto Locals Back CIO, Rap Martin

Vast Majority Of Members Hit Disrupters

By EDWARD LEVINSON

DETROIT.—The auto workers of the nation have made their decision.

UAW local unions with a total membership of 237,585 have voted:

1. To stand by UAW and the CIO.

2. To send delegates to the official convention to be held in Cleveland starting March 27.

The huge total, representing an overwhelming majority of the UAW membership, took their decisions in membership meetings and through duly elected executive boards. Enthusiasm for the UAW-CIO and the Cleveland convention ran high at all meetings.

On Sunday alone, locals with a total membership of 74,200 voted to send delegates to Cleveland. Where spokesmen of dual unionism appeared, they were given a hearing—and a handful of votes.

237,585 VOTE

The decisions of the 237,585 members came from 92 UAW locals. These were the decisions reported up to Wednesday evening, February 8. Most of the other locals were still to meet.

Four locals are reported to have decided to attend a dual union session in Detroit, but they have not informed UAW headquarters of their decision.

MARTIN IN RETREAT

Facing extermination by the tidal wave of support for the official Cleveland convention, sponsors of the Detroit gathering were considering abandoning their venture. The spokesmen for the dual unionists on Tuesday pleaded for a referendum after both conventions.

These are some of the locals which have voted for the UAW-CIO and the Cleveland convention in the last seven days:

LOCALS ON RECORD

GM, California, 2200 members; GM, Atlanta, Ga., 1,500; Studebaker, Ind., 6,200; Bendix, Ind., 3,600; Briggs, Detroit, 23,000; West Side, Detroit, 30,000; Chrysler, Detroit, 13,000; Plymouth, Detroit, 8,000; Dodge, Detroit, 22,000; Budd Wheel, Detroit, 2,200; Buick, Flint, 8,000; Seamen Body, Milwaukee, 4,000; GM, Cleveland, 6,000; White Motors, Cleveland, 3,500.

When the returns of the week were tallied, it was found that every large Detroit Local, that all Cleveland Locals, that every local in Canada, and virtually all in Indiana and California had gone down the line against disruption and for the Cleveland convention.

International headquarters in the Fort Shelby Hotel meanwhile directed a large corp of UAW organizers, backed by CIO leaders, in their activities to win the locals which have not yet voted.

Summing up the situation to date, President Thomas on Friday issued this statement to UAW members:

"The auto workers have again made history. Faced by a barrage of unscrupulous baiting and misleading propaganda, they have kept their feet on the ground. They have refused to lend themselves to help split the UAW.

SUPPORT DEMOCRACY

"I urge all members whose locals have not acted, and those who have been misled by the appeals of a disruptionist, to consider carefully their future action.

"On the one-side, we have an individual who would split the UAW and turn it against the CIO. He would rob the auto union of all its contacts with the labor movement. On the other side, is a legal democratic convention of the UAW where its members may take hold of their union and rebuild it on firm, progressive lines."

Ask Probe Of Ford, Martin

Detroit — The executive board of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, has gone on record asking for continuance of the La-Follette committee, at the same time requesting an investigation into "collusion between Homer Martin and the Ford Motor Co.

The resolution noted that at one time the committee had started a probe of Ford practices, but the "refusal of Homer Martin to cooperate with the investigators made it impossible for them to complete their work."

RAP AMENDMENTS

New York — Amendments proposed by the AFL leaders and big business to alter the Wagner Act are "either unnecessary or dangerous to the fundamental purposes of the act," the American Civil Liberties Union announced after a study of the suggested changes.

Murray, Hillman Flay Martin As 'Irresponsible'

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON—Homer Martin's record is one of repeated repudiation of promises and "chaotic, irresponsible dealings with the membership," CIO Vice-Presidents Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman declared this week in a letter addressed to the members of the United Automobile Workers.

"We have reluctantly been forced to the conclusion that Martin does not care for the continued existence of an automobile union unless he can exercise his dictator-mania in running the organization," the two veteran CIO leaders said.

"His chaotic, irresponsible dealings with his membership, with the UAW board and with the CIO are not merely temporary lapses from reason. They are the natural expressions of a man whose ruthless ambition drives him to wreck what he cannot rule."

REPORT CITES FACTS

The charges are backed up with a long recital of facts to show how the former head of the UAW broke down every effort to bring unity to the automobile workers.

After reciting the help given by the CIO to the creation of the first powerful union in the automobile industry, Hillman and Murray recalled that the "co-ordinating committee of the UAW and the CIO was created at the request of Homer Martin. The entire executive board of the UAW voted approval."

SUPPORTED COMMITTEE

Martin, who in his present desperation is accusing the CIO of "dictatorship" in the union's troubled affairs, said last September:

"During the past week, an agreement was reached between the UAW and the representatives of the CIO that recognizes once and for all the autonomy of our union. The UAW stands today, as throughout its history, as an autonomous union."

The keynote of the committee's work, the CIO vice-presidents declare, "was the elimination of factionalism" in the organization. In doing so, they show, the committee acted against all political factions which were using the union for their own purposes, and allowed no favoritism.

The committee's recommendations were accepted at the auto union's board meeting in Pittsburgh Nov. 19-20. Martin, addressing the board, asserted that "we have come a long way in reaching an understanding," and highly praised the work of Murray, Hillman and the CIO.

Yet, on Dec. 31, Martin suddenly reversed himself and attacked the coordinating committee as taking away the union's autonomy.

'CONTRADICTIONS'

Martin's "violent contradictions, his back-tracking, and back-biting in the public press and over the radio are hard to understand," the vice-president's letter says. "We find it even more difficult to make sense out of his actions."

Ford's executive, Harry Bennett, and Martin had been conducting secret negotiations. When the union's executive board—the highest body in the organization, according to the UAW constitution—attempted to learn what Martin had been discussing with Ford, he refused to divulge his secrets.

Said Hillman and Murray: "He remained away from a board meeting . . . While the board was in session, he asked the CIO members of the co-ordinating committee to come to Detroit.

"At first, we insisted that the board and Martin attempt to settle their own problems. But Martin insisted. He called one of us by long distance telephone.

AT MARTIN'S REQUEST

"We went to Detroit at his request. Soon after, he denounced us for doing so.

"Martin demanded a special convention. We urged the board to grant that request. It complied, and Martin was instructed to call a convention at the first legal date under the UAW constitution.

"But, after the authority was granted, Martin refused to issue the call. When the board itself called a convention to be held in Cleveland on March 27, Martin turned about and summoned a group to meet in a rump, dual-union convention in Detroit."

The letter concludes with an appeal to the auto workers to "turn away from the disrupters and the dual unionists. The CIO will be behind you."

Blast Martin

CIO Vice-Presidents Philip Murray (left) and Sidney Hillman (right), who in an open letter to the membership of the United Automobile Workers showed proof of Homer Martin's double crosses. They charged him with attempting to split the union rather than give up his aims at dictatorship.

Sees Nazi 'Labor Front' Enslaving Workers

NEW YORK—Germany's millions of workers are "little better than slaves in the drive for rearmament.

"Strikes are forbidden.

"The workers are no longer free to move from town to town, plant to plant, even job to job.

"A man may change his situation only if the change fits into the aims of the regime. No employer is permitted to hire any employe without the explicit consent of the official labor exchange.

"According to a decree of February, 1937, 'the individual's ambition or desires are subservient to the state's interests.' "

This is the picture of Adolph Hitler's widely touted "Labor Front" painted in the February issue of the Survey Graphic Magazine. The issue, titled "Calling America," contains articles by a score of prominent writers and describes the challenge to American democracy from the dictator nations.

The article, written by Arthur Feiler, tells of the demise of the powerful German labor movement at the hands of the Nazi Party, and the substitution of the Labor Front.

KILLS FREEDOM

That organization, Feiler says, "in plan and in activities, is the very negation of freedom. It is a creation of the National Socialist Party, not of labor.

"It's function is the 'guidance of man'—molding its millions of members to Nazi patterns by incessant propaganda. It's membership, even larger than that of the trade unions, was swiftly enrolled under pressure of the dictatorial party, which could answer every refusal to join up by the refusal of a job.

"The means of compulsion are simple: no job, no relief, no bread for the obstinate. During the September, 1938, crisis, tens of thousands of workers were requisitioned from industry, and without even time to say good-bye to their wives and children, they were loaded into special trains and sent to work on the fortifications along Germany's western frontier."

Collective bargaining has been replaced by government decrees. Workers are forbidden to ask higher wages, employers prohibiting higher pay than the government permits.

Hourly wage rates have been kept rigid—but prices have risen, so that the workers' purchasing power has been cut since Hitler came into power in 1933. At the same time, the old 48-hour work-week is being increasingly supplanted by the 60-hour week.

UNDERGROUND FIGHT

Though the armaments program has, to a certain extent, absorbed some of Germany's unemployed, the German people, "and particularly German labor, have experienced the real meaning of Fascist security, the price that it exacts," Feiler charges.

"For the most part, German labor has been silenced, browbeaten into despairing submission, shorn of hope by the destruction of freedom. . . Others have not yielded. They continue to fight for their old beliefs, and that the fight must be kept underground makes it no less heroic."

New Homes For Old

A department dealing with the need for better housing and how to obtain it, conducted by the CIO Committee on Housing.

By THOMAS HUMPHRIES

"There are no slums in this town!"

This is the old refrain that the opponents of low-rent public housing always sing.

"Oh yes, there are slums in New York!" they declare. "There are slums in many cities. But in our city? The idea! We have no slums!"

A few years ago it was hard to answer this argument. There were not many cities where housing surveys had been made. There were not many facts and figures to show how bad housing conditions really were.

WE HAVE THE FACTS

But today we have the facts and figures. We have them in a neat volume recently published by the WPA; "Urban Housing."

During the years of 1934, 1935, and 1936 WPA workers went from door to door making Real Property Inventories in 204 cities and towns. From time to time the results were published separately. The figures on 64 cities were presented in separate bulletins. And just a few weeks ago "Urban Housing"—which presents complete figures on housing in 140 cities—came off the press.

VALUABLE INFORMATION

Eight million homes were covered in the WPA's 204 surveys. And of this number only 40 per cent were considered in good condition!

More than 15 per cent had no private flush toilets. About 20 per cent were without private bath or shower. More than 16 per cent were either in need of major repairs or absolutely unfit for human habitation.

Interesting regional differences are brought out. In Southeastern cities, for instance more than 40 per cent of the dwellings lack private baths, 32 per cent have no private indoor toilets, and 25 per cent have no gas or electric lighting.

HOW ABOUT YOUR CITY?

Do you live in Akron? If you do, you can look up Akron in the index of "Urban Housing," turn to the proper page and find out that over 45 per cent of the dwellings in Akron are unfit for use or need major repairs.

Do you live in Kansas City? Thumb the pages of "Urban Housing" and you'll find that practically half the dwellings in your city have no private indoor toilet or private bath.

Do you live in Bethlehem, Pa? Look up Bethlehem in "Urban Housing" and you'll discover that 1 out of every 4 homes in Bethlehem has no hot water.

GET A COPY

A copy of "Urban Housing" belongs in the office of every CIO international union, and industrial union council. A copy belongs in the home of every CIO'er who is interested in housing.

"Urban Housing" is easy to get. Merely write to the Division of Social Research, WPA, Washington, and they will send you a copy. Enclose no money. The book is free.

To get figures on the 64 cities which are not included in "Urban Housing," write to the Government Printing Office, enclose 10 cents and ask for the Real Property Inventory pamphlet on the city in which you are interested.

Texas Unions Unite; Charge Dictatorship O'Daniel's Goal

HOUSTON, Texas—Rapid-fire development of anti-labor events in this state has inspired quick action in the formation of joint committees of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, the American Federation of Labor and the railway brotherhoods, to protect the workers' rights in Texas.

Less than a month ago, the Texas State Industrial Council, the Harris county and city councils, inaugurated a "labor unity" movement which aimed at joint action by the three big legitimate unions in legislative matters which would benefit labor generally.

Actions detrimental to labor unions by Texas' new governor, W. Lee O'Daniel, the hill-billy flour merchant and stooge of "Big Business" interests, have moulded the three groups closer together than ever before.

SEE DANGER AHEAD

Labor leaders have come to consider that Governor O'Daniel is attempting to set up an "industrial dictatorship" regime at the State Capitol, and its initial aim is to make Texas a company union state.

By putting Kunschick, a minor clerk for the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, into the Labor Commissioner's office, Governor O'Daniel was seen as paving the way for a concerted company union drive to destroy all bonafide unions.

The confirmation of Kunschick was high-handed and without regard to thousands of protests against the appointment.

RED-BAITING

The committee hearings were veiled in secrecy and were not open to the public. The hearings were branded as un-American and undemocratic.

B. J. Schafer, vice-president of the Oil Workers' International, who appeared before the Senate committee, as a delegate from the CIO, has charged several of the nominations committee members with being a part of "red-baiting tribunal."

"Instead of getting down to the Kunschick issue, the committee cros--examined me on how I voted, whether I voted a straight ticket, and whether I had ever voted the Communist ticket," he charged.

P. F. Kennedy, executive secretary of the State CIO council, gave warning that Governor O'Daniel is attempting to wreck organized labor.

"He is proving himself to be incapable and incompetent for a high office. His every action thus far has been detrimental to the welfare of the working people. He is working hand in hand with the oil and sulphur corporations to unload the taxation burden on the working people, and in effect will set up an industrial dictatorship."

Tells All

The life of a burlesque girl isn't all it's cracked up to be, Gypsy Rose Lee, who ought to know, told members of the Department Store Employes Union, CIO, at a big New York meeting. She told of improved conditions, however, since members of the shows joined a union.

Start Parley To End Long Guild Strike

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.—Negotiations between publishers of the three strike-bound dailies and the Newspaper Guild opened here during the week towards arriving at a contract to end the 20-week-old walkout which has kept the dailies closed tight since October 3rd of last year.

The jurisdictional squabble back of which the publishers stalled has been eliminated with the announcement that the AFL Office Workers' Union—organized 19 days after the strike—had voted to disband and its membership join the Guild. The CIO Guild now has a 95 per cent majority in all plants.

The Office Workers' Union at the same time withdrew its Labor Board petition seeking jurisdiction settled, as did the Newspaper Guild withdraw three charges against the publishers for unfair labor practices. This was done to wipe out all existing "legalisms" over which the publishers have haggled for months.

NEGOTIATIONS

Counter - propositions between publishers and Guild have already been exchanged, and three-man Guild executive board committees are conducting separate negotiations with each of the publishers. Joint negotiations in the past have proven to be stumbling blocks towards quick progress.

Meanwhile, the Sunday Independent, which signed a Guild contract November 29, 1938, has doubled its circulation and boosted its advertising revenue in the past three weeks since the printers' union decided to reverse a previous stand and return to work.

Textile Union Holds First State Confab In South Carolina

GREENVILLE, S. C.—At the first state-wide conference of CIO textile unions in South Carolina, more than 400 local union officials and key members of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee from some 45 textile centers heard reports of the big gains made in recent months.

George Baldanzi, acting president of the CIO textile unions in his speech to the conference scored Francis J. Gorman, deposed president, for his attempt to form a dual AFL union.

"The textile workers of the South are aware of the fact that the AFL, after 54 years' failure, could point to no substantial gains for the textile workers in the form of higher wages or better working conditions," he said.

Referring to a recent announcement by George Googe, AFL general organizer, that the AFL was opening a campaign to organize the textile workers into AFL unions on a ten-year plan, Baldanzi cried:

"If the AFL could not organize the workers on a 54-year plan, there is little hope that it will be successful in building any worthwhile national union in ten short years." Delegates stood and roared their approval.

LAWRENCE PRESIDES

Roy Lawrence, TWOC regional director in the South, presided at the meeting, opening the session with a short talk on the gains made since the TWOC started its southern organizing drive.

More than 300,000 textile workers have been brought under contract, while 150,000 union members are awaiting the signing of agreements with their plants, and thousands of others have signed membership cards.

The conference unanimously pledged its allegiance to the TWOC in its efforts to bring all unorganized textile workers in the state into the CIO, and warned the AFL that the TWOC would militantly resist any efforts to destroy the unions it has formed.

New Film Shows Slavery in South

New York — Slavery 1939 style is the theme of "Boy Slaves," a movie produced by RKO-Radio, which deals with forced labor in the turpentine camps of the South.

One of the few pictures to come out of Hollywood with a plot woven about the conflicts of working class life in America, the film tells the story of a group of homeless boys of the road who are arrested and farmed out by officers of the law to work in a turpentine camp.

Under the gun and lash of the overseer, they are forced to labor from dawn to dark behind a barbed wire fence, portraying the fact that in America, too, there are concentration camps.

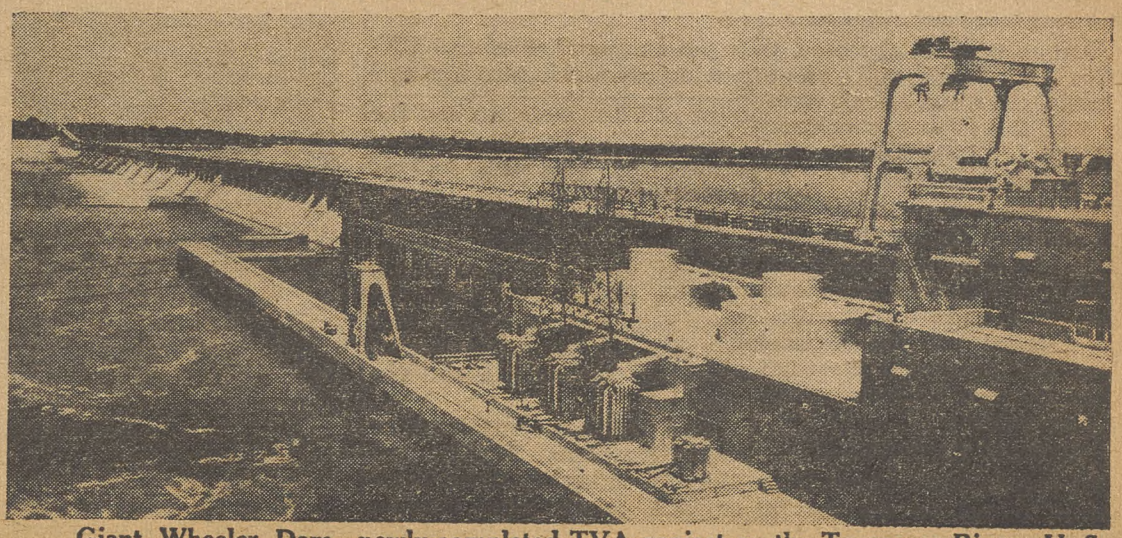
Mrs. Roosevelt, who saw the picture recently, commended it highly in her newspaper column.

CIO Pact Ends Bus Strike Threat

New York—The signing of a closed shop contract between the Transport Workers Union, CIO, and the East Side Omnibus and Comprehensive Omnibus Corporations, averted a strike of 400 bus drivers which threatened to tie-up surface transportation lines throughout the mid-town and lower east side sections of the city.

Pay increases ranging from 8 to 18 per cent, two weeks paid vacations, seven days sick leave with pay, and adjustment of present working rules are included in the contract which is retroactive to January 1, 1939, and is to run until January 1, 1941.

Constitutional!



Giant Wheeler Dam, newly-completed TVA project on the Tennessee River. U. S. Supreme Court gave its blessing to TVA when it dismissed a suit brought by powerful utility interests.

Marine Union Asks Security for Seamen

Czar In Eclipse

Mayor Frank Hague, whose attack on civil liberties in New Jersey has been declared unconstitutional by two federal courts, now is making a desperate appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court. Predictions are that he'll lose.

Associated Farmers Charged With Evasion Of Oregon Law

Portland, Oreg. (FP)—Officers of the Associated Farmers of Oregon, Inc., anti-labor group which fronted for business and finance in putting over Oregon's anti-labor law in the November election, faces indictment by the Marion County grand jury on charges of violating the corrupt practices act by concealing the sources of campaign contributions.

More than $32,000 of the reported contributions filed with the secretary of state were listed as having come from the Oregon Business Council, an entirely fictitious and non-existing organization. Repeated requests from Sec. of State Earl Snell for an itemization of that huge sum were ignored by Howard L. Shoemaker of Hood River, president, and other officers of the outfit.

Atty. Gen. I. H. Van Winkle and Snell have filed a complaint with the grand jury and have asked for indictments. The Oregon Commonwealth Federation, the State CIO Industrial Union Council and the federation of labor had urged that this action be taken.

HOLD HEARINGS

Washington. — Hearings were held before the National Labor Relations Board here last week on the application of the Aluminum Workers of America, CIO, for a run-off election among the workers of the Aluminum Co. of America at the Alcoa, Tenn. plant. Three unions, the CIO local, an AFL local and an independent union competed at the election held some weeks ago, none receiving a majority at that time.

Tobacco Workers Press Fight on Lorillard

MIDDLETOWN, Ohio—A renewed drive to win labor support for its fight with P. Lorillard & Co., cigar, cigarette and tobacco producers, has been launched by Pioneer Tobacco Workers local industrial union 55.

Unique posters, designed with the cooperation of the CIO office in Cincinnati, will be sent to union councils in all states and principal cities, will inform workers that the company's products including Old Gold cigarettes, are on the "unfair list."

The multi-million dollar firm was placed on the list during the course of a month-long strike last October, which was terminated only when strike-breaking Gov. Davey called out the national guard and threatened bloodshed if the thousand workers continued their walkout.

REFUSE TO BARGAIN

The dispute was a climax to 16 months' refusal on the part of the company management to bargain collectively with its employes. Efforts of U. S. Department of Labor mediators and the National Labor Relations Board to change the company's attitude were unsuccessful.

An indication that the company recognizes the union's strength was seen when it offered a week's vacation with pay to every employe with a year's service. This had been proposed in the contract offered by the union almost two years ago.

The company produces Old Gold, Sensation, Murad, and Tally-Ho cigarettes; Union Leader and Briggs pipe tobacco; Beechnut chewing tobacco, Climax plug, and a number of other products.

Draws Up Program At Confab

Washington.—Social security for seamen, protection of union hiring halls, revision of ancient mutiny laws, the eight-hour day and licensing of radio operators are principal items on the legislative program announced by Atlantic coast representatives of the National Maritime Union, CIO.

The program was drawn up at a conference of port agents of the NMU on the Atlantic coast and members of the District Committee of the NMU, held in Washington, and was presented in resolutions passed by the delegates.

SUPPORT HIRING HALLS

The resolution on social security urged Congress to pass a bill to include seamen under unemployment compensation and old age benefits, pointing out that many thousands of seamen were unemployed and completely without protection from unemployment and old age.

On protection of hiring halls, the conference condemned the practice of private shipowners who lease ships from the U. S. Maritime Commission of refusing to hire through union halls. These halls were described by the conference as operating "to the satisfaction of the unions and the employers, and as a means of alleviating and distributing as fairly as possible the present heavy burden of unemployment among American seamen."

HIT "MUTINY" LAWS

This resolution also pointed out that seamen should be ensured the benefits of the National Labor Relations Act and the right to choose their own collective bargaining agent without interference from shipowners or the U. S. Maritime Commission.

On revision of old "mutiny" statutes, the conference demanded revisions to ensure seamen against reprisals for strikes occurring while ships are at anchor in safe harbors. The conference voted full support for the bills introduced by Rep. William I. Sirovich which would accomplish these needed changes.

Plates and Crowns Scab-Made; Union Pickets Dentist

NEW YORK—Members of the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians are fighting for the right to picket a dentist who is purchasing dental plates, crowns and other similar materials at a shop whose employes have been locked out.

Officials of the CIO union maintain that a dentist who has his clients' mechanical dental work manufactured in a dental laboratory is merely selling a product to his patients and that the union therefore has a right to acquaint the public with the facts.

The shop involved in the lockout — Dental Arts Laboratories, Inc. — opened its fight on the FAECT last October, a few weeks before the expiration of its first union contract. Before the agreement, its employes received as little as $6 for a 60- and 70-hour work week.

The State Labor Mediation Board, after a four-week hearing, recommended arbitration, but the employer refused to accept the suggestion.

Ask Probe of Tories, Bridges Challenges Frisco Bosses

SAN FRANCISCO.—The head of the tightly-knit San Francisco Employers Council has been challenged by Harry Bridges, CIO west coast director, to join him in a plea for more funds for the LaFollette Committee.

The challenge was Bridges' answer to a speech by Almon E. Roth, in which the employers' leader had various complaints to make against union labor.

"The LaFollette committee has already declared that the shipowners have undercover agents in our ranks. If that committee is granted sufficient funds to hold its scheduled hearings in San Francisco, it will prove beyond the shadow of a doubt that these charges are correct.

"I challenge Mr. Roth right now to join us in urging the Senate to grant the LaFollette Committee sufficient funds to complete their work in California. That committee, in its first report, states clearly and gives ample evidence to show that peaceful industrial relations are impossible so long as the employer has a single spy or disrupter in the union.

"Poor wages, bad conditions of work, and employer disruption through under-cover agents are the basis of all so-called 'Labor trouble.' As long as those things exist the trouble is bound to follow."

Learning Early

These Kenosha, Wis. tots are learning early that picketing gets results. They reached for their placards when members of the city school board closed their school, forcing them to walk many extra blocks to their classes.

Unions Back Workers School Conference

New York — "Labor Learns Through Action" is to be the subject of the annual Washington's Birthday conference of teachers in workers' education which will be held at the headquarters of the Affiliated Schools for Workers, 302 East 35 Street, New York City, February 18-19.

In announcing the conference, Miss Eleanor Coit, director of the AFS, said: "In line with modern trends, workers' education has stepped out of the academic atmosphere of the past into the active world of reality, becoming a vital part of the union itself."

Eighteen organizations, including the Textile Workers Organizing Committee, the Steel Workers' Organizing Committee, the United Rubber Workers and the American Federation of Hosiery Workers,

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 8 | February 20, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

AFL UNIONS JOIN WITH CIO TO PRESERVE WAGNER ACT

Bethlehem Fake Union Killed By Labor Board

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18—Two more company unions today were headed for the dump-heap, following an order issued by the National Labor Relations Board against the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corp. yards in Boston and Fore River, Mass.

The company is a subsidiary of the Bethlehem Steel Corp., and its chief executive is Eugene Grace, who holds a similar position with the Little Steel firm.

The Board's order directed the firm to stop financial support to the long-established employe representation plans operating in the two plants, and to withdraw recognition from them.

NAMED AS AGENTS

Local 25 of the Industrial Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers in Boston was named sole barganiing agent in the yard there, and the company was directed to start collective bargaining with the CIO, signing a contract if an agreement is reached.

The Board ordered an election to be held at the Fore River plant to determine if Local 5 of the IUMSWA should be the sole collective bargaining agency there.

Some 4,000 workers are employed in the big Fore River yards, located just a few miles south of Boston.

The company's plan of employe representation was "furnished and installed in its entirety by the management," the Board order declared.

PLAN 'VITAL' TO GRACE

It quoted a statement made by Pres. Grace of the company in 1933, when he said that, "at its inception I stated that our plan would be made an integral part of our business. That this has been done is evidenced by the important place it has come to occupy in our current affairs.

"The Plan has become vital in the administration of our business."

Biggest Housing Project To Be 'Union-Designed'

New York, Feb. 18.—America's largest housing project will be union designed and union engineered, the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians, CIO, revealed today.

The union has just won an agreement covering architects, engineers and draftsmen working on the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co's new project for New York's upper Bronx.

The project, which will eventually house 12,000 families, cost close to $100,000,000 and will require several years to complete.

LaFollette Committee Reports

See Page 6

Nationwide Fight Against Amendments

(See Other Stories on Pages 3, 5 and 7)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18 — The campaign to protect the Wagner Act from crippling amendments offered by leaders of the AFL and other Tory groups, went ahead at full speed this week.

On Capitol Hill, Congressmen privately spoke of great numbers of communications against changing the law, with one western Senator quoted as having received only three letters to amend the bill. AFL and CIO unions alike are fighting to save the law which has given labor its greatest benefits.

The American Newspaper Guild, in a survey of the situation, found that 13 AFL international unions have already gone on record to support the Act, while countless state and city bodies and local unions have taken similar action.

Other major developments of the week:

1. Msgr. Haas, one of the nation's leading Catholics, urged all Catholics to support the Wagner Act and to fight against amendments aimed to cripple it.

2. **The National Lawyers Guild, representing over 5,000 lawyers, went on record against amendments.**

3. Before fighting the Act, employers should realize the benefits which it has brought to employers as well as to workers, CIO Sec. James B. Carey declared.

4. **The Act has averted scores of strikes and saved thousands of man-hours of work, commented Pres. Sherman Dalrymple of the United Rubber Workers.**

5. The fight against the Act, both in the political arena and in factories throughout the country, is "dangerous" to labor, Pres. Reid Robinson of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers warned members of his organization.

6. **More than 125,000 maritime workers will work actively against crippling the Act, Pres. Joseph Curran of the National Maritime Union predicted in New York City.**

7. Sen. David Walsh of Massachusetts, who sponsored the AFL amendments in Congress (Senate Bill 1000) was warned that the 55,000 CIO members in the Bay State will fight his efforts to smash industrial unionism, Pres. James Nelson of District 50 of the United Mine Workers said in a letter to the Massachusetts legislator.

8. **Louis Waldman, prominent New York attorney and counsel for a number of important AFL unions, warned Pres. Green of the AFL that the executive council's proposed amendments "carry with them great danger to the labor movement."**

Strikers Answer Hearst

Once again striking members of the Chicago Newspaper Guild march through the city's loop district to tell the public about their strike and shout defiance to Hearst's gangster and legal strikebreaking tactics. Circulation and advertising in the American and Herald-Examiner have dropped sharply.

AFL Heads Join War On New Deal Policies

MIAMI, Fla., Feb. 18—The executive council of the American Federation of Labor, winding up its annual sun-bath session here, was on record today as sharply opposed to the New Deal's spending and relief policies.

A similar blast against the New Deal was howled down, it is recalled, at the federation's convention in Houston, Tex., last autumn.

The message referred to the government's relief expenditures as merely a "temporary" device and echoed big business's continued campaign against "fear, a lack of confidence and distrust in governmental, social, and economic procedure."

AGAINST PROFITS TAX

Pres. Green added his bit to the statement during a press conference shortly afterward. He said: "There has been strong complaint against the excess profits tax for one thing. We believe its repeal would help."

The council's manifesto asserted that if recovery is to be won, "we must turn to private industry for the solution. It should and must serve the nation. Our national interests require that private industry be accorded the widest opportunity to do so . . . Obviously the next step must be the establishment of credit and the will and purpose on the part of the owners of industry to risk, invest, build and construct."

How closely the AFL executive council's leaders are linked with big business is seen in the fact that business leaders have called for destruction or nullification of the New Deal program in order that they may regain the confidence which the AFL leadership sees as necessary.

Four Fruit Packers In Arizona Sign With CIO Union

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18 — Four of the largest fruit and vegetable sheds in Yuma Valley, Arizona, have signed agreements with Local 78, United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers providing for sole bargaining rights and a 10% wage increase.

The employers who have conducted a bitter fight against the union for four years finally recognizing they had lost when the CIO union recently won Labor Board elections in 30 packing sheds in the Yuma and Salt River Valley areas of Arizona.

The agreements also provide for a minimum wage of 60c an hour, equal wages for men and women, time and a half for Sunday and holiday work, pay for waiting time and abolition of the speed-up.

35 POLLS SLATED

Packing shed workers are now migrating to Imperial Valley, California. Some 35 elections have been scheduled to be held there by the Natl. Labor Relations Board. The union is confident of victory in the elections and expects to win signed contracts in this hot-bed of Associated Farmer vigilantism.

The famous lettuce strikes of 1934 were staged in the Imperial Valley. The union has made steady progress there ever since the strike, conducting a campaign against anti-union firms with "hot lettuce" posters.

Labor representatives feel that with the progressive administration in California now in control under the newly elected Gov. Olson, civil liberties of workers will be protected by law for the first time.

Minnesota Dicks Try Come-back

St. Paul, Minn., Feb 18 — Detective agencies whose licenses were revoked by former Gov. Benson are trying to stage a comeback in Minnesota. The Detective agency has already applied for readmission and the Pinkerton agency is expected to follow suit if the Burns license is granted.

The Twin Cities Newspaper Guild went on record as opposed to any renewal of licenses to any "private detective agency whose anti-labor bias has been revealed by the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee."

AFL and CIO Fight Tory Measure

New York, Feb. 18.—Unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor in New York State are joining with the CIO in fighting the Wicks transit labor bill, the legislative department of the Transport Workers Union revealed today.

The TWU contends that the bill, under the pretext of extending civil service, would rob half of the present 29,000 employes on two New York subway and streetcar systems of their jobs, and deprive all the workers involved of seniority and pension benefits, as well as the collective bargaining rights which they have won through the union.

Teamsters, bakery workers, typographical and printing press workers, painters, restaurant employes, sleeping car porters and dining car employes—all of them organized in AFL unions — have gone on record against the bill, the TWU report said.

200 ORGANIZATIONS

"We have received duplicates of resolutions condemning the Wicks bill adopted by more than 200 different organizations in the State, exclusive of the 400 CIO and AFL locals which have already gone on record in opposition to the Wicks Bill," said Austin Hogan, president of the union in New York.

Fifty thousand signatures have already been placed on petitions against the bill, Hogan added.

If successful in passing the bill in the Empire State, anti-laborites may try similar campaigns elsewhere, CIO leaders predicted.

MOONEY ILL

San Francisco. — Tom Mooney, very ill with gall bladder trouble, has been forced to cancel all engagements on the West Coast. After a rest, he will undergo an operation.

Firm Drops Gyp Stock Scheme

Washington, Feb. 18.—Workers at the Associated Gas and Electric system found out today that they won't have to buy securities from the company at prices far above the market rate.

They learned of this when the company, after many complaints from the union, District 50 of the United Mine Workers, notified the Securities Exchange Commission that employes would no longer be required to buy bonds from the company's subsidiary, the Utilities Employes Securities Co.

CHECK-OFF USED

The company had used a 10 per cent check-off on payrolls to force money out of its workers for a weakening financial structure, the CIO union charged. The bonds were sold to workers at prices ranging to 50 per cent above the open market levels.

District 50's 400 members in the System led the fight to end this species of high-jacking, both with the company and before the Securities Exchange Commission of the U. S. Government.

Ask Injunction Against Pay Law Breaker

New York, Feb. 18 — The Wage-Hour Administration of the Department of Labor has filed a civil action in federal district court here charging a Georgia shirt firm with violating the fair labor standards act.

Irving Levy, wage-hour lawyer, sought an injunction from the court to prevent the Trueworth Manufacturing Co. from continuing a policy of paying piece rate wages which net the firm's employes as little as 8c an hour.

Criminal action may be taken against the firm at a later date, Levy said. Under the wage-hour statute, a violator faces a maximum fine of $10,000 and six months' prison term. In addition, employes may file suit for double the amount of wages due them, receiving court costs in addition to the back pay if it wins the case.

Retires

Associate Justice Louis D. Brandeis, who retired last week from the U. S. Supreme Court after 23 years of service as one of the leaders of the liberal wing.

Goodyear Tries New Tricks Against Union

AKRON, Ohio, Feb. 18—Petty tricks to keep from dealing with the Goodyear local of the United Rubber Workers, are still being played on the employes at the plant here by company officials, the CIO charges. Latest of the tricks is the posting of a series of "general practice sheets" on matters taken up during unsuccessful negotiations between the union and the company for a contract.

Negotiations for an agreement were ended last month when the company, after stalling along for months, finally announced that it had decided not to sign a contract "at this time".

POSTED LETTERS

Later, however, it began posting letters containing matters covered in the proposed contract with the wording slightly changed.

Rumors began to be spread around the plant that the union had accepted these sheets as written, and certain foremen were reported to have taunted workers by telling them that was what their union got for them.

FILES PROTEST

In a letter of protest to the company, the union charged that the procedure of posting the notices after refusing to sign an agreement by collective bargaining was an unfair labor practice and that the subject would be submitted to the union "for appropriate action".

The local has already filed charges of violation of the Wagner Act with the National Labor Relations Board, and field examiners have been conducting an investigation in Akron which is expected to be followed by a formal hearing on the charges.

Jersey Senator Rapped On Vote For WPA Cut

PATERSON, N. J., Feb. 18—Sen. Warren Barbour of New Jersey today had an opportunity to think over the cost of voting against the interests of the workers who elected him to office last November when he was opposed by a Hague lieutenant.

The Republican Senator was in receipt of a letter from the state's Labor's Non-Partisan League protesting his vote against Pres. Roosevelt's $875,000,000 WPA proposals.

Barbour, a Republican, was asked by Leo Perlis, LNPL state organizer, to be "independent enough to support all measures of benefit to the people. — even if they may have originated with Pres. Roosevelt and his New Deal associates."

ASK FUTURE SUPPORT

Perlis added, "I hope you will realize the needs of the people by supporting Pres. Roosevelt's request for the immediate restoration of $150,000,000 for the WPA, by supporting the $3,230,000 appropriation for the National Labor Relations Board and by voting against any amendment to the National Labor Relations Act.

"For the sake of security and democracy, I urge you to dis-affiliate yourself from the anti-New Deal-at-any-price movement and to be independent enough to support all measures of benefit to the people."

Plan Labor Seminars

New Haven, Conn., Feb. 18—Three traveling economic seminars in 1939 for ministers, teachers and other civic leaders has been announced by the National Religion and Labor Foundation here.

Seminar 1, opening in Washington, D. C., July 5 for four days of conferences with business, labor and government leaders will proceed by way of Greenbelt and Arthurdale to Harland County, Ky., closing with a visit to the Delta Cooperative Farm at Rochdale, Miss.

Members of Seminar 2 will travel to the Pacific Northwest, visiting Yellowstone Park, Butte. Spokane, Grand Coulee, Seattle, Portland and Bonneville. The third group will open with a five day program in New York City followed by a ten-day trip to New England industrial centers.

LaGuardia Discusses Housing

Mayor F. H. LaGuardia of New York leads discussion of low-cost housing with a group of high school pupils.

Survey Shows AFL Unions Back Wagner Act

(See Other Stories About Drive to Defend the Wagner Act on Page 5)

NEW YORK, Feb. 18—AFL leaders, international unions and state and city bodies are far out of line with William Green's plan to cripple the Wagner Act through amendments such as those proposed in his name by Senator Walsh of Massachusetts.

A recent count, up to date as of Feb. 15, shows 13 international unions, seven state federations and 12 city and district bodies on record in favor of the Act as it stands or in support of the Labor Board.

The count was made by The Guild Reporter, official organ of the American Newspaper Guild, CIO, and quotes convention resolutions, editorials in union papers, and statements by union leaders, opposing changes in the Act or praising it and the Board.

HIGHLIGHTS

The Guild Reporter was only able to give highlights of its survey, since it could not find room to list hundreds of AFL local unions opposed to tinkering with the Act. The list as printed in the Guild paper includes:

Hotel and Restaurant Employes, 175,900 members. (Convention resolution, 1938).

Intl. Typographical Union, 74,900. (Convention resolution, 1938.)

American Federation of Teachers, 22,100. (Convention resolution, 1938.)

Printing Pressmen, 37,200. (Statement of Pres. Berry.)

Intl. Brotherhood of Teamsters, 309,200. (Statement of Pres. Tobin.)

United Brewery Workers, 42,000. (Editorial in The Brewery Worker.)

Intl. Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers, 22,500. (Statement of Vice-Pres. Fromkin.)

Brick and Clay Workers, 5,000. (Statement of Pres. Kasten.)

Intl. Machinists Assn., 190,100. (Statement of Pres. Wharton.)

Intl. Brotherhood of Paper Makers, 16,300. (Statement of Sec-Treas. Huggins.)

Pattern Makers League, 6,800. (Statement of Pres. Lynch.)

Metal Polishers, 7,000. (Statement of Pres. Britton.)

Intl. Molders Union, 27,000. (Statement of Pres. Stevenson.)

DELEGATE BODIES

State bodies on record against changes or praising the Act and the Board include Illinois, Colorado, Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, New Mexico and the Michigan Federation of Typographical Unions.

City and district bodies include Waukesha, Wis.; Cascade, Mont.; Salt Lake City; Dubuque, Ia.; Omaha, Neb.; Detroit and Wayne Co.; Fall River, Mass.; Cincinnati, Denver, Omaha-Council Bluffs Railway and Motor Coach Division, St. Louis, (editorial in AFL paper), and Memphis, (statement of Pres. Loring.)

Mexican Labor Hits AFL Plan

Mexico City, Mexico, Feb. 18— Attempts of William Green and Matthew Woll to revive the discredited Pan-American Federation of Labor were denounced by Lombardo Toledano, leader of the Mexican Confederation of Labor (CTM), as evidence that Green and Woll are in the service of anti-labor, anti-Mexican financial interests.

Toledano sharply criticized Green and Woll in a statement issued to the press in this city when he heard of their proposal.

"These same leaders of the AFL, with the aid of great imperialist trusts, are trying to revive the Pan-American Federation, which had a brief existence 15 years ago and which was always regarded with profound distrust by the workers of the continent," he said.

UNITY, NOT DIVISION

"The Confederation of Latin-American Workers (organized about a year ago at a convention attended by CIO President John L. Lewis) came into being not to divide the workers of the continent, as Green and Woll assert, but to unite workers of the same conditions for the first time in history.

"I know the workers will laugh — as I laughed yesterday — on learning of their statement."

Utility Union Wins In West

Los Angeles, Feb. 18. — A smashing victory was won by the Utility Workers Organizing Committee at a Labor Board election held here among the 1,500 production employes of the Southern California Gas Co.

The vote was 779 to 420 in favor of UWOC Local 132.

Workers flocked to the poll, disregarding the campaign conducted against the election by the company, which sent letters to the homes of the employes telling them that the utility firm did not come under the Wagner Act and did not have to live up to the results of the election.

The last letter sent out in a final feeble attempt to stem the tide said "the CIO loses nothing" if "you vote 'no'."

'AMERICAN WAY'

During its campaign the union told the workers: "When you vote 'yes' you vote for the principle of dealing with the company on matters of wages, hours and working conditions in the good old-fashioned American way of democratic majority rule".

The union's election drive was conducted by the Local's executive and shop stewards committees, headed by President James L. Daugherty and Verne Kennedy, UWOC international representative.

Furniture Union Reports Big Growth In Year; Muster Hails Wagner Act

ROCKFORD, Ill., Feb. 18 — In little more than a year the United Furniture Workers of America, CIO international union, has increased its membership from a few thousand to more than 37,000, President Morris Muster told delegates from locals in 47 furniture centers throughout the country attending the first constitutional convention of the union in session here.

At a mass meeting held in Lyran hall at the close of the first day's session, CIO Director John Brophy, speaking to more than 1200 persons, defended the CIO as a "truly American organization".

Relating the sensational gains made by the industrial union movement, Brophy said:

STRENGTH WILL GROW

"Our very success has caused our enemies to attack us with all their power. But despite their unfounded charges that we are 'reds,' we shall continue to advance. We shall continue to organize the unorganized until every worker in the land has the benefits and protection of collective bargaining.

"What our antagonists mean when they say we are 'reds' is that we are an energetic organization, one that is getting results."

MUSTER RAPS GREEN

Other speakers at the convention vigorously defended the Wagner Act, rebuking AFL President William Green for his attacks on the Act. President Muster declared that "Green's sorry attempt to gain an advance for the AFL has been pounced upon with glee by the national Chamber of Commerce which has gladly joined hands with him in attacking the National Labor Relations Board.

"I am certain that Bill Green will have no difficulty in finding friends among directors of great corporations in the United States to join him in attacking labor's Magna Charta."

In his report to the convention, Muster warned the delegates that unemployment still remains one of the union's biggest problems, and advised them to take an active part in trying to solve unemployment problems in their communities.

He praised Local 707 of Rockford, the second largest union in the UFWA, for its activities along this line.

Adolph Germer, CIO regional director in Michigan and Ray Edmundson, CIO director in Illinois also addressed the delegates.

Bay State CIO Attacks Sen. Walsh

Springfield—Bay State Convention. — In a mass meeting before the convention sessions opened, CIO Secretary James Carey and Director John Brophy accused Sen. David Walsh of Massachusetts of aiding reactionaries to defeat labor. The Bay State's senior senator introduced the bill containing the crippling Wagner Act amendments advocated by some of the AFL top leaders.

"A soft-headed labor leader and a week-kneed senator can be just as dangerous as a hard-hearted employer," Carey warned the delegates.

WARN WALSH

"Senator Walsh must withdraw those amendments or you in his home state must see to it that Walsh doesn't go back to the Senate.

"If you ever saw an instance where a labor union fired the president of a company because he had joined the National Association of Manufacturers, we'd say that an amendment to the act should be presented to correct such a situation."

BROPHY SEES DEAL

Brophy said that a frontal attack of misrepresentation and propaganda against the CIO having failed, anti-labor employers were now trying to accomplish the same ends with different means—namely, amending the Wagner Act.

"All indications point to an out-and-out deal between sponsors of this bill and the forces of reaction." Brophy charged. "Senator Walsh may be unaware of the implications of the amendments, but I can't see what motivated Bill Green unless he has grown so blinded by spite that he will injure his own followers in order to injure the CIO."

Surprise

Washington got a surprise and a laugh when liberal Jerry Voorhis, California New Deal congressman, was appointed to fill the vacancy on the Dies Committee. A strong critic of the committee's activities, he is expected to get in Dies' hair.

Stenos Strut

Kicking up their heels at the fourth annual stenographers' ball in New York City are these three lively members of the United Office & Professional Workers, CIO. Chosen queen of the ball was Toby Futterman (center), who is shown with her ladies in waiting, Marie Hill (left) and Mildred Lord. Needless to say, the dance was a big success.

Shell Signs CIO Pact In West

San Francisco, Feb. 18—Thirty-five hundred employes of the Shell Oil Co. in the state of California today looked forward to working under their first union agreement.

A state-wide contract negotiated by the Oil Workers International Union, CIO, awaited expected ratification by the six participating locals before going into effect.

Pres. Harvey Fremming and O. A. Knight, Fred Phillips and J. C. Coulter, representatives of the international union, led the workers' bargaining group. Shell workers in Hammond, Ind., and Houston, Tex., are already working under contract

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II February 20, 1939 No. 8

Defend Our Liberties!

Detective stories, tales of violence and murder, accounts of battles and dramatic clashes between opposing forces, epics of human bravery and high endeavor—these are among the most popular of reading matter, according to most book and magazine surveys.

In real life, such stories usually rate the front page of most newspapers. But when the drama of current events of this character has social significance, it seems that the sensation-mongers of the press avoid it.

No documents could be more compelling in their human interest, more full of true stories of plots and espionage, of violence and bloodshed, of brave struggles against oppression, than the reports now being issued by the LaFollette-Thomas Senate civil liberties committee.

Yet the press is not full of features and burning editorials on these sensational exposures. The radio and movies all but ignore them. The halls of Congress do not ring with speeches demanding the righting of the wrongs which they reveal.

On the contrary, there is a conspiracy on the part of the forces of reaction to keep silent on the great work which this committee has done, and to let it die for lack of attention.

All the more reason therefore why labor people and all progressives who value our liberties should take it upon themselves to campaign for the continuance of the Senate civil liberties committee, and for the passage of the legislation which it will recommend.

The CIO has sent out a message to all it members, urging that they do all they can to call attention to the splendid service rendered by this committee, and that they get in touch with their Senators for two purposes:

(1) To obtain the passage of such legislation as the LaFollette committee may recommend to control strikebreaking agencies, regulate private police and the traffic in arms, gas and munitions, and protect civil liberties; and

(2) To insure that adequate funds be appropriated so that the committee may complete its present work and go on into new fields where much yet remains to be done.

Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. The Senate civil liberties committee has been vigilant for us; let us be vigilant for it.

Gas and Clubs Instead of Bread

The refusal of Congress to vote the extra $150,000,000 necessary to prevent the removal from WPA rolls of hundreds of thousands of unemployed, is already bearing fruit in preparations to gas and club the jobless who will thus be denied a living.

According to the Washington Post, instruction in use of tear gas and formation of special anti-riot squads has been begun by the police in the nation's capital "with a view to preparing for possible demonstrations protesting the recent slash in WPA funds."

More than 70 top-ranking police officers, it is reported, were summoned by their chief to a conference where "detailed orders were given on the use of tear gas as well as a gas inducing nausea."

While Congress has bucked against voting $150,000,000 to preserve the livelihood of millions of Americans, it shows no similar hesitation about voting many times that amount for war purposes. For airplanes alone for the Army Air Corps as much as $376,000,000 was voted almost unanimously last week.

A similar preference for taking life rather than saving it is also indicated by the current police preparations.

How long is Congress going to continue to be willing that taxpayers' money should be spent to gas and club the unemployed, rather than to remove the causes of mass protest by voting adequate funds to provide jobs for the jobless?

RubberStrike End Is Near

Los Angeles, Feb. 18 — Settlement of the strike of 500 workers at the B. F. Goodrich plant here is reported to be near. Negotiations between Local 43, United Rubber Workers, and the management has resulted in the company's agreeing to re-work its schedule towards retaining the four six-hour shifts in departments where it previously functioned.

The workers went on strike when the management arbitrarily announced that the four six-hour shifts would be changed to three of eight hours each.

The Decoy

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Appeasing The Wolves

WHEN wolves pursued the traveler of olden times, a tactic sometimes pursued was for the driver to throw overboard one of his pals, to appease the wolves.

Neville Chamberlain has brought this tactic up to date in Europe with his policy of appeasing the Fascist powers by giving them a few democracies to devour.

But it is in the United States that some of the latest refinements have been added to the tactic of appeasement. Here we have politicians and even some alleged labor leaders who not only throw loved ones to the wolves, but try yelping like the wolf-pack themselves.

Jackass Tactics

When the Republicans come down like a wolf on the fold, for instance, we have recently seen many of the Democratic sheep in Congress trooping out to join in the foray.

Democratic party leaders, in a recent caucus, had some harsh words to say about the way tory Democrats get into the Republican procession every time an attack is launched on the New Deal.

These tory sons of the jackass seem to think it smart to appease the G.O.P. opposition by sacrificing to it the interests of the unemployed, labor and liberal voters who placed their party in power.

More than that, they try to make their braying sound even more elephantine than the trumpeting of the opposing party.

It is natural, though not exactly social, for hungry wolves to howl for blood. The Republicans might have been expected to launch every possible attack on WPA, the Wagner Labor Relations Act and other phases of the New Deal program.

But what can be said for Democratic members of Congress who vote to slash WPA; who join in the hue and cry against the Wagner Act; and who troop down the aisle after the Republicans to vote for a Dies committee whose main purpose so far seems to have been to smear the Democratic administration and progressive Democratic candidates?

Dessert for Anti-Unionists

The latest, but not the least devout, of the disciples of appeasement are some of the leaders of the AFL.

The successes of labor organization in recent years, which have nearly doubled the country's union membership, have caused an extreme reaction on the part of die-hard anti-union industrialists and political reactionaries generally.

This reaction has taken the form of an intense campaign against the Wagner Act, under whose protection for the right to organize labor has made its most outstanding gains.

To appease these wolves of anti-labor reaction, William Green and some of his associated top leaders of the AFL have bravely decided to sacrifice even unto the last of their loved ones.

In the Walsh amendments to the Wagner Act, which they sponsor, they first of all throw overboard the decisions of the Houston AFL convention. The amendments then propose to sacrifice one by one the interests of both CIO and AFL unions, by depriving them of most of the protection for bona fide unionism which the present act embodies.

Finally, to show the generosity of their spirit of appeasement, the Green-Walsh amendments throw to the anti-union wolves all the trimmings of a good meal, in the form of extra concessions which will be palatable only to labor-fighting bosses.

The Final Touch

The recent executive council meeting of the AFL, however, has added the final touch to the whole policy of wolf-appeasement. It has adopted a statement which says in effect, "Our hearts bleed for the wolves, their philosophy is correct, and their need is great; we demand relief for them."

It may be remembered that Matthew Woll and John P. Frey, at the last AFL convention, brought in a report which called the New Deal "socialistic" and smote it hip and thigh. The general purport of this statement appeared to be that the New Deal had coddled the poor too much at the expense of the rich, and that the first thing necessary was to restore the confidence of the wealthy. The Frey-Woll report was indignantly rejected by the convention.

Nothing daunted, the council has now adopted a statement which implies that the chief trouble with the country is not low wages and purchasing power and inadequate unemployment relief, but the "psychology" which has been created in the rich by New Deal social legislation and federal spending on behalf of the jobless.

To emphasize his ideas about restoring "confidence" to big business, Green added this explanation to the council's statement: "There has been strong complaint about the excess profits tax for one thing. We believe its repeal would help."

Stand Up and Fight

Most of the above-mentioned ideas for appeasing the wolves of reaction do not have a great appeal to the loved ones whose part is to be sacrificed to them. AFL unions, for instance, have been among the first to protest against the union-destroying Walsh-Green amendments.

To run with the hare and hunt with the hounds is not easy. Most of the labor and progressive forces do not intend to do either. Their idea is to stand up and fight for the Wagner Act, for adequate WPA funds and for progressive New Deal laws generally. And if there is to be any running done, let the other side do it.

Defend The Wagner Act

Act Brings Peace, Says Pressman

Washington, Feb. 18. — "The Wagner Act was necessary because the peace and order of our American system demanded it," Lee Pressman, general counsel of the CIO, told a radio audience over station WRC here today.

Pressman's speech, in which he defended the Act from plans of Bill Green and anti-union employers to destroy it, opened the campaign organized by the Washington Industrial Union Council in defense of the Labor Act.

"Trade union organization is an orderly and peaceful way of adjusting economic and social problems," he said. "It demands an orderly and peaceful recognition on the part of employers. It takes two sides to bargain collectively.

"The Act must not be amended out of existence. Changes now would open the door to industrial disputes, to discrimination against workers for joining unions, to all the unfair labor practices that the Act was designed to correct."

District 50 Head Raps Sen. Walsh

Washington, Feb. 18—The workers in Massachusetts' gas and coke industries "condemn" amendments to the Wagner Act, President James Nelson of District 50, United Mine Workers, wrote to Senator David Walsh, who sponsored the AFL leadership's craft and company union proposals.

Nelson, a resident of the Bay State, said he spoke for 5,000 members of his union there, told Walsh that if the AFL were to have its way, the workers would be divided among a number of craft organizations.

CRAFT CONFUSION

"No sane management wants to negotiate 20 separate contracts with 20 separate crafts once a year," Nelson wrote. "In Massachusetts the management in the gas and coke plants have clearly demonstrated their approval of industrial unionism by renewing contracts with District 50 unions.

An Amended Wagner Act Would Mean:

1. Attacks on industrial unions.
2. Growth of company unions.
3. Long delay in the courts.

Write Your Congressman!

Tell him that you are opposed to ANY amendment to the Wagner Act!

Msgr. Haas Asks Catholics Aid Wagner Act

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Feb. 18—Catholics "in particular" should defend the Wagner Act, Msgr. Francis J. Haas, leading Catholic educator, told an audience at Our Lady of the Elms College here.

"In view of the fact that the law is designed to protect the natural right to organize, and, as Leo XIII insists, the government 'must protect natural rights, not destroy them,' Catholics in particular should rise to the defense of the law as a necessary use of government power," he said.

Msgr. Haas hit out at enemies of the Wagner Act, whom he accused of being responsible for "dishonest propaganda which has been unleashed against the Wagner Act."

At the same time he praised the work of the Natl. Labor Relations Board, saying: "It has worked honestly, and I venture to say that it has worked longer hours than any other public agency."

Enemies of the Act, he added, were certain powerful employers who were unwilling to see their workers organize for the protection of their living standards and the comfort of their families.

Lauds Act

Pres. Sherman Dalrymple of the United Rubber Workers.

Act Averted Many Strikes-Dalrymple

Washington, Feb. 18 — Pres. Sherman Dalrymple of the United Rubber Workers declared today that "it would be detrimental to already established labor relations to make any changes in the Wagner Act at this time."

The United Rubber Workers, he added, had made "many settlements of discrimination cases that would have resulted in serious labor disputes had it not been for the National Labor Relations Board.

"The number of working hours saved for our members would run into thousands, thanks to the Wagner Act," Dalrymple asserted. "We have used the Board extensively to prevent strikes."

The majority of the AFL rank and file in Akron, Ohio, where the URW has much of its strength, "are definitely opposed to tampering with the Act," he said.

Employers Should Realize Act's Benefits - - Carey

NEW YORK, Feb. 18—Employers who have profited from the Wagner Labor Relations Act were urged by James B. Carey, secretary of the CIO and president of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers to speak up in defense of the Act against attempts to cripple it by amendments.

Carey, speaking on a radio hook-up Wednesday, pointed out that employers had profited from the industrial peace brought about by the Act, and asked them if they were willing to go back to the days when strikes for union recognition were a common occurrence.

"The Labor Board, in administering the Wagner Act, has prevented many hundreds of strikes over union recognition that would have taken place if the Act hadn't been in operation," he said.

EVERYBODY WINS

"The advantages of this are obvious to all. Workers get the right to organize in unions of their own choice, without interference from employers. Collective bargaining becomes possible on the basis of equality between the two sides. Industrial peace is the result — which benefits workers, employers and the public.

"Realistic employers know this," he added. "They have seen the benefits of the Act in their own plants. They know that it is profitable to deal with stable labor organizations on the basis of recognition. They know that it takes two to bargain collectively."

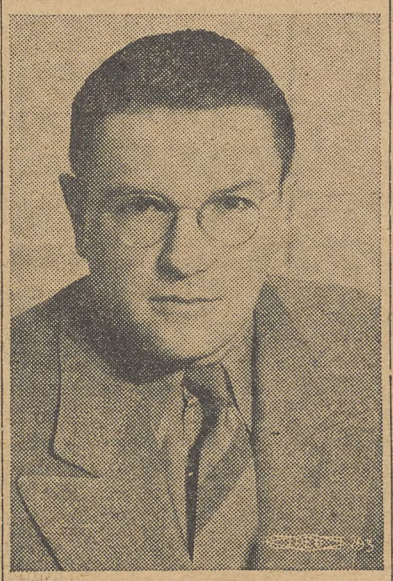
Strikes for union recognition would become common if the Act is amended to allow anti-union employers to dodge this responsibility, he said. "Would American employers enjoy this?" Carey asked. "I think not. I think they would very soon wish the Act had been left alone, so they could bargain again on equal terms with unions really representing their workers."

Metal Miners Oppose All Changes In Law

DENVER, Colo., Feb. 18 — Locals of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers are joining in the parade of CIO unions fighting attacks on the Wagner Act.

The editorial in the union's edition of The CIO NEWS notes a number of resolutions opposing changes in the Act, and repeats the warning that labor at this time must oppose any or all attempts to amend it.

Sees Danger



Pres. Reid Robinson of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, who sees "danger" in amendments to the Wagner Act.

Resolutions stating that the local opposes changes "unless they are beneficial to labor" open a dangerous crack for skilled reactionaries to slip through, it declares.

"The fight to preserve the Wagner Act as it is at present will be severe enough," the editorial says. "An amendment that is considered beneficial to labor would only serve to give enemies of the Act a chance to substitute their own line of amendments."

'DANGEROUS'

Reid Robinson, president of the CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, added his voice to the protest against emasculation of the Act. He said:

"The attack upon the Wagner Act in Congress is dangerous and so is the manner in which many of the industrialists are trying to nullify its effect in industry."

Save Wagner Act, Lawyers Demand

CHICAGO, Feb. 18 — Opponents of amendments to the Wagner Labor Relations Act today had the support of the 5,000 members of the National Lawyers Guild.

Meeting in convention the attorneys went on record to lend their strength to preserving the Wagner Act from reactionary attacks. At the same time the convention passed a number of progressive resolutions — including one calling for continuance of the Senate Civil Liberties Committee headed by Sen. LaFollette of Wisconsin.

Van A. Bittner, chairman of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee and midwest director of the CIO steel union, told convention delegates of the need for unity between workers and farmers.

FARM LABOR UNITY

"The CIO recognizes that there is a strong community of interest between industrial workers and farmers," Bittner declared. "With strong, powerful organizations of farmers working together with organized industrial unions, we can solve our problems to the mutual satisfaction of both groups."

Bittner pointed out that the "condition of the southern tenant farmers is a menace, not only to themselves, but also to all workers in our country. Permanent prosperity of our nation depends upon maintaining the economic power of both farmers and workers."

Girdler and Green

"You are all familiar with the political attacks, the unsound tax policies, the vicious labor legislation and the equally vicious administration of that legislation. These are but a few of the developments which have helped to choke off the investment of private capital in productive enterprise."—Girdler, president of Republic Steel Corp.

"We must turn to private industry for the solution . . . Fear, a lack of confidence and distrust in governmental social and economic procedures should be removed. A political and economic state of mind should be created which would enable all financiers and owners and management of industry to face the future with confidence.—AFL Executive Council.

LaFollette Committee Raps Private Cops

Blames Girdler for Violence During Steel Strike; To Ask Legislation

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18—Private police systems should be used for the protection of plant and property—and not for espionage and unwarranted attacks on workers—the LaFollette Committee reported to the U. S. Senate this week in a document which blasted the policies of Harlan County, Ky., coal operators, and Tom Girdler, head of the Republic Steel Corp.

On the basis of its findings, the Committee, headed by Senators Robert LaFollette and Thomas Elbert, announced it will recommend legislation "to restrict and eradicate, if possible, the dangers that threaten the civil liberties of large bodies of American workingmen as a result of the injection of police methods into the delicate relationship between workers and management."

Where private police systems are used to fight unionism, the the Senators charged, they serve to:

1. "Abridge and violate the civil liberties of workers and other individuals;"

2. "Violate the rights of labor guaranteed by federal statutes;"

3 "Result in riot and bloodshed, causing loss of life and injury to persons and property;"

4 "Endanger the public safety."

'CREATE BITTERNESS'

"The ruthless and brutal activities of armed private guards to prevent union organization "gives unfair competitive advantage" to the companies employing them, the report said, in addition to creating bitterness between labor and management, leading to strikes and disrupting commerce.

Further, the committee asserted, the "use of private deputies in an anti-union campaign is inimical to the maintenance of orderly representative government.

"It leads to (a) private usurpation of public authority; (b) corruption of public officials; (c) oppression of large groups of citizens under the authority of the State; and (d) perversion of representative government."

WOULD BAR SPYING

Legislative remedies, the committee declared, "should be designed to prohibit labor espionage and the rough shadowing, coercion and intimidation of workers in ordinary times, and to restrict company police to company property during times of strikes."

The committee's bill, the report indicated, would "prohibit the employment as armed guards of persons who have previous criminal records showing a tendency toward violence or the dangerous use of deadly weapons."

RAP 'ARMIES'

It is an "indefensible position" for people to think that privately-paid armed guards may take the place of public police, the committee said.

"The use of private police as an agency of labor policy must be viewed . . . primarily as an attempt to impose upon labor a selfish private interest by means of private armies," the report added.

"As such it is a betrayal of expressed policies of employer groups, a frustration of national labor policy, and a violation of the rights of American citizens to exercise their civil liberties for their common welfare."

BLAME GIRDLER

Turning its attention to Republic Steel, the committee minced no words in charging that Tom Girdler, outspoken foe of the CIO, was directly responsible for the reign of terror conducted by his company's police and thugs.

Though Girdler, in public statements and newspaper advertisements, had claimed that his workers were free to organize, without coercion from the company, the committee said that captains of the Republic police who appeared at its hearings "either were not informed or, if informed, did not pay attention to the company's professed labor policies."

ALIQUIPPA ALUMNI

Girdler's underlings, it noted, came with him from Aliquippa, Pa., when he switched from Jones & Laughlin to the newly-created Republic Steel Corp., in 1930. These "Aliquippa alumni" did carry on "espionage and rough shadowing," the Senators asserted.

"This committee," the report said, "is not convinced therefore, that these long-trusted subordinates of Mr. Girdler assumed the responsibility of spending thousands upon thousands of dollars of corporate funds in carrying on activities which violate national labor policy, and which negate the word of the corporation's own statements with respect to labor policy without clearance from the highest executive of the company."

POLICE BROKE STRIKE

The committee reviewed testimony heard in Washington last summer about company-provoked violence at the Berger Manufacturing Co., in Canton, Ohio, and described the strike in 1935 as broken by the "brutal attacks of Republic guards, by the activities of spies, and by a back-to-work vote in which Berger employes were not allowed to participate."

During the Little Steel strike in 1936, it was revealed, Girdler increased his police force "from 290 to as high as 390, in order to expand its labor-espionage and 'rough-shadowing' activities."

Expenses for the espionage and shadowing were handled through "blind vouchers" so that the exact outlays of money are difficult to trace.

HARLAN IMPROVES

The situation in Harlan county —once known as "bloody Harlan" —has changed for the better as a result of the committee's probe, the activities of the National Labor Relations Board, the U. S. government's criminal case against Harlan coal operators, and the signing of a contract with the United Mine Workers.

George Titler, secretary-treasurer of District 19 of the UMW, sent a message to the committee early last month, the report disclosed, which thanked the Senate group "for bringing peace to Harlan County," a "direct result of your efforts."

Under Fire

Vice-President White of Republic Steel Corp. as he looked during LaFollette Committee hearings last summer. The committee's report names him, along with Girdler and other top Republic executives, as responsible for violence during the Little Steel strike.

Harlan Gives Big Welcome To Kentucky CIO

HARLAN, Ky., Feb. 18—Harlan County, scene of countless bloody attacks on union members, played genial host this week to its first labor convention — the annual convention of the Kentucky CIO Industrial Union Council.

In the very hotel where 12 representatives of the United Mine Workers had been surrounded by armed deputies — and freed only when the state militia was sent in — some 300 delegates spent two days of discussion about the progress of the state's labor movement.

PEACE IN HARLAN

Peace indeed has come to Harlan — this was the theme of many of the speeches at the convention. Delegates had their picture taken on the steps of the county courthouse. The mayor and chief of police greeted the labor representatives.

Among the delegates were a number of police from the company mine towns in their uniforms. Since the change took place in Harlan, these men have become active members of the mine workers' union.

Walter Smethurst, executive assistant to CIO President John L. Lewis, brought the convention greetings from the CIO leader.

"It is most significant that this convention is being held here in Harlan," Smethurst said. He told how the CIO in other sections of the country had helped to extend civil liberties and bring about industrial democracy.

Other speakers included Sam Caddy, president of the council; William Turnblazer, president of District 19 of the United Mine Workers; Jeff Lovelace, vice-president of the council; James McAndrews, secretary of District 30, UMW; George Titler, UMW district secretary with offices in Harlan.

SUPPORT WAGNER ACT

The delegates acted on a number of important issues. They called for defeat of amendments to the Wagner Act, commended Atty. General Frank Murphy for his action in creating a civil liberties division in the Department of Justice, and urged him to send agents into Harlan when the present contract expires in April.

All present officers were reelected.

Speaker

Walter Smethurst, executive assistant to Pres. Lewis, who addressed the Kentucky CIO Industrial Union Council convention at Harlan, Ky., last week.

CIO SUPPORTS DEMAND *for* Amalgamated Label On Clothing

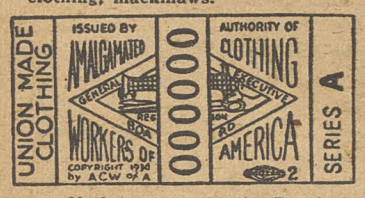
The Constitutional Convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations unanimously adopted a resolution in support of the union label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

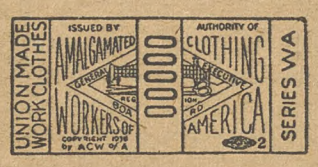
The resolution reads:—

"Resolved, that this Convention of the CIO go on record as urging all members of its affiliated organizations to demand the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America label on all men's and boys' apparel in daily wear and work clothing of all kinds and to refuse to buy articles of apparel not so labeled."

Men's, Boys, children's suits, overcoats, pants, men's uniforms, sheep-lined leather and sport clothing, mackinaws.

—ON—
Overalls, Work Clothes, Work Shirts





Neckties

Men's, Boys' shirts, pajamas, underwear, white duck clothing, children's wash suits.

Gloves

The Amalgamated label is a guarantee that the product was made by Amalgamated members who enjoy union standards of wages and hours, and that the product is of the best workmanship.

Make sure that the Amalgamated label is on the coat, on the pants, on the vest and on every article of men's and boys' wearing apparel.

Brass Workers Vote For CIO Metal Union

IRVINGTON, N. J. — CIO workers at the Phoenix Brass Fittings Corp. here have just won a real victory against tremendous odds, in piling up a Labor Board election victory after more than a month's strike.

The workers, members of Local 462 of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, CIO, won after maintaining a 24-hour picket line under all sorts of adverse weather conditions, carefully watched by New Jersey cops and annoyed by an AFL organizer who tried to stick his nose into places where it wasn't wanted.

BENEFITS WON

Jess Gonzalez, board member of the Smelter Workers international, announced further benefits won by the local, including seniority rights, a work week of not less than 24 hours, and machinery for grievance adjustment. These points were in the agreement for the election, and were assured if the workers won—as they have.

When the AFL agent appeared, workers told him promptly that the best way he could help, if he really wanted to, was to keep his nose out of business that didn't concern him.

Negotiations for the formal contract are getting under way this week, Gonzalez said.

New Book Tells Drama Of Seamen

By HOLLACE RANSDELL

Washington, Feb. 18. — Seamen have always been favorite subjects for story and song. In the past it was their adventures and hardships before the mast that provided dramatic material for innumerable writers and stirred the yearning of youth for adventure.

Many believe that with the passing of the old schooner, the drama of the sailor's life also passed away, and that on our modern steamships he leads as prosaic a life as any worker in mill or factory.

DRAMA OF UNIONS

Anyone who knows something of the struggle of modern seamen to improve their lot by organization knows that this is not true.

The highlights of this truly dramatic story have been sketched in an illustrated booklet published by the National Maritime Union, the CIO organization built up by seamen of the Atlantic coast. It is a well done job.

END OF SERFDOM

'Serfdom was abolished on land after the beginning of the so-called modern era, when it became economically unprofitable. It was not abolished on the sea until the seamen themselves banded together and gradually forced their governments to legislate it out of existence."

With this brief introduction, the booklet, called "Two Years", launches with no wasted words into an account of the seamen's struggles to unionize. The story is traced from the earliest attempts in the middle of the last century, which ended in failure, down to the triumphant establishment of the National Maritime Union in May 1937. At the present time the NMU has a membership of more than 50,000, most of whom are working under union contracts.

Two Years ... A Record of Struggle and Achievement of the East Coast Seamen; published by the National Maritime Union, 126 Eleventh Ave. New York City; price 25c.

U. S. Probe of Insurance Proves Union's Charges of Coercion, Anti-Labor Activities

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18—Investigation of giant insurance companies by the Monopoly Committee is turning up anti-union and anti-social practices long known by the CIO union in this field, Lewis Merrill, president of the United Office and Professional Workers, said after attending hearings here this week.

"Investigation into the labor policies of the life insurance companies is an exceedingly appropriate function for the Monopoly Committee in its study of the insurance industry," Merrill said.

Merrill compared questionable business habits of the large companies, such as Metropolitan, John Hancock and others, to their labor policies, pointing out that their directors are "using other people's money to control other people's lives."

LABOR FIGHTERS

This is done, Merrill explained, by the companies' lavish use of policy-holders' funds to fight the organization of their workers. This determined fight against labor's rights began more than a year and a half ago, when the Office and Professional Workers wrote to Metropolitan demanding recognition for Local 30, Industrial Insurance Agents Union. Leon Berney, general organizer, presented the demand.

The company's reply was a threatening letter to its 2,800 employes, promising instant dismissal to all agents by substituting direct contact between policy holders and the home office.

Ten months ago, the company was ordered by the N. Y. State Labor Relations Board to recognize the union after it won an election and after Board certification. At the same time the Board issued a complaint against the company for "intimidation, firing of agents for union membership, and fostering a company union."

LEGAL TRICKERY

The company has tried every kind of legal delay and trickery to avoid carrying out Labor Board orders, Merrill said, and has to date refused to recognize the union chosen by its workers. In addition to fighting Board orders, Merrill added, "not for one minute has the company desisted from its organized opposition to the union."

The case will go to the U. S. Supreme Court, Merrill said, where the union will finally win its legal victory. Even after that, however, the union expects that Metropolitan will try to stall—as it stalls on the issue of control of policy-holders' money by the policy-holders themselves.

The insurance industry is one of the most important in the country, Merrill pointed out, in urging the Monopoly Committee to pay full attention to its labor policies along with its business habits.

"Only the railroads and steel carry a larger payroll than the insurance companies," he said. "The life insurance division alone employs more than 250,000 people, 92,000 of whom are in the agency force.

"They are by far the largest reservoir of capital for investment purposes, and as such have tremendous power in the economic life of the country."

CONTROL BY A FEW

This power is in control of a few men in key executive positions, he explained, which makes it possible for them to keep a close grip on the affairs of the company and to use its resources to fight labor.

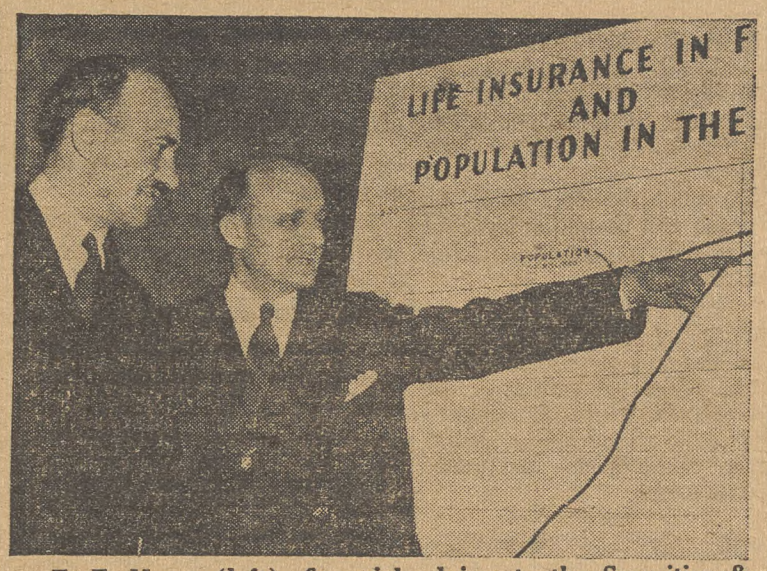
Nominally control of these companies is supposed to be in the hands of the policy-holders, but through trickery and outright forgery of voting proxies (brought out at Monoply Committee hearings) they are able to keep everything in their own hands.

"The rights insurance policy-holders possess are carefully hidden from them by the small clique of self-perpetuating groups now in control," Merrill said.

"A thorough inquiry into this would reveal that funds have been used in ways calculated to strengthen the most reactionary sections of American political life, and the same reactionary ends which determine the character of their investment policies likewise determine their anti-labor attitude."

The majority of their policy-holders are opposed to anti-union practices, he pointed out, and restoration of the control they are now supposed to have over the companies would bring a quick change in their labor-fighting tactics.

Probe Insurance Trust



E. E. Howe (left), financial adviser to the Securities & Exchange Commission, and Dr. D. H. Davenport of Harvard who told monopoly committee investigators of the multi-billion dollar grip held by insurance companies on the nation's economic system.

Wagner Act Changes Risky Says AFL Lawyer

Washington.—Amendments proposed to the National Labor Relations Act by the American Federation of Labor "carry with them great danger to the labor movement," Louis Waldman, attorney for a number of AFL unions, declared in a letter written Pres. William Green of the AFL.

Waldman is counsel for Local 3 of the Intl. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in New York, locals of the Amalgamated Butcher Workmen, and the Cap and Millinery Department of the United Hat, Cap & Millinery Workers.

The proposed amendments "would not establish the 'fair and equitable administration of the labor act by the National Labor Relations Board'," he wrote to Green.

Waldman added that his conclusions were not based on any "partisan considerations." "My whole concern in this matter is that of serving the best interest of organized labor. My conclusions are based on many years of experience with the labor movement in and outside of court."

Marine Group Hails Act As Aid to Peace

New York, Feb. 18. — CIO unions in the maritime industry added their protests against crippling amendments to the Wagner Labor Relations Act late this week, with a statement from Joseph Curran, chairman of the CIO Maritime Committee and president of the Natl. Maritime Union.

Speaking in the name of eight CIO maritime organizations with over 130,000 members, Curran praised the Act as a force for peace in the industry and attacked the proposed Burke and Walsh amendments as a device "for destroying militant labor unions."

"The Wagner Act has been an instrument for peace in the shipping industry," Curran said. "Collective bargaining elections held under the Labor Board have resulted in contracts covering more than 30,000 seamen, nearly as many longshoremen, and several thousand shipbuilding and other maritime workers.

WRITTEN BY THE NAM

"All the amendments sound as if they had been written by the Natl. Association of Manufacturers," he added. "We are told that the Act protects workers but does not protect employers.

"Well, naturally it protects workers. That is what it is for—because the workers had no other protection. The employers have plenty of protection already."

Resume Joint Parleys in Guild Strike

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Feb. 18—To hold published stalling down to a minimum, joint negotiations were again resumed by the Newspaper Guild with owners of the city's three strike-bound dailies Monday, in an attempt to reach a contract ending the 21-week-old walkout which began last October 1.

Joint parleys were brought about by John Kmetz, international board member of the United Mine Workers.

SQUELCH RUMOR

Merger "propaganda," planted with the wire services to stampede the Guild into accepting a substandard contract, was squelched at the first session by Col. E. G. Smith, publisher of the strike-bound Times-Leader, who said there was no basis for the stories.

Morris Watson, international vice president, is heading Guild negotiators.

Meanwhile, the strikers are supplying the newspaperless public with a 20-minute newscasts each night at their own expense.

Discuss Ship Yard Pact

Bath, Me., Feb 18. — Terms of a proposed agreement with Local 4, Industrial Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers, were submitted to the Bath Iron Works here by National President John Green in accordance with an understanding reached earlier at a conference with company officials.

Insurance Board Shuns Union

New York, Feb. 18.—CIO workers in the State Insurance Fund here are putting up a stiff fight for recognition of their union, Local 45 of the State, County and Municipal Workers, it was learned today.

Plenty of opposition is coming from Major Muller, executive director of the State Fund, the union reports. Major Muller, union men say, "has embarked on a vigorous anti-union campaign in a deliberate effort to crack down on the employes and to break up Local 45."

APPEAL HIGHER UP

Refusing to meet with grievance committees, trying to put in a speed-up, and surrounding union men with spies are only part of the Major's general anti-labor drive, the local explains.

To meet this, the local has appealed to the State Deputy Industrial Commissioner, who backed up Muller to the extent of refusing to even meet with a union committee. The local intends to take the fight still further by appealing to the state Industrial Commissioner, and to the whole of organized labor in New York State.

Auto Workers' Voting Shows Wish For Unity

DETROIT, Feb. 18 — The tide in the United Automobile Workers has definitely turned towards the CIO.

These were the developments in one of most momentous weeks in the history of the UAW:

1. The number of UAW members voting to send delegates to the Cleveland convention jumped to 280,341, an overwhelming majority. Most of the other locals have not yet acted.

2. The dual unionists supporting Homer Martin lost many major locals—Packard, with 10,000 members, started to turn away from them. Others like Dodge, Hudson, Bohn Aluminum, and Chevrolet Forge, as well as spring and fibre locals, pledged their loyalty to the UAW and the CIO.

3. The Wisconsin district, the only remaining region in doubt, came out for the CIO and the Cleveland convention. The J. I. Case local at Racine, together with Nash, Allis-Chalmers, and Seaman Body locals, all took the same stand.

4. A revolt of the rank-and-file against the Martin disrupters, swept through Flint and Pontiac, Mich., with large Buick and Yellow Cab locals voting for the UAW-CIO.

MARTIN IN RETREAT

Martin and his group of followers, distressed by the almost unanimous action of the automobile workers in refusing to endorse his splitting, anti-CIO program, did a merry hop, skip and jump to win votes for himself. The one-time college track star broad-jumped to a new position in which he declared himself in favor of affiliation of the CIO—recent utterances to the contrary notwithstanding.

Then, in an effort to halt the swing towards the Cleveland convention—where his misrule will finally be buried — Martin proposed a referendum of the membership between himself and Acting Pres. R. J. Thomas.

THOMAS STATEMENT

"Martin's talk about a referendum is pure hypocrisy," Pres. Thomas charged. "The UAW constitution makes no provision for a referendum."

Thomas recalled Martin's use of strong-arm methods to choke off discussion inside the union—for which he "now stands condemned by the membership.

"He faces a trial. Suddenly, he turns about, and says let's have a vote. What if Al Capone, before he was placed on trial as a racketeer, said, 'Let's have a referendum.' He would be laughed out of court. . . "

The Cleveland convention is "the highest tribunal of the UAW," Thomas concluded. "That is why Martin was afraid to attend."

PAY DUES TO UNION

In Detroit a tally of the votes in the large local showed 90% of them voting for the Cleveland convention. Following the vote in Dodge, dues amounting to more than $24,000 were turned over to Sec.-Treas. George Addes. A check from Toledo Local 12 for $8,242 arrived the same day.

The week also gave increasing evidence that the rift which Martin had created was rapidly fading into the background. Lansing's Reo and Old locals were given new charters and launched in constructive work.

In most other cities, wherever the locals had disposed of the issue of dual unionism, they turned their attention to two things: building the union and winning better contracts, and planning and discussing programs for presentation at the Cleveland convention.

Firm Signs Pact, Ends Long Strike

Chicago, Feb. 18.—A five weeks' strike against the Wilson-Jones Co. here ended with victory for the United Loose Leaf and Blank Book Workers, when the firm signed an agreement with the CIO union.

The strike started January 10, after the company had refused to arbitrate for a peaceful settlement on an equal footing, following the discharge of the union's officers in the company's plant at Elizabeth, N. J.

Two union members were later assaulted and beaten by company stooges and foremen of the Elizabeth plant.

WILL REHIRE TWO

Under the terms of the settlement, the two discharged officers will be reinstated with back pay and without loss of seniority rights. They will also be paid their regular wages during the period of arbitration.

Workers Vote 84% for CIO

Redding, Calif., Feb. 18. — Employes of the United Concrete & Pipe Co. were on record with an 84 per cent vote today to be represented by the CIO.

The workers chose the Shasta Tunnel & Construction Workers Local 260, affiliated with the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers, as their sole collective bargaining agency. They are employed on two railroad relocation tunnels near here.

BOARD TO MEET

New York.—The general executive board of the United Office & Professional Workers will meet in Chicago March 13.

Federal Workers School Starts New Study

Washington, Feb. 18. — A "Social science workshop" — one of three now operating in the United States is today in session at the United Federal Workers School here.

The course will help students to translate facts about wages, hours and working conditions into posters, maps, charts, graphs and signs.

The school presents an array of courses ranging from folk dancing to union adiministration and the national income.

Armour Workers Vote CIO

Denver, Col., Feb. 18—The CIO Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee rolled up another in its long string of Labor Board victories, winning at the Armour Co. plant here by a 205-134 vote. All but two of those eligible to vote cast their ballots.

The PWOC has already been certified at key Armour plants throughout the country, and is pressing the company's management for collective bargaining discussions leading to a signed contract.

With Gloves!

Los Angeles, Feb. 18 — A CIO AFL boxing match has been booked as the special feature for a union affair at the East Side Arena here. Pete (Gashouse) Bishonden of the CIO Utility Workers Local 132 will scrap it out with Denny Moore of the Hodcarriers, AFL. Matchmaker Tom O'Grady said it was the first time that labor in the west had entered the boxing game.

The affair has been endorsed by L. H. Michener, secretary of the CIO Council and other labor leaders both CIO and AFL.

AMERICAN WAY?

Indianapolis, Ind. — Supporters of a little wage-hour law for Indiana have found examples of wages of two and three quarters cents an hour in Indianapolis and 126-hour week in Richmond.

Hillman Urges Confab To Seek Rise In Income

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 18—Sidney Hillman, vice-president of the CIO and president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, sounded a call today for a national conference of labor, agriculture, industry and government for the reconstruction of American economic life.

Speaking at the third annual Natl. Farm Institute at the Fort Des Moines hotel, Hillman urged farmers to unite with industrial workers so that both may secure a fair share of the national income.

"The farmers of America seek the answer to one thing," he said. 'Agricultural income declined, never to recover, from 16 billions in 1919 to nine billions in 1921, and never again rose above 11 billions.

"The farmer's share in the national income dropped from 18 per cent in 1919 and 15 per cent in 1920 to nine per cent in 1928. Why did it fall, and how can it be recovered?"

LABOR'S SHARE MEAGRE

At the same time, Hillman pointed out, "Labor's share in the fruits of national prosperity in the twenties was also meagre. While from 1923 to 1929 industrial output increased by 29 per cent, real wages advanced only 4.5 per cent.

"Our national economy failed to distribute to the two great customers of industry the purchasing power necessary to buy back the product of its expanded plant."

Quoting U. S. figures to show that an enormous potential demand for farm products existed, and could become effective if purchasing power were high enough, Hillman declared:

"We have at home a vast untapped market capable of absorbing all our agriculture and industry can produce.

"The Department of Agriculture estimates that to provide an adequate diet for our population, would require a 40 per cent increase in farm production; the sowing of another 32 per cent acreage of corn, increasing our cow herd by 68 per cent, hogs by 69 per cent and similar increases in other farm products.

"Dietary deficiencies are equalled by the need for clothes and housing which if met, would tax the capacity of our existing industrial plants."

URGES COOPERATION

Hillman pointed out that an equitable share for all in the national income would only be secured mutual trust and cooperation between farmers and workers, as well as government and industry.

This, he explained, is the democratic and American way of solving a national problem of increasing difficulty.

"Every responsible leader of labor, agriculture and industry as well as the overwhelming majority of the American people reject the alien contention that the problem of want can be solved only by abondoning our heritage of freedom and democracy," he concluded.

"At this critical hour, the heavy burden falls upon us in America to prove to the world and to history that democracy can offer a constructive and progressive solution of the problems of our contemporary society."

Co-op Meeting To Discuss Workers' Needs

Racine, Wis. — Organized labor in the middle west, faced with the problem of cutting the cost of living, will send representatives here Feb. 24, 25 and 26 to discuss the possibilities of increasing their buying power by organizing as consumers.

Racine workers have taken the lead in organizing one of the most successful city cooperatives in the United States.

Delegates will not only discuss ways of cutting the cost of living, but will also visit the cooperative grocery, meat market, gas stations, coal yard, appliance shop and credit union to see at first hand the results of consumer action.

The conference is being called under the auspices of the Cooperative League of the U. S. A. Speakers will include Pres. Jacob Baker of the CIO United Federal Workers, Pres. Ohl of the Wisconsin Federation of Labor and E. R. Bowen, executive secretary of the cooperative organization.

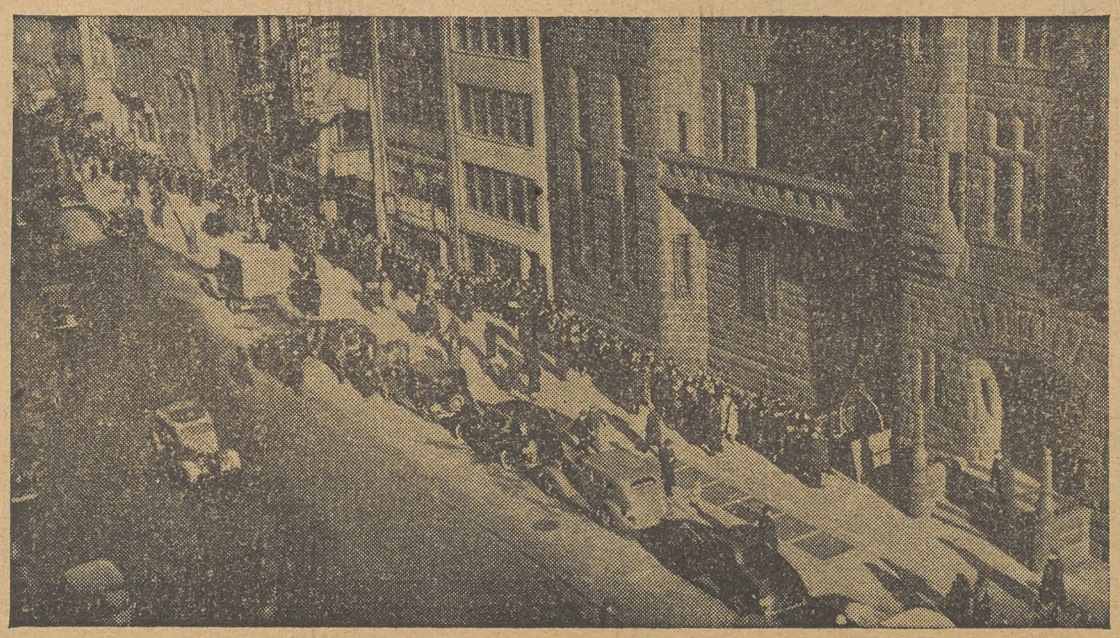
Ask Farmer-Worker Unity

Omaha, Nebr. — (FP)—Closer cooperation between organized farmers and organized labor in Nebraska was urged by AFL and CIO leaders speaking before the annual Farmers Union convention here.

Roy M. Brewer, head of the Nebraska Federation of Labor, joined with Don Harris of Des Moines, Ia., president of the Iowa-Nebraska Industrial Union Council in declaring a profitable market cannot be created for farm products unless "labor is paid a high enough wage to enable it to maintain an American standard of living.

Harris, who is also director of the CIO Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, called for unity of farmers and workers against trust and monopolies "setting prices at both ends — for what farmer sells and what labor receives."

Loafers?



Here's the answer to Tory charges that the "unemployed don't want to work." Picture shows the 4,152 women who waited in line at a New York armory to apply for 12 jobs as cleaners in the health department at $18 a week.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 9 20 February 27, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

UNIONS PUSH CAMPAIGN TO DEFEND WAGNER ACT

Cut WPA?

NEW YORK, Feb. 25—(FP).—In a desperate attempt to feed her family of four, Mary Cusack, wife of a WPA laborer and mother of two small children, tried to hold up a subway station with a small toy pistol.

The hold-up failed and Mrs. Cusack is now in jail awaiting trial.

Cusack, who was a member of the Cement Finishers & Plasterers Union, AFL, for seven years, had to drop out because he couldn't pay dues and has been employed by WPA for about a year. When he returned home on Feb. 14 with a 1-day check for $3.98 with his next check due on Feb. 28, his wife broke down.

While Cusack was asleep, his wife walked to the nearby subway station. After Cusack was notified of his wife's arrest, he said:

"Mary had no intention of stealing anything. Maybe she didn't know the right way, but she didn't mean to steal, and that hold-up attempt was her way of bringing attention to her plight."

Denver CIO, AFL Unite to Fight For Wagner Act

DENVER, Colo., Feb. 25.—CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers here are going to town in defense of the Wagner Act. They have joined with AFL locals and other progressive groups to set up a Denver Committee for the Defense of the Wagner Act together with the city Trades and Labor Assembly and Grace Community Church.

John M. Sherwood, international secretary of the union, spoke for Denver CIO workers, pointing out the dangers to all organized labor and all progressives if the act is amended and calling for united action in its defense.

THREE-POINT PROGRAM

Sherwood presented the committee with a three-point program for saving the act, outlined on these bases:

1. No amendments to the act of any kind.

2. No changes in the personnel of the Natl. Labor Relations Board that administers the act.

3. Adequate appropriations to allow the Labor Board to carry out its work speedily and efficiently.

Strong support for the committee and the three-point program came from Wesley Johnson, Intl. Typographical Union, who spoke for Denver's AFL workers in defense of the act that, as he pointed out, has benefitted the AFL as much as it has the CIO.

DEFENSE AGAINST FASCISM

Aaron W. Warner, regional director for the Board, spoke at the first meeting on "Labor's Right to Organize," explaining how the Labor Act made effective the democratic rights of workers to organize in unions of their own choice.

Speaking for Grace Community Church, Ray. N. Studt declared that the Wagner Act, backed by a militant and progressive labor movement, was "the first line of defense against fascist forces in the United States."

The newly formed committee will take on the job of involving all labor and other progressive forces in Denver in a militant campaign to save the Wagner Act from emasculation.

San Francisco Tory Group Folds Up

San Francisco, Feb. 25. — Unmourned and unsung, one of the nation's most bitterly anti-labor organizations, the San Francisco Industrial Association, has passed out of existence.

After 18 years of trying to break the strength of labor, the organization died a complete failure with unions in the Golden Gate city stronger than ever before.

Its successor is the Employers Council, which professes to deal with labor rather than to break it.

USED SPIES

The Association had led the employers' attack against the maritime unions in 1934, and again in 1936 and 1937. Found by the La-Follette committee to have maintained an elaborate spy system, it spread "ghost town" propaganda against the unions and accused them of ruining the city.

CIO leaders held significant the remarks of Almon E. Roth, president of the new Employers Council, who told a management conference in Chicago recently that San Francisco "is far ahead of most of the cities of this country in its progress toward stability in labor relations."

"FENCES SOLID"

A CIO spokesman expressed the hope that the new organization "will recognize the unions and collective bargaining as things here to stay . . . but we have no illusions. We face the new group not only with the hope of better relations but with the determination to keep our fences solid."

CIO, AFL Locals Uniting Against Tory Attack

(See Stories Pages Five and Six)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25 — The workers throughout the United States are uniting against Tory attacks on the Wagner Act.

Despite the action of some reactionary leaders of the American Federation of Labor, members of AFL unions are determined to save Labor's "Magna Charta" from destruction, reports reaching Washington reveal.

By the time the various bills calling for amendments to the Act come up for Congressional hearing, labor will be prepared with a strong united front to ward off the industrialists' stabs at the Act, it was predicted here.

New developments this week include:

1. Formation of an AFL-CIO committee in Denver, Colo., pledged to fight against any amendments.

2. Action of a five-county AFL conference in California, which refused to follow the war declared by Pres. William Green on the Act, and called for no changes.

3. A sharp letter written by Pres. Whitney of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen (independent) to Green, denying that the nation's railway workers will follow the AFL craft leaders tory crusade.

4. Stands in favor of the Act as it now exists, taken by CIO councils in Philadelphia, Trenton, N. J., and other major cities.

5. Revelation that amendment of the Act would cut to a dribble the flow of checks paid out to workers under Labor Board orders during the last three years—estimated at over one million dollars.

Oil Workers On the Job!

Fort Worth, Tex., Feb. 25—CIO oil workers here, members of Local 208 of the Oil Workers Intl. Union, have been doing their duty in the defense of the Wagner Act.

The local reports in the latest issue of the international's edition of THE CIO NEWS that every one of its members has sent post-cards to their Congressmen and Senators demanding that the Act be left alone, and opposing any and all amendments.

Desert Auto Union Disrupters

Pres. R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, welcomes Charles E. Madden (left)and Loren Houser of the union's executive board after they withdrew from Homer Martin's rump movement. Only three of the 24 board members are still in the ex-president's camp, while almost all the union's membership has gone on record to support the CIO.

Baby, 1 Day Old, Proud of Card In CIO Union

New York, Feb. 25. — Baby Tieman, week-old son of Mr. and Mrs. William Tieman, today celebrated the seventh-day anniversary of his initiation into the CIO, and proclaimed to all who would listen that he is still the youngest union member in the nation.

His father, a member of the City Hospitals Local 128 of the State, County & Municipal Workers, and an employe at Harlem Hospital, paid the tot's initiation and dues as soon as he made his debut at Bellevue Hospital here.

Tieman explained that his baby could not yet sign his name to the membership application, but union officials gave him permission to sign for him.

Allies Desert Martin, Back CIO Auto Union

DETROIT, Feb. 25.—Homer Martin, repudiated automobile workers' president, took more set-backs this week in his attempt to split the workers in the industry away from the CIO and to herd them into a phoney union of his own.

Two more members of the UAWA international executive board left him and declared their support for the CIO and acting President R. J. Thomas—leaving him with three board members out of a total of 25.

John L. Lewis, president of the CIO, re-affirmed full CIO support for the UAW, its officers, and the legal convention called by the board for March 27 in Cleveland.

James B. Carey, CIO secretary, published a letter warning the auto worker and the public against Martin's attempt to put out a fake "United Automobile Worker", an imitation of the official organ of the UAW.

Locals of the UAW continued to pile up support for the International and the legal convention of March 27.

REPUDIATE MARTIN

The two board members, Loren Houser and Charles Madden, lined up against Martin in a joint statement which read in part:

"The Cleveland convention on March 27 of the UAW is the only convention which has been called in accordance with the constitution of the UAW.

"It was called in compliance with a request from Homer Martin. It was voted by 22 members of the international executive board. We were present at the board meeting when the Cleveland convention was called. We joined the others in voting for it.

"The calling of a convention for March 4 in Detroit has no standing under the constitution of the UAW because the board has already called the Cleveland convention. The calling of the March 4 convention is also illegal under the laws of the UAW because Martin has illegally suspended 15 board members. All his subsequent acts therefore also have the stamp of illegality."

FULL CIO SUPPORT

President Lewis's letter to R. J. Thomas, acting UAW head, reaffirms the stand taken by CIO Vice-President Hillman and Murray in supporting the Cleveland convention. The letter follows in full:

"As you know, Vice-Presidents Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman on behalf of the CIO have recently issued a letter to the members of the UAW definitely expressing the support of the CIO to the International Executive Board of the UAW and Acting-President R. J. Thomas and Secretary-Treasurer George Addes, in regard to the action which you have taken in calling the Cleveland convention for March 27.

LEGAL CONVENTION

"Your International Executive Board, pursuant to the terms of the constitution, has called a legal convention for March 27 to be held at Cleveland. The United Automobile Workers of America, as an autonomous international union controls and administers its own internal affairs pursuant to its constitution.

"Therefore, in answer to your specific questions, I beg to advise you that:

"1. The CIO and its affiliated national and international unions have already given and will continue to give full support to you, your associate international officers and the International Executive Board of the UAW, and

"2. The UAW has been chartered by the CIO and, under no circumstances, will any other organization which purports to intrude upon the jurisdiction of the UAW receive any charter from or be recognized by the CIO."

Carey's letter to Acting-President Thomas pointed out that Martin's attempt to publish a bogus "United Automobile Worker" was a trick that ought not to be allowed to fool anyone.

"I know that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery," Carey wrote, "but the imitation which Homer Martin is publishing is such a crude job that it shouldn't fool any auto worker.

"On one hand he has gone to court declaring the UAW is not affiliated with the CIO. But in his sheet he claims affiliation. The members of the UAW will know how to deal with such double-crossing.

"Meanwhile, I want to urge the UAW members to brand the bogus sheet for what it is. The only 'United Automobile Worker' which is authorized to claim affiliation with the CIO is the paper in which this letter appears. Accept no substitutes."

NO ARMY LEFT

The score to date leaves Martin with little or nothing to go on in his attempts to destroy the United Automobile Workers. The executive board, with three exceptions, has left him. The CIO has put its full support behind the officers and the members of the union in their struggle to re-establish democracy in the international.

Ask Passage of $150,000,000 WPA Bill

Washington, Feb. 25—Enactment of President Roosevelt's request for an additional $150,000,000 appropriation for WPA was called for at a conference of leaders of United Federal Workers locals from seven eastern cities.

The conference, headed by Pres. Jacob Baker, was made up of delegates from New York, Philadelphia, Washington and four West Virginia cities. Resolutions called for no reduction in the WPA payroll and extension of civil service to all supervisory and administrative workers on WPA.

Sign Contract Or Face Trouble, Local Tells Armour

CHICAGO, Feb. 25. — The management of Armour & Co., largest of the nation's meat packers, was considering the blunt advice of Local 347, Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, to sign a union contract—or be responsible for "serious strife."

The letter, signed by the local's executive board, was sent to D. W. King, general superintendent of the company.

Pointing out that "you know full well" that the union has a majority of the members in the Armour plants, and has gained substantially since its Labor Board election victory last October, the letter offered this challenge:

"If you still choose to disregard the word of the Labor Board . . . if you are even unwilling to take our membership records as evidence of our majority, then we offer you this: you name the morning and come down to 43rd St. and Packers Ave., and we will march by you—all of the workers of Armour's who want you to sign a contract with the CIO.

"That should be conclusive enough proof."

The union's statement referred to Pres. Robert Cabell's declaration to the company's stockholders that he hoped to be able to clear up the labor situation during the year, that it's easy to accomplish.

EASILY FIXED

"Were the company to show half the reasonable attitude of cooperation that we employes express, Armuor's labor situation would long ago have been cleared up," the letter stated.

"Mr. King, the door is open to a peaceful settlement of the situation in Armour's. The whole matter is in your hands.

"The choice between peace and difficulty is yours to make."

The PWOC only last week won another round in its campaign for an Armour contract when workers at the Denver plant won a Labor Board poll by a 205-134 vote over an AFL union. The AFL figure was swelled by several straw bosses and clerks whom the company classed as "production employes" at the last minute, in the hope of defeating the CIO affiliate.

New York CIO Calls Confab On Wicks Bill, Wagner Act

NEW YORK, Feb. 24. — Urgent warning of dangers to all New York state labor is stressed in a call to an emergency conference on legislation sent out by the state Industrial Union Council here.

The call, signed by Allan S. Haywood, council head, and Gustave Strebel, secretary-treasurer, picks out the Wicks bill and the Walsh amendments to the Wagner Act as the principal threats to labor today.

The Wicks bill, designed to slap New York transit workers into civil service, would destroy gains won by the CIO Transport Workers Union by robbing the men of seniority, pay increases and other benefits gained after long union struggle, the letter declares.

DIRECT ATTACK

"The Walsh amendments to the Wagner Labor Relations Act now before the U. S. Senate represent a direct attack on all labor, CIO and AFL," Haywood's letter continues.

"Should Senator Walsh succeed in getting through these amendments, labor could readily be smashed."

The emergency conference was scheduled for Friday of this week, and will include presidents, secretaries and legislative chairmen of all CIO locals, joint boards and internationals in New York.

TO FIGHT CHANGES

New York—Led by Allan Haywood, CIO director, and Pres. Abram Flaxer of the State, County and Municipal Workers, 3,000 civil service union members will go to Albany to protest changes in the law that will cut wages.

Auto Local Backs CIO

Anderson, Ind., Feb. 25 — Local 146 of the United Automobile Workers has rescinded a former action and cast its lot with the official CIO union led by President R. J. Thomas.

The union's resolution accused Homer Martin of calling a dual convention, and voted to send delegates to the official convention in Cleveland on March 27. The action followed speeches by Samuel Sponseller and John Donald, CIO representatives.

Bank Crash — 1939 Style

Depositors in the closed Title Guarantee & Trust Co. in Jersey City line up to receive full payment on their deposits, up to $5,000—because of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., New Deal agency. Many are wondering how big shots in Jersey City got a secret tipoff which allowed them to withdraw about a million dollars from the bank a few hours before it closed up. Mayor Frank Hague is on the institution's board of directors.

Wages Up $160,000 In Shipyard Pact

BALTIMORE, Md., Feb. 25. — Wage increases amounting to $160,000 a year and improved conditions were won for more than 1,000 shipyard workers here last week when the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, CIO, signed a one-year contract with the Maryland Drydock Co., one of Baltimore's biggest repair yards.

The agreement is the outcome of a Natl. Labor Relations Board election won last December by the CIO shipbuilding union over the AFL by a huge majority. Previously, the yard had an agreement with the Baltimore Metal Trades Council, AFL, but 90 per cent of the workers went over to the CIO union.

The new contract provides for a reclassification of wages which gives the employes a pay increase averaging 11 per cent. Other benefits include a 40-hour week, time and a half and double time for overtime work, annual vacations with pay for all regular employes, equal division of work and seniority rights.

John Green, national president of the IUMSW, hailed the new agreement as the best collective bargaining contract won in the ship repair industry and significant of the rapid advance of the CIO shipyard union in yards throughout the country.

Elect Muster President Of Furniture Union

ROCKFORD, Ill., Feb. 25.—Morris Muster of New York was elected president of the United Furniture Workers at the concluding sessions of the national convention which met here this week. Some 60 delegates representing 36,000 members attended.

Jack Hochstadt of Boston was chosen secretary-treasurer, and four vice-presidents representing the four regions of the furniture industry were elected by the delegates. The vice-presidents are: Max Perlow of New York, representing the East; Walter Stewart of Rockford, Ill., for the Mid-West; Davis Spears of Fort Smith, Ark., for the South, and Ernest Marsh of Los Angeles, for the West.

Muster has been provisional president of the union since its formation. Emil Costello, provisional secretary-treasurer, withdrew his nomination for re-election because of the pressure of other activity in Wisconsin, where he is a member of the Legislature.

ADOPT CONSTITUTION

Outstanding business of the convention was the adoption of a constitution under which the CIO furniture workers can develop its organizational activities and provide for its rapidly growing membership.

Only little more than a year old, the UFW has increased its enrollment from 18,000 to 36,000 since its affiliation with the CIO in November, 1937.

Provisions were made for enlarging the executive board to about 21 members, including the president, secretary and four vice presidents. Ten of the board members will represent each of the ten districts of the union, and five or six will represent each of the separate branches of the industry.

Miners' Wage Parley Opens On March 14th

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—March will be a busy month in the affairs of the United Mine Workers as the deadline draws near for the renewal of agreements with both bituminous and anthracite operators.

Beginning March 14, representatives of the United Mine Workers and the bituminous coal operators will meet in joint conferences to negotiate a contract covering wages, hours and working conditions in the industry to replace the present Appalachian agreement which expires March 31.

POLICY COMMITTEE

Preceding the joint meetings, the international policy committee of the union will open conferences March 9, to draw up the points to be submitted and the policy to be followed in the negotiations. Pres. John L. Lewis will be chairman of these meetings which will be attended by representatives from all the union's bituminous districts.

On March 21, the Anthracite Tri-District convention will open, also in New York, to formulate wage demands to be presented to the joint conference with representatives of the anthracite operators for inclusion in the new agreement. The present anthracite contract expires April 30.

300 DELEGATES

Some 300 delegates representing more than 100,000 members in the three anthracite districts, one, seven and nine, in eastern Pennsylvania, will attend the convention.

UMW representatives at the joint bituminous conferences will be limited to those from districts covered by the Appalachian contract now in effect. After the terms of the new agreement are reached, each outlying district will hold separate district conferences with its operators to negotiate contracts, based upon the terms of the Appalachian agreement.

President John L. Lewis, who will lead negotiators of the United Mine Workers in parleys with coal operators next month.

Textile Union Ending 'Crisis' Pay Cuts

New York, Feb. 25—A 5 per cent general pay increase for 800 workers at Liberty Throwing Co. plants in two Pennsylvania towns was announced here today by Emil Rieve, director of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee.

The increase marks the first step in the union's campaign to restore silk and rayon wages to pre-recession levels, the CIO textile leader said, and is in line with the industry's steady business improvement.

ENTITLED TO RAISES

Workers who had suffered pay cuts when the industry nose-dived early last year are entitled to restoration of their wages, he added.

CIO Leader Hits Ban On Negro

Washington, Feb. 26 — John Brophy, national director of the CIO, joined with union leaders and progressive groups here in condemning the action of the Washington Board of Education in refusing a hall to Marion Anderson, Negro singer.

"It is an outrageous example of bigotry on the part of our school board officials," Brophy said. "As a citizen of Washington and as a member of the Labor movement I am amazed and indignant."

Miss Anderson, who has been praised by Toscanini as "the greatest living singer" was denied use of a public school hall for a concert after the notoriously reactionary DAR had refused the use of its auditorium.

Hearst Thugs Attack 17 In Chicago

CHICAGO, Feb. 25.—Hearst gangsters went on a new rampage this week.

As a result, 17 persons, including striking members of the Chicago Newspaper Guild and curious bystanders, were injured—two of them so seriously they required hospital treatment.

Three of the thugs, and two Guildsmen, were arrested. All were later released by a city court judge.

The sluggers, armed with iron pipe, blackjacks, crank handles and other similar weapons, charged into a crowd watching the Guild's picket line from across the street.

BLOODY WOUNDS

Robert Wicks, taking movies of the goons' attack, was attacked and later sent to St. Luke's Hospital with a possible fractured skull.

Arthur Graviss, striking circulation branch manager, was released from the same hospital after seven stitches had been taken in his head.

John Malone, organizer for the CIO International Woodworkers of America, was smashed across the face with a rubber hose filled with lead shot. Malone was a spectator.

LED BY HEARSTLINGS

The thugs were led into the crowd by Edward Woods, general counsel for the two struck newspapers—the American and the Herald-Examiner, and by Walter Parker, Hearst circulation boss in Chicago.

Immediately after the bloody attack, H. R. Seller, representative of the American Newspaper Guild, said he would ask Sen. Robert LaFollette and Atty.-Gen. Frank Murphy to investigate.

Seller said:

"Never in the history of the American Newspaper Guild has there been such a daring and brutal display of viciousness as was witnessed in Chicago Saturday.

"Innocent citizens were beaten into unconsciousness because they dared to express even a slight interest in the Guild's strike against the Hearst newspapers. The mere fact that they even stopped to observe a picket line, and were attacked while they stood across the street from the Hearst plant shows how far barbarism will carry these newspapers.

"No citizen of Chicago or the United States will let this incident pass without protest. If Hearst continues such tactics, he may as well quit publishing in Chicago. Decent people want none of a paper which is tainted with blood."

TALK TO KELLY

Mayor Edward Kelly, seeking renomination as Democratic candidate in Chicago's primaries, and Police Commissioner Allman pledged "aboslute neutraltiy" by the police in the future, and admitted that the Guild's hands have been "amazingly clean" in the entire dispute.

The delegation turned over to Kelly and the commissioner the numbers of the policemen who had refused to arrest sluggers pointed out to them.

Textile Labor Protests Ruling on Basic Pay For Woolen Industry

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—With labor's four representatives dissenting, the wool industry committee recommended to Wage-Hour Administrator Elmer F. Andrews that he establish a 36c-an-hour minimum pay rate for workers in the industry.

The union members of the committee, representing the Textile Workers Organizing Committee, asked that a 40c rate be established—the highest minimum possible under the terms of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

FIRST COMMITTEE

The committee is the first appointed by Andrews which has submitted definite proposals to the administrators. Under the terms of the law, Andrews need not accept the committee's recommendations, which supposedly are based on the highest figure possible without cutting employment.

If Andrews accepts the recommendation, he will order public hearings, and then, order the minimum wage for the industry, basing his order both on the industry committee's findings and the testimony at the public hearing.

READY TO PROSECUTE

Meanwhile, the criminal section of the Fair Labor Standards Act seemed due for its first test in Boston, where a grand jury brought in an indictment charging Brown's Contract Stitching Co., Inc., with violation of the act.

The indictment was handed out at the request of the Department of Justice, which is empowered to handle the wage-hour division's criminal proceedings. The Justice attorneys had charged the company with "falsification" of its records.

The wage-hour division has filed a number of civil suits against violators in various parts of the nation, with many of them being settled by consent decrees in which the firms agree to abide by the act.

Some People Like Green!

Washington — Some people are pleased with William Green's attack on the New Deal—but they don't belong to unions!

A weekly business dope sheet sent to thousands of employers around the country notes that the AFL declaration sounds as though it came from a chamber of commerce. The statement, says this businessman's newsletter, very closely follows industry's attitude.

CIO In Bay State Shows Strength

By VAL BURATI

Springfield, Mass., Feb. 25 — The CIO unions of Massachusetts, in membership 150,000 strong and reporting a broadening scope of activities, girded for an uncompromising defense of the Wagner Act at the second annual convention here. They served notice they will tolerate no tampering with labor legislation.

A week prior to the convention Senator David I. Walsh (D., Mass.) in behalf of the American Federation of Labor and other reactionary interests filed amendments to the NLRB. The CIO promptly withdrew its invitation to Walsh to address the convention.

WALSH UNDER FIRE

He protested that sponsorship of the amendments did not necessarily mean he would vote for them. The quick action of the CIO here therefore had the effect of weakening the bills for amendments by forcing their sponsor to admit a doubt about them.

Walsh was attacked by speakers and resolutions. His position as a candidate for re-election in 1940 has been shaken inasmuch as he has needed the open support of labor in the past to supplement secret support from the vested interests.

SUPPORT CIO STAND

The CIO's position on the Wagner Act was bolstered by an address given by Msgr. Francis J. Haas of Catholic University at Our Lady of The Elms College in the suburbs of Springfield the same night CIO director John Brophy and national secretary James Carey were denouncing enemies of the act at the pre-convention rally.

Michael F. Widman, Jr., UMW, was re-elected president and Daniel Boyle, Leather Workers Association, secretary-treasurer. A resolution regretted the death of Pope Pius XI, as a "brother in arms."

Hitler, Mikado, Duce Rapped In Store Pact

New York, Feb. 25. — Bosses and workers in Parker's department store here were today agreed to boycott all fascist-made merchandise.

The store signed a contract with the Department Store Employes Union, CIO, which prohibits the management from buying or selling any products of Italy, Germany or Japan. The store also agreed not to discriminate in the hiring of any employe on the basis of race, color or creed.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II February 27, 1939 No. 9

Well-Earned Vacations

Millions of working people never knew what it was to have a real vacation before the last couple of years.

It's no vacation to be unemployed. Nor can you take a vacation from worry as well as work even during a temporary layoff.

Yet before the CIO came along, few if any industrial workers could take a vacation except when they were unemployed, laid off or quit their jobs. As soon as they took time off for a vacation, their wages ceased. And how much of a vacation can anyone have without money?

To the CIO belongs the credit for winning paid vacations for American industrial workers. The right to have rest and recreation without any more financial worry than when working, is now written into hundreds of CIO contracts covering hundreds of thousands of workers.

The latest CIO union to win paid vacations is the Aluminum Workers of America. After two years of negotiations with the Aluminum Company of America, the union can proudly announce that the company has granted vacations with pay under a plan which involves more than 18,000 employes.

No people earn and deserve real vacations more than the men and women who do the hard work of the world in industry. They have always had them coming. But they never got them until the CIO began the organization of powerful industrial unions.

Congratulations, AWA! It took a strong union to win vacations; it'll take a strong union to keep them, and to win many other benefits which the workers have coming to them.

A Revealing Pamphlet

The Mid-Continent Petroleum Corporation is seriously worried by the strength of the strike of the Oil Workers International Union at Tulsa, Okla.

Its worry is revealed in a propaganda pamphlet which it has gotten out about the strike. This is full of misrepresentation about the causes of the strike, which was really caused by the company's arbitrary anti-union attitude.

The pamphlet is much more revealing than the company thinks. Its efforts to instigate a back-to-work movement are testimony to the solid character of the strike.

Its claims that members of AFL craft unions are scabbing furnish the best possible argument for industrial unionism as represented by the Oil Workers International Union. The crafts are too weak to affect the outcome of the strike, but such union scabbery will convince every intelligent oil worker that craft division hurts his interests; and that if the oil workers are to win their just demands they need the strength that comes from unity in one strong industrial union.

Finally, a great part of the pamphlet is devoted to expressing concern over the fact that the whole CIO has been advised that the corporation's products are unfair, and that its D-X stations are being picketed.

This shows how worried the company is over the solidarity of the whole CIO with the striking oil workers. It is a reminder to all labor people and all friends of labor to keep up and extend their support of the oil workers and to remember that D-X Gasoline and Diamond 760 motor oils are unfair.

Labor's power is multiplied many times, if we continue to act on the basis that an injury to one union is the concern of all.

U. S. Officials See Danger In Tory Fight on Act

Washington—Executives of all administrative agencies of the New Deal are alarmed by the reactionary attack on the National Labor Relations Board.

The Federal Trade Commission, the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission see definite danger to themselves if Tory opponents of the NLRB succeed in the fight to "separate" its judicial and prosecution functions.

If that line of attack succeeds against the Labor Board, foes of the other agencies will soon be singing the same hymn of hate against SEC or FTC or ICC.

Little reconized is the fact that the Labor Board's activities, as established under the Wagner Act, are directly modeled on those of the Federal Trade Commission.

Setting Them Up

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Storm Over AFL

FEW issues have caused more excitement in labor ranks than the present campaign against the Wagner Labor Relations Act.

To millions of workers who have had a brief taste of freedom and democracy in industry, it seems that the fruits of this freedom are to be snatched from their lips.

They know that higher wages, shorter hours, vacations with pay and many other benefits have come to them through union organization. And they know the important part the Wagner act has played in making them free to organize.

The excitement is by no means confined to CIO ranks. AFL members have also made great gains under the act, and they are equally aroused by any threat against it.

William Green and his associates have seen fit to lead the attack on the act by sponsoring the amendments introduced by Senator Walsh.

These amendments are so close to everything that the big business enemies of the act have been demanding, that Green has everywhere been hailed as the bosses' best friend.

To emphasize this pro-employer and anti-union stand in regard to the Wagner Act, the AFL Executive Council adopted a statement attacking the New Deal which business dopesheets have hailed as reading "like a chamber of commerce resolution."

All of this has fallen like a bombshell on the membership of the AFL and caused widespread consternation.

Council Division

The whole AFL is now sharply divided on the question of amendment of the Wagner Act.

Members of the Executive Council itself protested sharply against the Walsh-Green amendments. The amendments were endorsed only by a majority of two, it is reported, though a later unanimous vote was taken to preserve an appearance of unity before the outside world.

The compulsory craft unit amendment caused the most trouble in the council. No matter how much some of them hate the CIO and would use any stick to beat it, many AFL leaders also know that compulsory craft division would destroy their own unions where they are organized on a plant basis.

Reports of the National Labor Relations Board show that since the inception of the act, AFL unions have requested or agreed to some form of industrial unit in 173 cases, as compared to 84 cases in which they requested craft units.

There are limits to what AFL leaders will do even to spite the CIO. And it remains to be seen how many of them will actually work for amendments that will undermine their own unions.

Members Aroused

If division is sharp in the executive council it is far sharper throughout the AFL generally. Many international unions, state federations and other AFL bodies are already on record in support of the Wagner Act and against such amendments as Green proposes.

As for the rank and file, CIO headquarters have been swamped with communications from AFL members expressing their indignation and disgust at Green's treachery to labor. "Judas" is one of the mildest of the names he is called for leading the attack on the Wagner Act.

The whole CIO membership is more aroused over this than over any previous legislative campaign. And significantly, in city after city and state after state, AFL unions are uniting with CIO unions in committees and other activities to defend the Wagner Act.

Unwittingly, Green is thus furthering the very labor unity which he has previously done so much to destroy. For defense of the Wagner Act is one issue on which all bona fide unionists, regardless of affiliation, can most readily unite.

Another Maneuver?

This revolt within the AFL is already having its effect. There are rumors that the AFL leaders may withdraw the hated Walsh amendments, and try to achieve the same results by more roundabout methods.

According to these rumors, Green may move instead to repeal the present Wagner act and to re-enact it with a new five-member National Labor Relations Board and with some but not all of the changes at present embodied in the Walsh amendments.

Compulsory craft division would still be included under this proposal. So would changes to prevent the Board from nullifying contracts which are the fruit of collusion with employers against the wishes of the majority of the workers.

An attempt would then be made to have a new Board appointed which would be packed against industrial unionism, and through which Green would seek to get other results aimed at in[illegible] Walsh amendments.

Don't Weaken

One of the purposes of the reports which have been put out on such a possible change of tactics is to allay the storm of opposition which has been aroused by the Walsh amendments.

But labor people and other friends of the Wagner Act will be foolish indeed if they allow their opposition to weaken on this account. The Walsh amendments are still before Congress and there is danger of their adoption if an even more strenuous fight is not put up against them. And in any case the proposed substitute would be fully as dangerous to labor.

Defend The Wagner Act

Railway Men Like Act As Is, Green Informed

CLEVELAND, Feb. 25.—The Wagner Act is emphatically the business of the Railroad Trainmen, A. F. Whitney, Brotherhood president, has told William Green of the AFL, and the Brotherhood will continue to defend it against all attempts at crippling amendments.

President Green got this information from Whitney in response to a letter criticizing the Brotherhood for its interest in the Act and making veiled threats of Executive Council action against the trainmen.

Green's threats were prompted by a letter of Whitney to Ed. McGrady of RCA, in which Whitney contradicted McGrady's statement that all the railroad brotherhoods were in favor of amending the Wagner Act.

VITALLY CONCERNED

In his reply, Whitney repudiated Green on every point. "In the first place," he said, "we represent workers who come under the terms of the Natl. Labor Relations Act; and secondly, we consider it a vital part of our business to be concerned with legislation that so vitally affects the welfare of working men and women that you once declared it to be 'Labor's Magna Charta.'"

Whitney's reply to Green made his position on the Act very clear, and stated the reasons for opposition to changes.

"Briefly, my position on the question of amendments to the Wagner Labor Act is this: That Act has freed working men and women from past tyrannical trespasses upon labor's legal and moral rights. Employers are no longer free, by the use of spies and lying propaganda, to destroy labor's democratic rights to organize.

"A believer in democracy and fairness might well deplore the necessity is real, and ever since its enactment those wrong-doers against whom the Act was directed have tried by fair means and foul to render it futile and barren of effect."

REGRETS DIFFERENCES

Answering Green's accusing remarks that the AFL had supported the Railway Labor Act, and therefore the Trainmen should automatically support everything the AFL Executive Council proposes, Whitney wrote:

"It is appropriate here to point out, however, that in 1934 when this Brotherhood was putting up a staunch fight to prevent an open-shop provision in amendments to the Railway Labor Act, we had no support from the AFL, although that fact did not persuade me to say that the AFL 'was in direct opposition to the legislative policies' of the Brotherhood of Trainmen.

"I regret that it sometimes becomes necessary for us to differ on legislative policies, but I assure you that we propose to continue to fight proposals that threaten the destruction of labor's Magna Charta by exposing it to its enemies through the process of opening it up to amendments."

Jersey Council May Invite Sen. Wagner

Trenton, N. J., Feb. 25. — The Central Jersey Industrial Union Council may invite Sen. Robert Wagner to a mass meeting planned to show labor's stand in defense of the law which bears the veteran New York liberal's name.

Pres. Clarence Martin, in announcing the Council's aims, said:

"I expect, and each worker in industrial plants expects, that all of the laboring class of America will resist to the last ditch any effort to change this law.

"For the entire period of American history labor has had the short end of a 75-25 deal. With the protection of this law, we can at last wage an even fight for the welfare of labor."

Philly CIO Fears Strike From Changes

Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 25— Under the terms of the proposed amendments to the Wagner Act, employers can by trickery legally defeat the aims of unionization, and place one union in the position of fighting another, the CIO Council here declared in a recent statement.

With the Labor Act facing attacks on two fronts, since the AFL has joined hands with anti-labor employers, the Council warned that collective bargaining and wage and hour regulations are jeopardized.

What Are You Doing?

Now is the time for every true unionist to come to the help of his union, and to defend the conditions which his union has won for him and his family.

The Wagner labor relations act, which is the charter of our union rights, is in danger. Are you doing all you can to defend it?

* * *

Ask yourself these questions:

1. Have you written to your Congressman and Senators telling them you are opposed to all amendments to the Wagner Act?

2. Has your union adopted a resolution to this effect and let Congress and the whole world know about it?

3. Have you circulated the pamphlets and leaflets of the CIO and Labor's Non-Partisan League about the Wagner Act to everyone within reach?

4. Have you helped to organize committees and mass meetings in defense of the Wagner Act?

5. What steps are you taking to draw AFL and fraternal organizations into our common fight, and to show them that their interests are also threatened by the present campaign against the Wagner Act?

* * *

If you can't give a satisfactory answer to these questions, it's time to get busy until you can.

The Wagner Act protects YOU. It's up to you to protect it NOW!

Labor's League Prints Pamphlet On Act

Washington, Feb. 25.—Using the slogan, "Stop Congress from cutting wages!" Labor's Non-Partisan League has put the reasons why workers should oppose all attempts to amend the Wagner Act into a short, snappy leaflet designed for general distribution.

"Your Senators and Congressmen in Washington are being asked to cut your wages," the leaflet reads. "They have already slashed the WPA relief appropriation, in spite of President Roosevelt's plea for the millions of unemployed. Congress now intends to deal with the employed workers. Your turn is next."

The leaflet praises the Wagner Act as an aid in raising wages through legalizing the workers' right to join unions, and warns against indifference on the part of workers and progressives to this attack on living standards.

"If you want lower wages and longer hours, then all you have to do is to sit still and say nothing. But if you want to protect your wages and working conditions, you'll have to get busy," it says.

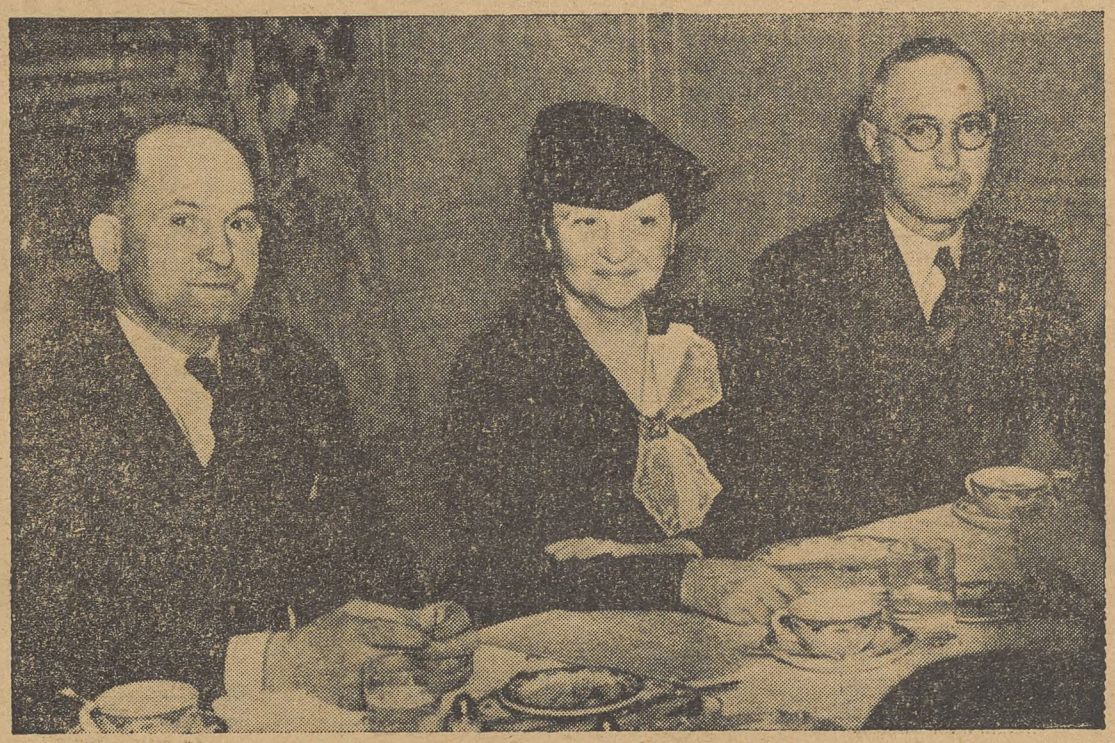
"Labor is being savagely attacked in Washington. Will you defend yourself?"

Steel Lodges Support Act

Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 25 — Tampering with the Wagner Labor Act that might jeopardize its effectiveness was condemned by presidents of 29 Steel Workers Organizing Committee lodges meeting here.

The union leaders commended the Act, and praised the National Labor Relations Board for its administration of the law.

Discuss Farm-Labor Problems



Mutual interests of farmers and workers were discussed last week at the third annual National Farm Institute meeting in Des Moines, Ia., last week. Shown at a breakfast before the forum are left to right: Sec.-Treas. Ben Henry of the Iowa-Nebraska CIO Industrial Union Council; Sec. of Labor Francis Perkins, and Pres. Al Couch of the Iowa AFL federation of labor.

Locals In AFL Join Drive

SAN MATEO, Calif., Feb. 25.—Official representatives of AFL unions in five California counties were on record today to preserve the Wagner Act from the amendments offered by the federation's executive council.

Their resolution came out flatly against amending the act.

The representatives, numbering 80 in all, were attending the Five Counties Legislative Conference, provision for which was made at the annual convention of the state's federation of labor.

SUPPORT NEW DEAL

Locals in San Mateo, Santa Clara, San Benito, Monterey and Santa Cruz counties sent delegates to the meeting. E. J. Davis, business agent of the Santa Clara County Central Labor Council, presided.

Other actions taken by the group called for support of Gov. Olson's New Deal program—Pres. William Green of the AFL had endorsed Olson's Tory opponent—and for resumption of unity negotiations between AFL and CIO.

AFL Members In Opposition To Green

Washington — Letters reaching The CIO NEWS from members of AFL unions indicate wide distrust of the policies of Pres. Green and the executive council.

An AFL worker from Brooklyn sent a copy of the following telegram, which had been sent to Green during the AFL council's annual session at Miami, Fla.

"Judas betrayed Christ for several pieces of genuine silver. How much less than a counterfeit continental will you accept to smash the NLRB and sell the epochal gains of labor under Roosevelt to Girdler, Rand, Weir, Ford, Burke of Nebraska and Hoffman of Michigan?

"May the National Association of Manufacturers reward you deservingly."

STEAMFITTERS FOR ACT

An AFL steamfitter from Oakland, Calif., declares that "not more than 10% of all AFL trades locals are in favor of William Green's proposed amendments to the Wagner Act."

"Common complaint among the AFL's membership," he adds, is that "William Green has never consulted the federation's membership before assuming an opinion for the membership's majority on any issue.

"AFL members in my particular local consistently refuse to sanction any proposal — of which there have been several — that may be classified or interpreted as indicating strife between themselves and members of the CIO."

Millions Paid Out Under Wagner Act

See Amendments As Bar to Big Cash Payments to Workers

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—John Doe, a typical American worker, was fired for union activity.

A few weeks or a few months later he got his job back, and all the wages he lost.

Checks for $100; for $500; for $1,000; even for $5,000—these have been pouring in a steady stream to John Does in every section of the country—to CIO steel and maritime workers; to AFL carpenters and truck drivers; to railway trainmen.

These checks, needless to say, are a direct result of the Wagner Act and the National Labor Relations Board.

The total amount paid out by anti-union employers who have been forced to toe the line of the federal labor law is difficult to estimate. Some put the figure at a million dollars. Others believe that these workers have received two million, or even more.

But one thing is certain—if the Wagner Act is amended so that the National Labor Relations Board gets tied up in the delays and red tape of our court system, that stream of funds for union workers will dry up while the ink is still wet on the printer's copy of the amended bill.

Who will suffer? AFL and CIO and railway brotherhood members, and workers who try to organize the open shop plants in which they are employed.

$551,183.88 PAID OUT

A hasty check on cases in which the courts have taken action to enforce the NLRB's orders show a total of $551,183.88 paid out to workers.

Another $108,612.70 was paid out by firms which complied with Labor Board orders before court action was necessary.

That is, a total of $551,183.88 paid out to workers under direct orders of the Labor Board itself.

SCORES OF SETTLEMENTS

But an even greater amount went into workers' savings accounts as the result of activities of regional directors of the NLRB, who have brought about settlement of cases before formal Board action was necessary.

A recent sampling of cases so handled — only 744 cases were included in the sample—showed that $271,123.08 had been paid out.

AFL MEMBERS BENEFITTED

Interestingly enough, a majority of the cases affected AFL unions, though more CIO members were involved than AFL workers. Of the total amount thus paid out, $175,000 went to CIO people and $95,000 to AFL unionists.

Some of the amounts involved in these "back pay" cases have been truly staggering. Workers in the Tennessee Coal & Iron Railroad Co. plant in Alabama received more than $100,000. The Carlisle Lumber case, involving 147 workers, resulted in the payment of $200,000.

LOTS OF CASH

Two hundred fifty three employes of the National Tea Co. in Chicago received $51,000. Forty members of the AFL carpenters union in Arkansas were paid $25,000 by the Crosset Lumber Co.

Borden's Milk Co. in New York City had to write checks for $35,000 to member of the AFL's Brotherhood of Teamsters. Five workers at the Consolidated Edison Co. in New York — their case went to the Supreme Court — will have received about $5,000.

FIGHT AGAINST WORKERS

Clear evidence that the top leadership of the AFL is acting against the interests of its own membership can be found in the history of the back pay cases.

The Intl. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; Matthew Woll's photo-engravers; the paper and sulphite workers; Big Bill Hutcheson's carpenter's; the Brotherhood of Teamsters; the Intl. Association of Machinists and the brick and clay workers — all of them have won major benefits through the operations of the National Labor Relations Board.

MEMBERS OPPOSE CHANGES

Obviously, all workers, regardless of their union affiliation, are going to be holding the bag if the AFL-Chamber of Commerce united front destroys the Wagner Act.

In the AFL as well as in the CIO, thousands of workers are preparing to fight this reactionary bloc which uses fancy language to conceal selfish hositility to the organization of the unorganized in industrial unions.

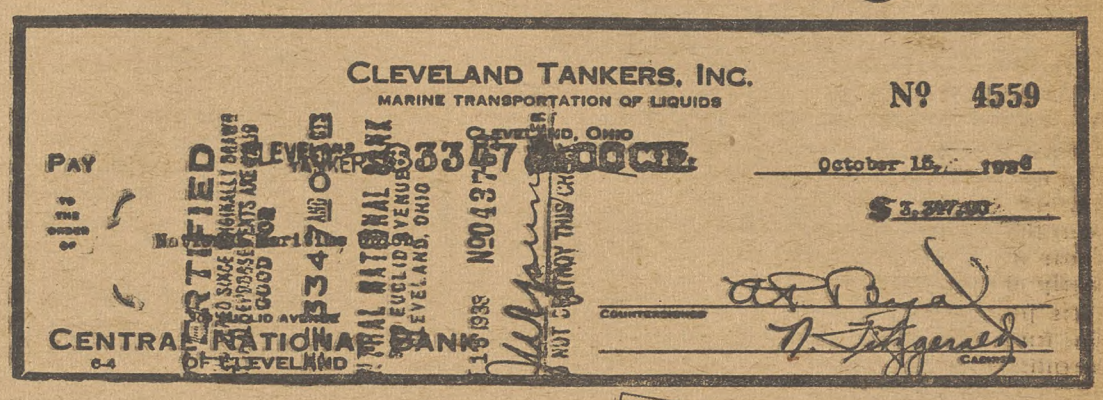
Just a Sample—

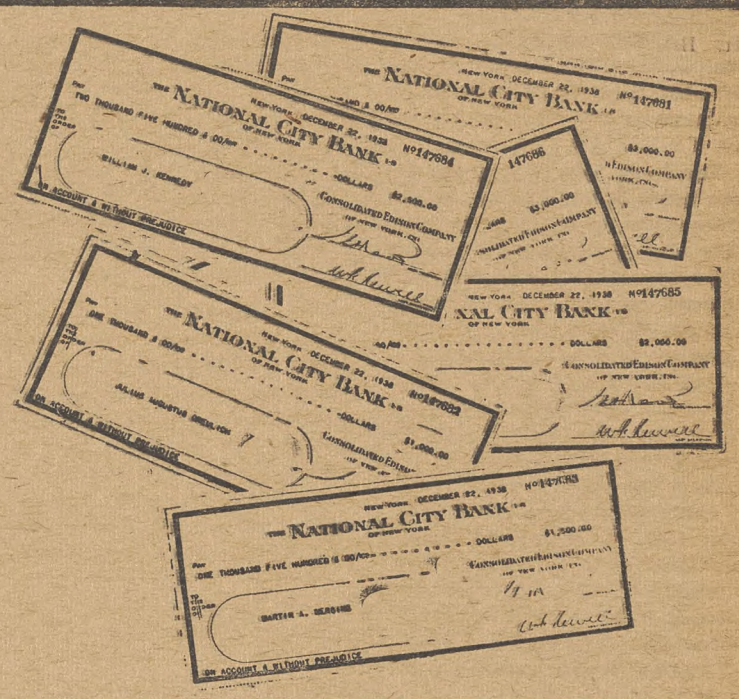
How the Wagner Act Aids Labor

Following are a few of the back pay awards made by the National Labor Relations Board:

Affiliation	Union	Place	Amount
AFL	Teamsters	Boston	$ 850
AFL	Teamsters	New York	35,000
CIO	Rubber	Philadelphia	7,560
AFL	Machinists	Erie, Pa.	1,612
AFL	Machinists	Pittsburgh	9,689
AFL	Paper	Cincinnati	8,000
CIO	Smelter	Michigan	13,500
CIO	Tea Workers	Chicago	51,000
CIO	Metal Miners	Duluth	33,000
AFL	Brick & Clay	Ohio	7,000
CIO	Carpenters	Arkansas	25,000
CIO	Newspaper	Seattle	32,997
CIO	Technicians	Chicago	7,945

Proof of the Pudding





Just a few of the hundreds of checks which have poured out to American workers as a result of National Labor Relations Board orders or agreements. At top: certified check for over $3,000 sent to the National Maritime Union for a group of tank seamen on the Great Lakes. At right: checks sent by the Consolidated Edison Co. to six employes following Supreme Court action upholding an NLRB decision.

Your WPA Job

By Ralph Hetzel, Jr.
CIO Unemployment Director

The attack on WPA by Congressional Tories takes several forms.

There are very few Congressmen or Senators who dare openly to advocate abolition of WPA. They know that their constituents would not stand for an open attack. So the attacks take the form of, for example, cuts in appropriations, crippling amendments attached to appropriations bills, bills pretending to reform the WPA but actually destroying it, and so on. All manner of back-room devices are being used.

FEAR THE PUBLIC

The most serious attack at the present time is the refusal of the House Appropriations Committee to consider the President's request for an additional $150,000,000 to continue the WPA on a more adequate basis until the end of June.

This device has the same purpose as the maneuver in the House to prevent a record vote on the President's original request of $875,000,000 — it saves Congressmen from the necessity of facing the issue publicly. The Tories are afraid that if they are forced to act in the open most Congressmen would not dare to refuse the added appropriation.

"REFORMING" WPA

A second, and more subtle, form of attack is exemplified in the Woodrum Bill to "reform" the WPA.

This Bill seeks to set up State work relief administrations and would return the whole program to the states. The amounts proposed under this bill would be so inadequate that the effect would be, destroy the WPA and to force the States to return most of the people now on WPA, to direct relief.

Another type of "reform" that is being proposed would provide merely for a construction type of works program. Such a program in itself is inadequate to take care of all of the needy unemployed who have been engaged in the present program and would destroy many of the most valuable features of the WPA.

CIO's PROGRAM

The CIO has stated its belief in the necessity for a unified and expanded public works program and has given the principles upon which it believes such a program should be founded. It might be well to restate them here:

"The Congress should authorize a program of public works for a period of not less than two years. Such a program should be large enough to provide jobs to all unemployed who are able and willing to work.

"Such a program should be administered under one direction and should include such work as is now being done under both the WPA & PWA.

"The prinicples upon which such a program should be operated are as follows:

FOUR PRINCIPLES

"(1) All workers should be employed on work suited to their needs and skills.

"(2) Projects should be socially necessary and productive. For example, housing slum clearance, flood control, building of schools and hospitals, health measures, cultural and white collar projects, and vocational training.

"(3) Jobs should be given to those who need jobs, without requiring honest, decent, unemployed workers to degrade themselves as paupers. Those working short time in industry should be given at least enough supplemental work to bring their income up to an American standard.

"(4) The funds for this program should be so appropriated as to make possible the meeting of current needs wherever and whenever they arise."

EMBARRASSED

Virginians please note: Robert Allen and Drew Pearson reported in their newspaper column last week that Senator Glass, of Virginia, remarked testily during the recent Senate Appropriations hearings which slashed WPA funds, that: "In my opinion the fact that a man is on WPA is prima facie evidence that he is incompetent."

Even the Republican members of the Committee protested against the remark and within half an hour after the record appeared Senator Glass hastily recalled copies and expunged the remark before any of his "incompetent" Virginia constituents could see it.

CIO PINS

Available

Gold Letters on Blue Enamel—⅜-in. in Width

With screw back — for Men

With Pin — for Women

(with safety catch 10c extra)

Two Designs:

Solid Lettering — Outline Lettering

PRICES:

25c each

24c each in lots of 10 or more

23c in lots of 100 or more

22c in lots of 500 or more

20c in lots of 1,000 or more

(Add 10c per pin if safety catch is desired)

Order from the CIO

1106 Connecticut Ave., N. W.

Washington, D. C.

Money must be enclosed with order to get advantage of group prices, order through your local secretary.

NEW HOMES FOR OLD

A department dealing with the need for better housing and how to obtain it, conducted by the CIO Committee on Housing.

By THOMAS HUMPHRIES

A new Wagner-Steagall Housing Bill is before Congress! The bill provides for an additional $800,000,000 to be loaned to local housing authorities by the United States Housing Authority.

Since the USHA's first $800,000,000 has already been gobbled up by some 75 cities and towns, the need for more funds is pressing. Scores upon scores of communities have not yet been able to receive a cent of housing funds from the USHA. Those which were quick enough to get a little money haven't hardly enough.

The passage of this bill is of vital importance to the CIO and the entire labor movement.

CIO AT BAT

In Eastern Pennsylvania the CIO's batting average in the housing game is getting higher every day.

The latest victory is in Reading, scene of the famous Berkshire hosiery strike.

For a while it seemed that there would be no slum clearance and low-rent housing whatsoever in Reading. The bankers with investments in Reading's slums did a beautiful job of string-pulling. Practically every business group in town lodged a protest with the Reading Council against signing a contract for USHA funds.

Then labor got on the job. The CIO, in cooperation with the local AFL unions and the Workers Alliance, jammed the Council chambers and presented unbeatable arguments in favor of getting USHA housing projects.

It was a merry fight and a long one, but in the end labor was victorious. . . .

BATTLE AT BETHLEHEM

Having knocked out a winning home run at Reading, the CIO is now going to bat in the important steel town of Bethlehem.

Last year the Bethlehem Housing Authority secured an earmarking for $1,000,000 from the USHA. Strangely enough, however, nothing was done to draw up plans and get this promised million.

If the Steel Workers Organizing Committee and Regional CIO Director John Edelman hadn't been on the job, City Council and the Bethlehem Housing Authority might have let this million slip right through their fingers.

But luckily they were on the job. A labor delegation—representing all labor groups in Bethlehem—called upon the Mayor. Meetings were held. Plans have been laid for a city-wide housing conference on March 4th.

If this conference is a success—as it undoubtedly will be—the slums will soon be disappearing in Bethlehem and new, well-built, well-ventilated and healthy housing projects will be rising from the ground.

LEAGUE IS BUSY

Many local branches of Labor's Non-Partisan League are jumping into the housing swim.

In South Bend, Indiana, for instance, the League is trying to have a housing authority created. In McKeesport a city-wide meeting has been called for March 3 to consider housing and other civic matters.

Housing activity by the League is especially valuable. To quote "Labor's Program for Better Housing" (issued by the CIO):

"Housing is a prime political issue. . . . A well-worked out housing plank will often be of great asistance in electing union men to office. . . . A labor candidate who has a good housing record will better be able to win the valuable support of professional people and progressive business men."

Hospital Drive Gets Public Aid

New York, Feb. 25—The campaign for higher wages for city hospital workers in New York, being conducted by Local 128 of the State, County and Municipal Workers, won support from prominent figures in the city's life today.

Rev. John Haynes Holmes, Rep. Vito Marcantonio, City Councilmen Louis Hollander and Michael Quill, and former State Assemblyman Nathaniel Minkoff, all promised to aid the union's drive.

Rev. Holmes praised the union for its decision to bar strikes as a weapon in its drive, pointing out that "your work is a public service, closely related to critical aspects of life and death, and emphasizes the intelligence and noble spirit of your action. I congratulate you all."

Plan Steel Meeting In Nova Scotia

By MIKE RYAN

Amherst, N. S., Feb. 25 — A conference of representatives of all steelworkers in Canada will be held here March 3, it was decided at a meeting held in Sydney recently when Sydney and Trenton steelworkers met with Silby Barrett, Regional Director of the Steelworkers Organization Committee.

The conference will be in an effort to procure closer unity of Canadian steelworkers without disturbing international affiliations.

TO ORGANIZE STEEL

The meeting will attempt to organize Canadian steel unions, all of which will be notified of the forthcoming conference, to further Canadian autonomy without infringing on, as in the case of the Sydney and Trenton workers, the function of the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Regional Director Barrett said he would invite Philip Murray, chairman of the Steelworkers Organization Committee, to act as chairman of the Amherst meeting.

Present at the Sydney gathering when decision to call the conference was reached were the executive of the Sydney Lodge of the Steelworkers Organization Committee headed by President Carl Neville and President Hugh Ryan and Recording Secretary Alex Neal of the Trenton Lodge.

Calls Confab

Silby Barrett, Canadian CIO official, who has called a meeting of leaders of steel union lodges in the Dominion.

Freedom of Press No License For Slander, Lewis Says

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25. — "The CIO believes that freedom of the press does not mean license for publishers to bias the news against the common people," Pres. John L. Lewis declares in a Symposium on Freedom of the Press, issued by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

The booklet contains statements by 120 "representative Americans" which were written for the paper when it published its sixtieth anniversary edition last December.

Most of the discussion in the symposium was based on a message from Pres. Roosevelt, who warned that if the business-office counting room is to edit a newspaper, that paper cannot then "be edited in the interests of the general public."

Sidney Hillman, CIO vice-president and head of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers ,also has a piece in the discussion. "The time has come," Hillman writes, "when we must give consideration to means for assuring the existence of a press that is free in the economic as well as in the legal sense."

LEWIS'S STATEMENT

Lewis's statement in full:

"The CIO is firmly on record for the freedom of the press, which we regard as the cornerstone of democracy.

"The CIO and the working people generally believe that integrity of the news is essential to the real freedom of the press. This has been recognized and stated again and again by the American Newspaper Guild, representing the organized working newspaper men.

SLANDER CAMPAIGN

"Recently, however, the CIO has been subjected to misrepresentation and calumny in much of the public press. This has caused deep resentment among our membership throughout the country. Our people feel that the bias thus shown recently in the press reflects industrial connections of the policy-making groups which control the press and which have frequently displayed an anti-labor attitude.

"The CIO believes that freedom of the press does not mean license for publishers to bias the news against the common people. The CIO believes that freedom of the press does not mean immunity from the law of the land which gives the right of collective bargaining free from interference by employers. The CIO believes that freedom of the press does not mean the right to serve only those interests which can pay for large advertisements.

LABOR'S OWN PRESS

"The CIO believes that freedom of the press involves the right of all opinions to be fairly expressed — the right of the majority opinion to appear in the agencies of public information as the majority opinion.

"There is a growing conviction among labor and progressive forces in America that it is necessary for the common people to develop a press of their own—a press which can really express the aims and aspirations of the great majority of the people in this democracy."

Metal Miners Win Victory In Tennessee

Ducktown, Tenn., Feb. 25—CIO workers in the Copper Basin here have won a major victory in a long struggle with the Tennessee Copper Co., which with its predecessor opposed union organization of the workers over a period of years.

The victory came with Labor Board certification of the CIO International Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers as representative of a majority of all employes in the Copperhill plant.

Before this, the employers in the Ducktown basin had used almost every trick in the bag against union organization, including wholesale firings of union members.

The company has agreed to accept the Board decision, and organizing drives are going ahead in the area with renewed impetus.

AUTO CONVENTION

Cleveland—The convention of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, will meet at the Hotel Hollenden here on March 27, according to an announcement by Board Members Reisinger and Miley, in charge of arrangements.

DuPont Program Hails Pinkertons; Forgets About Finks and Spies!

NEW YORK, Feb. 25. (FP)—Radio listeners from coast to coast were shocked to hear a dramatization of Allan Pinkerton on the duPont program, Cavalcade of America.

Since Pinkertons were first used to break a miners' strike in Illinois in 1866, workers everywhere have hated the "murderous Pinkerton men." DuPont interests control General Motors, which hired Pinkertons to try to break the United Automobile Workers and paid the "Pinks" more than $400,000 from 1934 to 1936.

Of all the immigrants to America boasted the duPont announcer, none contributed more to our country than Allan Pinkerton. The radio play chronicled Allan's supposed exploits up to 1861—when a Pinkerton man was said to have saved Abraham Lincoln's life—and carefully ended there, five years before Allan made strikebreaking his profession.

EVERYTHING BUT

A humorous slant on this program was afforded by a radio executive of Barton, Batton, Durstine & Osborn, advertising agency which handles the duPont account and is responsible for the Pinkerton script. "In the Cavalcade of America series we dramatize the life of some persons famous in American history," he said. "And in order not to offend any of the radio audience, we never mention anything to do with war, peace, class struggle, labor or religion."

The duPont-sponsored program omitted the fact that in recent years Pinkertons have spied for many big companies, including General Motors, Libbey-Owens-Ford, Montgomery Ward, Bethlehem Steel, Campbell Soup, Continental can and Curtis Publishing; and the Pinkerton slogan is "85 years under four generations of one family—an important business auxiliary."

FIGHT TORY BILL

Madison, Wis., Feb. 25—CIO and AFL unionists joined here to fight a bill claimed by its Tory backers as a means of winning prosperity, but actually designed to cut wage standards.

Labor School Ends Biggest Session

Monteagle, Tenn., Feb. 25. — Student workers from ten national and international unions, six of them CIO organizations, concluded their course at the Highlander Folk School as the annual winter term for resident students drew to a close here last week. It was the largest resident session in the history of the school, 27 students completing the term.

All active members of the labor movement, they came from nine southern states extending from Virginia to Texas. Six were presidents of their locals and eight others held various union offices.

TWOC SENT SEVEN

Two CIO unions, the Textile Workers Organizing Committee and the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, had the largest representations, with seven students coming from TWOC and five from the ACW.

Other CIO unions represented were the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, the United Cannery, Agriculture, Packing & Allied Workers, United Rubber Workers, and Intl. Oil Workers.

Visiting CIO speakers during the term included R. R. Ladrence, Henry Adams, Lucy Mason, Paul Christopher, S. P. Brewer, all from the TWOC; Ed Callaghan, Hosiery Workers; T. F. Terry, United Mine Workers; Noel Beddow, Steel Workers Organizing Committee; Thomas Burns, United Rubber Workers and E. L. Sandefer, CIO director in the Carolinas.

Million Kids Get Lunches From WPA

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—If you were a hungry kid back in your school days you will read between these lines with an understanding heart.

When you read that more than 1,000,000 children have been fed by the WPA school lunch project, you will see, not statistics, but a million pale little faces brightening at the sight of bowls of steaming soup or dishes of meat and vegetable stew.

When you read that on every school day since 1935 an average of 700,000 meals have been served to some 10,000 public and parochial schools of the country by men and women who are themselves in need, you will know the full import of that statement.

130,000,000 MEALS

Over 130,000,000 meals have been served to date to school children by the WPA. They have added strength-giving weight and vitality to undernourished bodies. They have sharpened wits grown dull from hunger.

They have increased class attendance as well as the general scholastic standing of the recipients. They have assisted in the development of good food habits which will last a lifetime.

The meals have been accompanied by training in table manners, essential to the proper social development of the child. They are not only carefully prepared, but are correctly served by the WPA aides who use the lunch room as a demonstration center.

"Seconds" are always forthcoming, for the children served are badly in need of nourishment. For many of them, the school lunch is the only hot meal they get. For some, it is the only thing in their day that can properly be called a "meal" at all.

FOR NEEDIEST

Since it is impossible to serve all the children in school with free lunches under this program, the neediest ones are selected — those whose weight is below par, who live in remote rural homes, or whose parents are known to be jobless or destitute.

The urgent need for school lunches was first made known by teachers who found in malnutrition an explanation of classroom failure—teachers who understood that a child's mind cannot absorb facts when his body is crying out for nourishment.

Through Parent-Teacher Associations and local Boards of Education the aid of the Works Progress Administration was obtained in setting up school lunch projects in almost every state in the Union. These projects have provided jobs for 12,000 needy women, most of them economic heads of their families.

SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISION

Supervisors trained in home economics and dietetics arrange menus, designed to overcome diet deficiencies at home. The typical lunch consists of meat and vegetable soup, or stew, bread and butter, and milk or cocoa. Sometimes a cooked desert or fruit is added.

Teachers in all schools where the WPA operates lunch projects report improvements in general health and gains in weight. In some schools, gains in weight have amounted to from two to five pounds a month per child—an eloquent commentary upon the condition of the children before these lunches came into their lives.

South Carolina, one of the states hardest hit by the depression, has the largest program, with the exception of New York State, where New York City alone serves about 87,000 lunches a day. During 1937, South Carolina served an average of 77,000 children daily in 2,300 schools.

Tennessee and West Virginia maintain extensive programs, and many other states are serving from ten to fifty thousand children a day.

WPA funds allocated for the projects are used to pay wages. Local funds are provided for food and equipment.

Kentucky CIO Asks G-Men For Harlan

Harlan, Ky., Feb. 25—Officials of the Kentucky Industrial Union Council, which had its convention here last week, today forwarded to the Department of Justice a request that it station several agents in the county to gather information for the department's new civil liberties bureau.

The requests was signed by the presidents of three districts of the United Mine Workers—William Turnblazer of Dist. 19, Ed Morgan of Dist. 23 and Sam Caddy of Dist. 30.

HAVE INFORMATION

The resolution noted that "certain information has reached us that an attempt will be made by certain ill-responsible people to deny the coal miners and their representatives their civil liberties in Harlan County.

"We are in possession of certain information that we deem valuable with reference to our civil liberties," it added. The data is to be turned over to Henry A. Schweinhaut at the earliest possible moment.

FILE CHARGES

San Francisco—Charges of discrimination against union members have been filed with the Labor Board against the American Can Co. here by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee.

Boss Sees Gains From Dealing With Unions

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 25—Here's a boss who says: "We played ball with the unions and it worked to our advantage."

The Paraffine Co., makers of Pabco products, has just graduated 25 union men from their school on labor relations, taught by University of California instructors hired by the company. The school has the unions' o. k.

For two years the firm has had contract with 18 unions, both CIO and AFL, without one hour's trouble. H. W. von-Morpurgo, company official, said: "Some employers tell us we're foolish for building up what they call our worst enemy. But we don't look at it that way."

Hot Food For Hungry Tots

South Carolina school children get hot lunches at their school, thanks to WPA, which has been serving 77,000 children in 2,300 schools in that state alone. Tory Congressmen would like to end this kind of "boondoggling."

Aluminum Union Wins Quick Strike

Edgewater, N. J., Feb. 25.—Angered at an attempt of the Aluminum Co. of America to put over a new stagger system at its big plant here which would have changed the working schedule to inconvenient shifts, some 700 employes staged a stay-in strike which ended in victory after 39 hours.

The company announced that it would withdraw the stagger system for a month, pending negotiations.

Refusal of the company to meet a voluntary strikers committee forced the workers to turn to Local 16, Aluminum Workers of America, for aid. The CIO union took the matter to the Natl. Labor Relations Board at once, and conferences between representatives of the AWA and the company was arranged.

TO SEEK PACT

As a result of the negotiations an agreement was reached calling for an attempt at settlement within four weeks. If the dispute is not settled by then, the issue is to be submitted to arbitration.

Union representatives at the negotiations were AWA President N. A. Zonarich, Vice-President W. B. Gravatt, Louis Petrigni, organizer, and James Bellamo, shop steward.

At the close of a mass meeting held after the strike was won, a long line of former members of the "Independent" union joined the AWA. President Zonarich hailed the strike as "a grand victory for the workers."

Woodworkers OK Peace Offer In California

WESTWOOD, Calif., Feb. 25.—Governor Olson's proposal for settling the labor dispute at the big plant of the Red River Lumber Co. by an immediate restoration of the 17½% wage cut made last July, reinstatement of some 25 CIO workers driven out of Westwood by vigilantes, and a Labor Board election within 30 days, has been accepted by the CIO union here, an affiliate of the Intl. Woodworkers of America.

AFL representatives, however, said at the conference where the proposal was made that they would not accept it without a vote of their membership, which is now being taken.

EMPLOYERS SNUB ORDER

As for the employers, they have not yet agreed to restoration of the 17½ per cent cut, and CIO workers say they have shown no signs of complying with the Natl. Labor Relation Board's order made in October to cease interfering with the CIO Woodworkers.

In accepting the proposal, the CIO union made it plain that it agreed to the election within 30 days, only if the other terms were first put into effect.

The Board had previously stated that it would not hold an election before 60 days because a fair poll could not be held in the vigilante atmosphere prevailing in Westwood. The AFL and the company had demanded an immediate election.

Fake Union Must Return Back 'Dues'

Washington, Feb. 25.—The Mt. Vernon, Ill., Car Manufacturing Co. must discontinue its closed shop contract with an AFL-chartered company union and return to the workers all money taken from the workers under a check-off clause of the void contract, the National Labor Relations Board has ruled.

At the same time, the company was ordered to stop discouraging membership in the CIO Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel & Tin Workers, and to reinstate with "remedial wages" 76 men who had been fired for union activities.

The company evaded bargaining with the CIO affiliate, even when that union obviously had a majority of the plant's several hundred workers in its membership, the Board added.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 10 20 March 6, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

CIO AND AFL TO CONFER AT PRESIDENT'S REQUEST

Labor Stalls War On Wagner Act

Hearings Postponed In Senate

Washington, Mar. 4. — Sen. Elbert Thomas, chairman of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, announced that hearings on the Wagner Act amendments, scheduled for March 10, have been postponed indefinitely.

He said the postponement resulted from Pres. Roosevelt's unity plea to the CIO and the AFL.

Meanwhile, Sen. David Walsh, sponsor of the AFL's proposed amendments, admitted to the general executive board of the United Shoe Workers that he had scarcely read the Senate Bill (1000) which bears his name.

UNCERTAIN

He confessed that he has not yet made up his mind to support changes in the Act, and said that a large number of AFL unions have written him protests against amendments.

A survey this week showed the following actions in behalf of the Act:

1. Opposition to the amendments from two AFL international unions — the Intl. Assn. of Machnists and the Pattern Makers League — both of which wrote sharp letters to Pres. William Green condemning his actions.

CITY GROUPS

2. Letters from the president of the AFL's city legislative committee in Cheyenne, Wyoming, to Senators Burke and Walsh, attacking their amendment proposals.

3. Support for the Act as it now stands from powerful AFL unions in the state of Washington, including carpenters, building service employes, typographical workers and machinists.

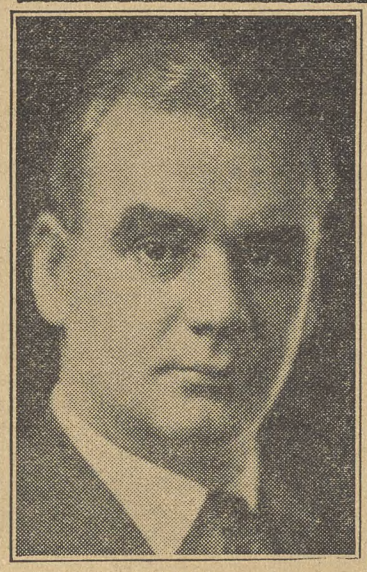
STEP TO FASCISM

4. A warning from Pres. Reid Robinson of the CIO mine, mill, and smelter workers that the amendments are the "first outward attempt toward controlled labor as practiced under a fascist state."

Study Labor Laws In Rhode Island

Providence, R. I., Mar. 4. — A committee composed of CIO directors and officials of a number of CIO unions in Rhode Island interviewed Gov. William H. Vanderbilt last week on legislation for the benefit of the state's workers. Joseph Mayo, state CIO director headed the group.

To Discuss Unity



Above: CIO President John L. Lewis, below: Vice-Presidents Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman. The trio of union leaders will meet with the committee chosen by the AFL at the suggestion of President Roosevelt. Negotiations are expected to start soon.

American Woolen Co. Signs With Textile Union

LAWRENCE, Mass., Mar. 4. — All workers in three of the largest mills of the American Woolen Co. in New England are covered by a contract signed last week establishing the Textile Workers Organizing Committee as sole bargaining agency.

The agreement was reached with the huge concern, known in union circles as the U. S. Steel corporation of the textile industry, after prolonged negotiations following TWOC election victories in the plants. It will be effective until Feb. 1, 1940, Emil Rieve, TWOC executive director announced.

The CIO union considers the contract the outstanding victory won since it was formed less than two years ago. Provisions include a 40-hour week for all productive workers, a share-work plan and maintenance of present wage scales which are among the highest in the woolen and worsted industry. Other important woolen companies are expected to fall in line.

The American Woolen plants involved are: Wood & Ayer Mills, Lawrence, Mass.; Sawyer Mill, Dover, N. H., and Anderson Mill, Skowhegan, Me.

Lewis, Murray, Hillman Will Speak for CIO

(See Story on Page Three)

WASHINGTON, Mar. 4.—Spokesmen of both the Congress of Industrial Organizations and the American Federation of Labor are expected to meet together within the coming week, in response to the call issued by President Roosevelt.

The CIO will be represented by its three leading officers, President John L. Lewis and Vice Presidents Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman.

The AFL committee will consist of Harry C. Bates of the Bricklayers, Matthew Woll of the Photo-Engravers and T. J. Rickert of the United Garment Workers.

CONFERENCES SOON

President Roosevelt was away inspecting the Navy when his letters to Lewis and Pres. William Green of the AFL were made public.

But Secretary of Labor Perkins, upon being informed of the acceptance by both sides of Roosevelt's proposal, announced that she would confer with the President immediately upon his return, and probably call both committees together within a week.

One result of the approaching peace negotiations has been postponement of Senate committee hearings on proposed amendments to the Wagner labor relations act. Senator Elbert Thomas announced the postponement on the grounds that labor controversy on this subject should not be allowed to interfere with the peace discussions.

Charge Army Air Corps Seeks to Evade Pay Law

WASHINGTON, Mar. 4.—All U. S. Senators were warned today of the dangers to organized labor in the proposed exemptions of Army Air Corps purchases from the Walsh-Healey Act and the Bacon-Davis Act. The warning was sent in a letter to each Senator from Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel.

The exemption, Pressman said, was carried in a rider to H. R. 3791 which says:

"Provided that for the purposes of this Act, educational orders shall not be considered as contracts for public work or works or for the manufacture of materials, supplies, articles and equipment."

CHARGES ATTEMPTED EVASION

Pressman charged the War and Navy Departments "have been constantly attempting to evade the provisions of this legislation which was enacted by Congress for the protection of labor.

"Certainly it is a minimum request on the part of labor that in regard to the huge appropriations that are now being enacted for national defense that the legislation that has heretofore been passed by Congress for the protection of labor should not be set aside in regard to such appropriations."

Brophy Hails Election Of Pope Pius XII

WASHINGTON, Mar. 4. — Hailing the election of the new Pope Pius XII, John Brophy, CIO director, described him as a worthy successor to Pope Pius XI. Brophy said:

"It was my good fortune to attend a luncheon in the National Press Club in Washington in 1936 at which the then Cardinal Pacelli spoke on world peace. I was impressed by his personality and his knowledge of American affairs.

"In the election of Cardinal Pacelli as Pope, we can expect a continuation of the great traditions of the Papacy. As Papal Secretary of State, he was associated with the great Pontiff, Pius XI, who not only condemned racialism but emphasized the dignity of the individual and vigorously defended the rights of labor in his encyclicals on labor.

"A promise for the future is contained in the new Pope's motto—'Work, Justice, Peace'."

New Steel Pacts Bring Major Benefits

By HOWARD J. McCARTNEY

PITTSBURGH, Mar. 4.—Contracts negotiated and signed in the last few weeks by the CIO's Steel Workers Organizing Committee have resulted in major victories for the steel union. In most cases substantial improvements were written into old contracts. Outstanding among this group are:

United States Sanitary Manufacturing Company, of Monaca, Pa., where among other gains, the SWOC won wage increases, shorter hours in some departments, sole bargaining rights and strengthening of seniority clauses.

Valley Steel Casting Company, of Bay City, Mich., where the SWOC was able to block a threatened wage cut, won a check-off system and sole bargaining rights, and improved general working conditions under the new contract.

The new contract signed at U. S. Sanitary Manufacturing Company is recognized in the Beaver Valley as one of the steel union's major achievements in this district. The agreement was signed on the eve of a threatened strike.

The first agreement between the company and union embodied a clause entitling either party to reopen negotiations after serving formal notice. Written into the pact was also a clause stating that the union had the right to demand a wage increase any time one of the firm's competitors granted a raise.

IMPROVEMENTS

Officials of the company served notice on the union that it wished to reopen negotiations looking toward abolishment of the wage clause, but after lengthy negotiations between company and union officials several improvements were made on the agreement:

After a Labor Board case last year the U. S. Sanitary Manufacturing Company was forced to pay back wages totaling $1,280 to five SWOC members, who, it was proved, had been discharged for union activities.

ENDS LONG FIGHT

The contract signed with Valley Steel Casting Co. culminates a long and bitter struggle by the lodge to maintain its status in the mill. Last fall the members of the lodge were faced with a drastic wage reduction when the company served notice that such a step was necessary if the firm was to remain in business.

The lodge immediately called a special meeting and, with co-operation of national SWOC officials, plans were mapped on ways and means to circumvent the wage cut.

Twelve Fired To Get $2000 In Back Pay

Chester, Pa., March 4.—Twelve workers fired a year ago and reinstated six months later at the Marcus Hook plant of the American Viscose Corp., English-owned rayon textile concern, are to receive more than $2,000 in back wages, according to a decision made by Dr. Willard Hotchkiss, impartial arbitrator.

The men who were discharged in violation of their seniority rights under the agreement between the Textile Workers Organizing Committee and Viscose, were given their jobs back last October after a hearing before Dr. Hotchkiss. The union, however, continued to force the issue of back pay lost before the men won their reinstatement.

Labor, New Deal Win At Chicago

Chicago, Mar. 4 — Backed by an almost solid CIO-AFL vote, the New Deal won its first important election contest of 1939 as Mayor Edward F. Kelly won renomination in the Democratic primaries here.

By an almost 2-1 vote, Kelly swept over the hopes of Thomas Courtney, state attorney, who had the backing of Col. Frank Knox, Republican candidate for vice-president in 1936 and publisher of the Chicago Daily News.

ELECTION CERTAIN

Kelly's election is considered almost a sure thing. He will be opposed by a conservative Republican, Dwight Green, whose sole claim to fame is based on his prosecution of Al Capone several years ago.

Labor's Non-Partisan League played an active part during the campaign, with many of its endorsed candidates winning city council seats.

PWOC HELPS

The packinghouse workers, according to Henry Johnson, assistant national director of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, "played a major role in the defeat of the labor-hating candidate for mayor, Thomas J. Courtney."

Johnson added that it was "apparent to all the working people of the city, and especially clear to the packinghouse workers, that the forces of reaction were hard at work to destroy Pres. Roosevelt's support from this key center of the middle west, and to push into public office a city administration that would be anti-New Deal, anti-labor."

SUPPORTED PROJECTS

Kelly campaigned on a straight New Deal program. He endorsed the federal administration's WPA, housing, and social security programs, attacked amendments to the Wagner Act, and promised full cooperation with future New Deal policies.

Negro Unionists Condemn Martin

Detroit, Mar. 4 — Negro unionists here have unanimously condemned the splitting tactics of Homer Martin, former president of the United Automobile Workers, and pledged full support to Pres. R. J. Thomas and the Executive Board.

The action was taken at a meeting of the Detroit Council of the Natl. Negro Congress, whose trade union members are largely Negro auto workers. Tracy Doll, UAWA Board member, spoke, stressing the democracy of the CIO and the fact that it had organized thousands of Negro workers on a basis of equality with its white members.

Curran Asks Maritime Unity

NEW YORK, Mar. 4. — A joint conference to promote national unity among all marine unions, CIO, AFL and independent was proposed last week by Joseph Curran, president of the National Maritime Union, in letters sent to the heads of six organizations.

Declaring that "unity is absolutely essential to combat the constant threat of anti-labor legislation and the vicious attacks of the solidly organized shipowners," Curran suggested that a unity conference be held sometime in March or April.

STRENGTH IN UNITY

"All seamen on all coasts," Curran said, "recognize that it will be absolutely necessary, if we are to protect our gains when agreements expire in September, for all officials in the maritime unions to realize that only in unity is there strength and protection for the membership."

Letters proposing the conference were sent to: Masters, Mates & Pilots and Sailors Union of the Pacific, AFL; Marine, Cooks & Stewards of the Pacific, Marine Engineers Beneficial Association, and American Communications Association, CIO; and Marine Firemen, Oilers, Watertenders & Wipers, independent.

Negotiate to End Rubber Strike In Ontario

KITCHENER, Ont., Mar. 4.—Negotiations have been opened to settle the strike of 1,300 employes of the Dominion Tire and the Merchants Rubber companies here who are seeking a written agreement with a 5c wage increase, seniority rights and regulation of hours. The strikers belong to Local 67 and 80, United Rubber Workers of America.

Some 500 Dominion employes went on strike Feb. 8, followed by about 800 Merchant workers on Feb. 13, when the companies suddenly broke off negotiations after stalling for six weeks.

The two concerns are part of the Dominion Rubber System which is the Canadian subsidiary of the U. S. Rubber Co.

COPY U. S. TORIES

Taking a leaf from the manual of anti-union industrialists in the United States, the companies have used every means possible to split the ranks of the strikers and to turn the community against them, closely following the infamous "Mohawk Valley" strike-breaking formula originated by Remington-Rand in New York several years ago to break an AFL strike.

A back-to-work committee was set up, falsely claiming to represent 70 per cent of the employes, which threatened to break up the picket line, and a flood of anti-union propaganda was released in the press. The companies also threatened to move their plants to Quebec where wages are lower and trade unions are throttled by Premier Duplessis' padlock law.

EXPOSED BOSS AGENTS

The URWA locals fought back by exposing the company agents, making nightly radio broadcasts, holding public meetings and parades, issuing handbills and running advertisements in the press.

Quick response to 3000 letters sent to all local unions in Canada brought in many cash donations and pledges of support from both AFL and CIO locals. The international office of the URWA also sent financial support.

The union was represented at the negotiations by Alfred Mustin, Harry James, John Tillger and Sam Poag, assisted by Canadian representative N. H. Eagle and Organizer Joe MacKenzie. A. C. Jeannette of the Ontario Department of Labor is acting as mediator.

Pay Raised $75,000 On Boston Papers

Boston, Mar. 4.—More than 300 employes on the Boston Herald and Traveler will receive pay raises—amounting to about $75,000—as the result of a new contract signed by the Boston Newspaper Guild.

The pact, the third negotiated by the Guild and the powerful publishing corporation, is the first one which covers both editorial and commercial department workers.

The five-day, 40-hour week now covers all employes of the corporation, the Guild announced, while the new minimum pay rates are the highest yet won in New England.

Heads of many editorial and commercial departments will get at least $70 weekly under the agreement, while copy readers and rewrite men will receive $60 and experienced reporters $55.

U. S. Official Asks For Release Of Kentucky Miners

NEW YORK, Mar. 4. (FP)—Brien McMahon, U. S. attorney general, has urged Gov. A. B. Chandler of Kentucky to pardon the four Harlan union miners now serving life terms for alleged participation in the Battle of Evarts, May 5, 1931, the Kentucky Miners Defense has announced.

McMahon, who prosecuted the Harlan conspiracy cases last summer, took this almost unprecedented action in the form of a letter to Chandler in which he admitted that his recommendation was "somewhat unusual."

KNOWS WITNESSES

During the Harlan trial last summer, McMahon wrote, he examined the records of the Evarts miners' trial.

"I then became aware that many of the personalities who testified against the men who were defendants in our case whose reputation for lawlessness and violence in the community was well-known," he said.

"Frankly, I would not believe many of them under oath.

"It is my considered judgment and opinion that the deputy sheriffs themselves provoked the Battle of Evarts and that they were responsible for the troubles which occurred."

AFL groups and the Kentucky CIO Industrial Union Council have gone on record requesting the pardoning of the four veteran miners.

Parleys in 3rd Week To End Long Guild Strike

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Mar. 4—After a three-day recess granted publishers of this city's three strike-bound dailies, conferences were resumed by the striking Newspaper Guild Wednesday with the understanding publishers would withdraw ridiculous counter-offers and offer something substantial towards settlement of the 22-week-old strike.

Parleys during the past three weeks have produced nothing definite towards settlement, as publishers have shied away from conferences, sending in their second and third string teams in an attempt to wear the Guild down.

They have also stalled because state Unemployment checks due Guildsmen have stopped, the 13-week period ending recently, and hope the Guild can be starved into taking a sub-standard pact.

Counter-offers given Guildsmen have been worse than conditions newspapermen formerly worked under here.

ACW STRIKES

Los Angeles, Mar. 4.—In protest against low wages and deplorable working conditions, 175 employes of the Wardrobe Linen Supply & Laundry Co., are on strike here. They belong to the Laundry Division of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

Lewis Backs U. S. Aid To Education

Washington, Mar. 4.—Full support for Senate Bill 1305 for Federal aid to education was announced by John L. Lewis, President of the CIO, in a statement presented to the Senate Committee on Education and Labor.

"Organized labor has always been the spearhead in the movement for public education, open on equal terms to all," Lewis said. "It is not fair to the citizens of any one state that their children should be allowed to enter the life of the nation lacking the educational opportunity of those of another state."

REQUESTED BY LABOR

The President's Advisory Committee on Education, which prepared the bill, has its origin in requests of organized labor, and labor representatives worked on the Committee during the preparation of its report, he pointed out.

"I therefore urge on behalf of the members of the CIO that Congress here and now establish the sound principles embodied in the bill providing Federal aid for education," he said in conclusion.

See Wagner Act Amended By Court Ruling

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, Mar. 4.—The U. S. Supreme Court has amended the Wagner Act.

This was the interpretation placed on the decision handed down this week against the National Labor Relations Board in the case of the Fansteel Metallurgical Co. of North Chicago, Ill.

The court is back at its old trick of following the election trends as it sees them, in the opinion of many observers who have studied the 5-2 decision.

By placing workers who have violated one law or another in the course of a labor dispute outside the realm of the Wagner Act, the court has practically written a blank check for provocateurs and employer-sponsored labor spies in future labor disputes, it is predicted.

UPHELD ON TWO POINTS

Though refusing to uphold a Board order that the Fansteel management re-instate workers who were fired during the course of a strike for recognition in February, 1937, the court did give its O.K. to order that it cease recognition of a company union and desist from intimidating its employes from joining Lodge 66 of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, CIO affiliate.

The court majority took the position that the use of the sitdown strike barred the workers from benefits of the Wagner Act.

The minority opinion—supported by Justices Reed and Black—struck squarely at the heart of the majority ruling.

Continued on page six

Court Turns Down AFL Attack

Washington, Mar. 4—An AFL flank attack on the CIO's west coast longshoremen's union ended in failure in the U. S. circuit court of appeals here.

The court refused an AFL request to set aside a Labor Board order certifying the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union as sole collective bargaining agency for all longshoremen on the Pacific coast.

FIRST OF KIND

The Board order, made several months ago, attracted wide attention, since it was the first bargaining unit certified on a geographical basis. Shortly afterward the union signed contracts with some 200 shipping concerns operating in 31 west coast ports.

The circuit court told the AFL that the Wagner Act provides for no court appeals from Labor Board certifications unless the employer refuses to bargain collectively.

CIO--AFL Unity Negotiations Start March 7

WASHINGTON.—Negotiations for peace between the Congress of Industrial Organizations and the American Federation of Labor will begin Tuesday, March 7, following appointment of committees by both organizations in compliance with President Roosevelt's request.

The meetings, called by Sec. of Labor Frances Perkins, will be held in the White House.

President John L. Lewis of the CIO accepted the President's proposal without reservations in the following brief letter:

"Complying with the request contained in your letter of February 23, I advise that the committee to represent the Congress of Industrial Organizations will consist of Mr. Philip Murray, Mr. Sidney Hillman and the undersigned."

President William Green announced that the AFL committee would consist of Harry C. Bates, president of the Bricklayers Union; Matthew Woll, vice-president of the Photo-Engravers Union, and Daniel J. Tobin, president of the Teamsters Union.

Tobin later declined the appointment, stating that the pressure of work on union wage contracts made it "absolutely and utterly impossible" for him to serve on the committee. Green thereupon announced that Thomas A. Rickert, president of the United Garment Workers, would take Tobin's place.

GREEN'S STATEMENT

AFL acceptance of President Roosevelt's proposal was accompanied by a statement by Green, in which he declared:

"The preservation of the structure of the AFL and the preservation of its democratic principles are of transcendent importance and cannot be compromised or be made the subject of negotiation. That fact will be kept constantly in mind in all negotiations which may be initiated and carried on."

Green also stated that the "economic and political philosophy" of the AFL could not be compromised and expressed the opinion that the problem was now more difficult of solution than it was at the time of the last negotiations a year and a half ago.

Upon hearing of the acceptance by both sides of the President's proposal, Secretary of Labor Perkins announced that she would call the negotiating committees into session within a week, after she had consulted with President Roosevelt upon his return from his cruise with the Navy.

CIO BOARD CONSULTED

All members of the executive board of the CIO were consulted on the composition of the CIO committee and all replies expressed approval of Lewis, Murray and Hillman as representatives of the whole movement in the negotiations.

Lewis as president of the United Mine Workers, Murray as chairman of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, and Hillman as

Continued on page six

Steel Pay Order Goes Into Effect; Three Firms Seek Stay

WASHINGTON, Mar. 4.—Establishment of new minimum pay rates for steel producers filling government contracts of $10,000 or more went into effect March 1 on orders of Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins.

Efforts of Bethlehem Steel Corp., largest firm affected by the regulations, to halt the action resulted in failure at the federal district court here.

A group of seven small producers sought injunction halting the government from taking the action recommended by the Public Contracts Board, under authority of the Walsh-Healey Act.

LIMITED TO THREE

Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel and attorney for the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, pointed out to the court that such an order would mean a difference to some 60,000 steel workers in the Philadelphia area alone. As a result, Judge Bailey limited application of the order to only three of the firms, which are planning bids on navy contracts, and gave them a restraining order expiring March 6.

At that time application for a temporary injunction will be made, provided the companies win the U. S. contracts. Workers in the three firms' plants are protected, meanwhile, by a $25,000 bond ordered by the district court —the difference in amount between present pay scales and these set by Miss Perkins.

WALSH-HEALEY ACT

The Labor Department order is based on the Walsh-Healey Act, passed about two years ago, which allows the Public Contracts Board to bar large contracts to companies failing to meet certain set fair labor standards.

At public hearings last summer the SWOC showed that its basic pay rate of 62½c an hour was the prevailing rate in the large "northeastern" section of the country, in which an overwhelming majority of the nation's steel is produced.

The Dept. of Labor upheld the SWOC's contentions, at the same time setting somewhat lower figures in other areas where a small amount of steel is manufactured.

New Frame-up In Los Angeles; 150 on Trial

Los Angeles, Mar. 4.—Trial of 15 members and officers of the Chrysler local, affiliated with the United Automobile Workers, on trumped up charges of "extortion" was scheduled to open here this week.

The UAW local accuses the fascist Southern Californians, Inc., the Neutral Thousands and other labor-hating elements of being behind the frame-up, "timed to coincide with the climax of the drive to repeal the local anti-picketing ordinance."

SEE LONG PLANNING

Although the indictment of the men came like a bolt from the blue, union spokesmen say that it was undoubtedly planned several months ago.

The 15 members are accused in the indictment of "conspiracy" to commit "extortion" in the collection of dues from Chrysler employes under "threats of violence," in connection with an organizational drive by Local 230 of the UAW to make Chrysler a 100 per cent union shop.

WITHOUT PRECEDENT

The Deputy District Attorney is said to have admitted that the indictments are without precedent, as they are not based on any actual violence.

Full support to the 15 workers, now out on bail, was pledged at a crowded meeting held at Maywood American Legion hall, presided over by Dick Coleman, West Coast UAW representative. Attorneys Gallasher, Wirin and Johnson spoke on the legal aspects of the case.

Senate Committee Postpones Hearings On Wagner Act

WASHINGTON, Mar. 4.—Senate hearings on the Wagner Act amendments have been indefinitely postponed.

Senator Elbert Thomas of Utah, head of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, made the announcement The hearings were originally scheduled to start March 10.

The Senator said it would be "most unfortunate" to hold the hearings at this time in view of President Roosevelt's peace messages to President John L. Lewis of the CIO and President William Green of the AFL.

No hearings have been scheduled by the House Labor Committee, headed by Congresswoman Mary Norton of New Jersey.

Representing Mr. Hearst

This charming fellow is a Hearst goon in action. With auto crack handle in his right hand, he charged into a group of spectators watching members of the Newspaper Guild picket the Hearst building in Chicago. Result: 17 were injured, two seriously.

Remington Signs CIO Contract

New York, Mar. 4.—Remington-Rand, union smashing concern which invented the infamous Mohawk Valley formula for breaking strikes, has signed an agreement here with Local 1237, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, CIO, covering typewriter repair men.

Terms of the contract include shortening of the work week, vacations with pay, and a provision that wages are not to be cut without consultation with the union.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II March 6, 1939 No. 10

The Issue Is Not CIO Vs. AFL

Defense of the Wagner Labor Relations Act against amendment is not really such a controversial issue as between CIO and AFL, as the act's enemies would have it appear.

A great part of the rank and file of the AFL has given fully as much evidence of being opposed to all amendments of the act, including the Walsh amendments, as is the CIO.

The Walsh amendments have been sponsored by President William Green and other top officials of the AFL. But even in the higher officialdom of the Federation there are many who see the dangers to all labor in the proposed amendments.

Opposition to the Walsh amendments is by no means confined to such AFL elements as may be considered as friendly or least hostile to the CIO. On the contrary, some of the most anti-CIO officials of the AFL are among the strongest opponents of the amendments.

Letters written by President George Q. Lynch of the Pattern Makers League and by Vice President F. D. Laudemann of the International Association of Machinists, for instance, have recently found their way into the daily press.

Both of these AFL leaders make no attempt to conceal their hostility to the CIO. But at the same time they object vigorously to most of the Walsh amendments.

They point out that these amendments would strengthen company unions, give employers many weapons against genuine unions, bring in the courts to the disadvantage of labor, result in endless delays and conflicts, and generally weaken the whole Wagner Act.

The real issue in regard to the Wagner Act is not AFL versus CIO. It is between labor and all other defenders of the act, on the one side, and the enemies of genuine collective bargaining on the other side.

Keep Up the Fight

Senator Elbert D. Thomas, chairman of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, has announced postponement of the hearings on amendments to the Wagner Labor Relations Act, which were first set for March 10.

Decision to postpone the hearings, he said, was made on account of the forthcoming negotiations between CIO and AFL, called for by Pres. Roosevelt and agreed to by both labor organizations.

A postponement is no more than a postponement. It does not mean that the dangers to the Wagner Act from the various proposed amendments are any less threatening.

It is still fully as necessary as it has ever been to keep up the fight against any and all amendments to the charter of labor's union rights—and to let Congress know how you stand.

50-50 Liberty

Mayor Hague has done one service to his country. By denying to the citizens of Jersey City nearly every liberty on which he could lay his hands, he has helped to make the rest of the country more liberty-conscious.

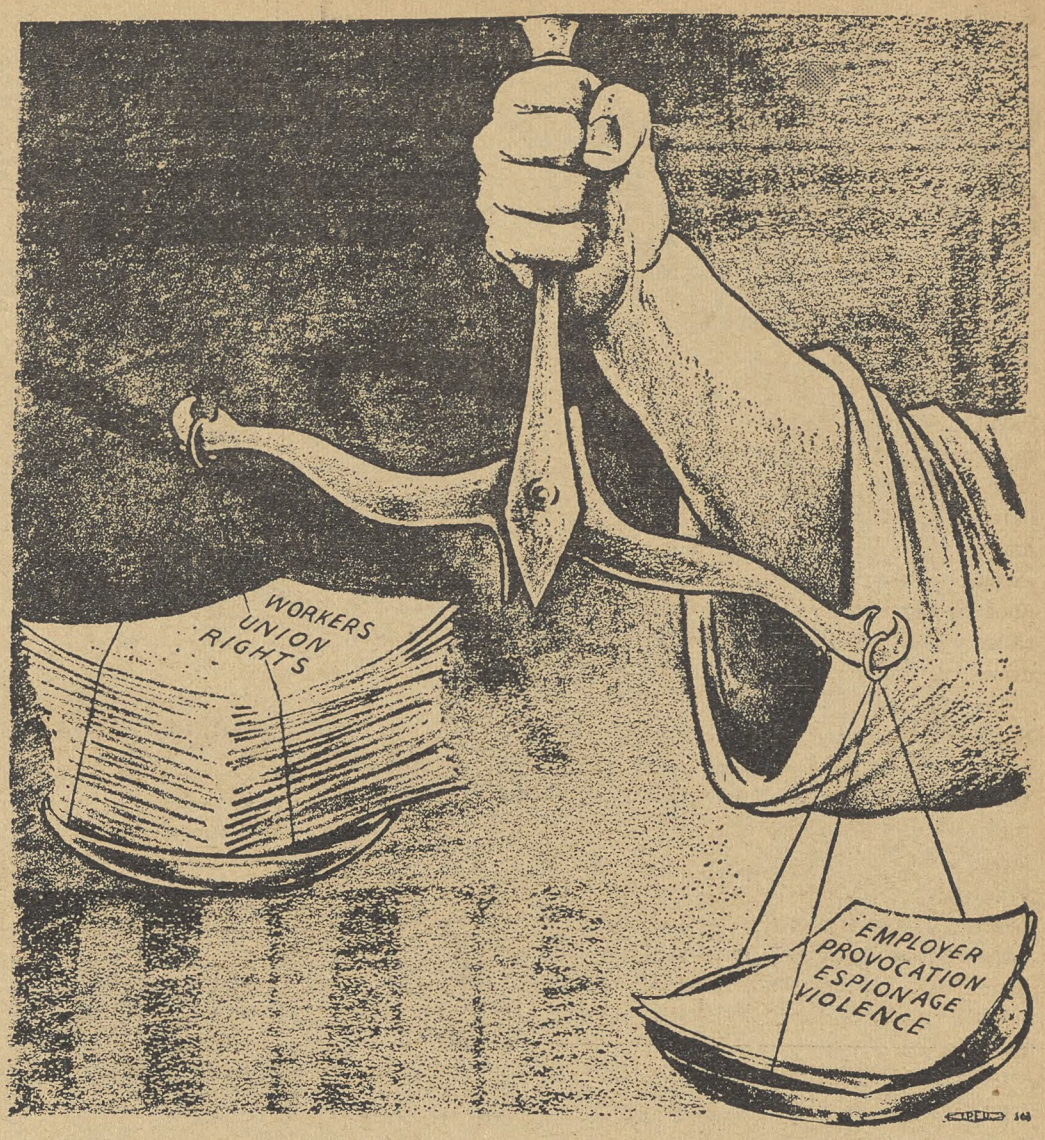
Liberty is one of those things you appreciate most when you lose it or are in serious danger of losing it. So when Hague tried to clamp down on the rights of free speech and free assemblage and labor's right to organize, he gave the whole country a jolt.

Now comes another jolt. A survey of most of the bigger cities, just completed by the American Civil Liberties Union, reveals that Hague has many close rivals. It shows that no city in the United States achieves more than a 50 per cent observance of the civil rights presumably guaranteed its citizens.

Free speech fares pretty well, except in Jersey City, Memphis and Little Rock, according to the survey. But the right of public assembly is "the most universally disregarded." Picketing stands next to public assembly as to the right most frequently interfered with. Many restrictions on the freedom of labor unions to operate are noted.

Labor, in other words, is one of the groups whose rights and liberties are most often infringed. But labor is also one of the greatest forces working to make this a country of not 50 per cent, but 100 per cent liberty.

Continuation of the Senate civil liberties committee is one immediate step in this direction on which all labor and other 100-per centers should concentrate. This committee's work has been well begun, but it is only half done, you should remind your Senator.



Uneven Scales

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

The Fansteel Decision

Mr. Dooley's ideas about the Supreme Court following the election returns are not supported by the Court's decision in the Fansteel case.

For if the justices really studied the election results, they would find no mandate whatever for such a sweeping attack on labor's rights and the Wagner act as is embodied in their Fansteel decision.

Instead of following the last election's returns, the majority of the Court seem to have been more intent on preparing a campaign document for the next elections.

Through the Hedge

The Supreme Court shares in some of the "divinity" that is supposed to hedge a king. And part of the Court's protective hedge is the legal verbiage that usually makes it so hard for the man in the street to figure out what it is all about.

But in the case of the Fansteel decision, there is a thin patch in the hedge through which the passer-by can get a good look into the hallowed precincts.

There is vigor if not passion in the language with which the more reactionary justices lead off their attack. And the dissenting opinion of Justices Reed and Black is a remarkably clear and brief expression of the issue which almost any layman can understand.

The Real Issue

Contrary to the impression created by newspaper headlines, Justices Reed and Black state that the real issue is not the legality or illegality of the sitdown strike.

"The issue, while important, is narrow," they declare. "Can an employe, on strike or let out by an unfair labor practice, be discharged, finally, by an employer so as to be ineligible for reinstatement under the act?"

They state further: "Disapproval of a sit-down does not logically compel the acceptance of the theory that an employer has the power to bar his striking employe from the protection of the Labor Act."

The majority of the Court took the opposite point of view. They held that, regardless of an employer's illegal actions in provoking a strike, he can deprive employes of the protection of the Wagner act by discharging them for participating in a sitdown strike or even handing cigarettes to sit-downers.

Under the Court's decision, according to Reed and Black, conduct on the part of strikers from "nose-thumbing to sabotage" can "give fair occasion for discharge on grounds other than those prohibited by the Labor Act." Such discharged employes then become ineligible for reinstatement under the act, the Court holds.

License to Provoke

In its administration of the Wagner Act, the Labor Board has held that punishment for illegal acts on the part of strikers is a matter for peace officers and the courts; and that this is separate and distinct from the workers' right to organize and bargain collectively which it is its duty to protect.

In point of fact, a number of the Fansteel strikers were fined and given jail sentences on the grounds of disobeying a court order to vacate the premises.

But the Supreme Court's decision gives the employer an additional power to punish strikers. It permits him, by discharging them for acts which he may himself provoke by his unfair labor practices, to deprive them of the protection to which they are entitled under the Wagner Act.

Under this interpretation, the anti-union employer will be encouraged to use labor spies and other forms of provocation to make strikers commit some even minor illegal act. For then he can discharge such strikers and, no matter how flagrant his own illegal unfair practices, he will be relieved of the obligation to reinstate these workers when the board finds against him.

Unfair Practices

In the Fansteel case, the Court does not dispute the Labor Board's contention that it was the company's unfair labor practices that led to the strike.

The Board found that the Fansteel company had promoted a company union, had refused to bargain with the real union, had employed a labor spy, had isolated the union president from his fellow workers, and had been guilty of other violations of the Labor Act.

The Court does not become excited about these illegalities on the part of the company which caused the whole trouble. On the contrary, it seeks to protect such law-breaking companies from one of the consequences of illegal actions.

But the majority decision waxes positively violent in the language with which it denounces alleged violations by the employes of the property rights of their law-breaking employer.

Human vs. Property Rights

The Fansteel decision is another skirmish in the long struggle between human rights and property rights.

In this case workers who allegedly violate property rights are doubly punished; while employers who violate the human rights of their employes are exempted from most of their punishment and let off with little more than a tap on the wrist.

The Fansteel decision has been described as in effect an amendment of the Wagner Act, passed by court action rather than by a democratic vote of Congress. It should serve to make labor increasingly vigilant against other and even worse amendments that threaten.

Shoe Union Board Calls On Walsh, Condemns His Bill

Senator Interviewed

Washington, Mar. 4 — Senator David I. Walsh of Massachusetts, sponsor of the AFL's crippling changes in the Wagner Act, was hard put to defend his amendments this week when the general executive board of the United Shoe Workers of America, CIO, called upon him to urge withdrawal of the amendments.

The union delegation, led by National Director Powers Hapgood and Sec.-Treas. James J. Mitchell, told the Senator that the union's 50,000 members — a large proportion of them from Walsh's home state of Massachusetts — were solidly opposed to the proposed amendments, and looked upon their introduction into the Senate as an act unfriendly to the CIO and American workers.

HASN'T READ BILL

Walsh admitted to the group that he had not yet thoroughly read his amendment bill (S.1000) and has made no decision on his vote when and if the bill comes up before the Senate at this session of Congress.

Though he had offered the amendments — proposed by the AFL's top leadership — the veteran Bay State Senator revealed that almost all the communications he has received have attacked the amendments. A large number of these communications, he said, had come from AFL unions.

GETS MANY LETTERS

Walsh appeared shaken by the fact that his bill had the opposition not only of the CIO but of the rank and file and much of the leadership of the AFL itself. He was told that the amendments stand as a barrier to the AFL-CIO peace sought by the administration.

The delegation later conferred with Congressman Lawrence Connery of Massachusetts, who pledged his support to the basic aims of the Wagner Act, and promised to fight any amendments which would destroy the purposes of the Act.

Protects Low Paid Workers

Washington, Mar. 4. — Pointing out that to amend the Wagner Act would set the clock back, the general executive board of the United Shoe Workers today called upon Sen. David I. Walsh to withdraw his proposed changes to the labor law.

$800 ANNUAL PAY

The resolution pointed out that the average annual income of the nation's 300,000 shoe workers is less than $800, and that collective bargaining under the protection of the Wagner Act has "provided a means for increasing the wages and improving the working conditions of thousands of workers."

Runaway shops, as well as "spies bribery, coercion, tear gas, strong arm squads of thugs and pug-uglies and a variety of nefarious methods" have confronted the union in its organizing campaigns, the declaration showed.

WHOLESALE VIOLATIONS

Full benefits of the Act have been prevented because of "wholesale and planned violations" by employers, by collusion between bosses and "certain purported labor organizations," together with the "actions of certain judges in our courts."

Senator Walsh's bill, the USWA board said, would "legalize the practices herein set forth as hampering the opportunity of workers to organize into unions of their own choosing."

D. C. Unions Busy, Too

Washington, Mar. 4.—Following the example of Denver, Colo., and other cities, labor and progressive groups here have formed a city-wide committee to defend the Wagner Act.

The committee is composed of representatives of CIO and AFL unions, the League of Women Shoppers, the Lawyers Guild, the League for Peace and Democracy, and others.

They plan a campaign to educate all sections of the people of Washington of the dangers to the Act, and to bring pressure on Congressmen and Senators against amendments.

Protests

Powers Hapgood, national director of the United Shoe Workers, who headed a union delegation which asked Sen. David Walsh of Massachusetts to withdraw his amendments to the Wagner Act.

Northwest AFL, CIO For Act

Seattle, Mar. 4. — Thousands of AFL workers in Washington are on record emphatically opposed to amendment of the Wagner Act.

Led by the state Machinists Council, with 10,000 members, the biggest Carpenters local in the state, and the 6,000 strong Building Service workers, they are pouring their protests against changes into the offices of their Senators and Congressmen.

Other AFL unions joining with CIO and railroad workers in the fight to save the Act include three big locals of the Pulp and Paper workers, the Hod Carriers and the Typographical Union.

Several of them took action to preserve the Act shortly after AFL President Green wrote to them asking for support for the Walsh amendments.

Cheyenne Labor Raps Walsh, Burke

Cheyenne, Wyo., Mar. 4. — AFL unions in Cheyenne are opposed to both Senator Burke and Senator Walsh in their attempt to amend the Wagner Act out of existence.

This news comes from A. L. Buck, secretary of the Cheyenne Federation of Teachers and head of the Central Labor Union (AFL) Legislative Committee.

OPPOSED TO BOTH

Buck wrote to Rep. Schwartz of his district, saying: "The Cheyenne Teachers Union is emphatically opposed to both the Burke and the Walsh bills.

"After a study of both, it was felt that the primary purpose was to emasculate the powers of the Board rather than to provide any fundamental solution to the problem of labor and capital, and it would be a loss to labor to lose the right to self-organization and collective bargaining as guaranteed by the Wagner Act."

SUPPORT MINERS

Minneapolis, Minn., Mar. 4. — Support for the Iron Range miners in their demand that new leases be refused to mining companies unless they comply with the principles of collective bargaining was voted by the Henepin County CIO Industrial Union Council.

Two Major AFL Unions Hit War On Wagner Act

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON, Mar. 4.—Two more leaders of major AFL internationals have come out against Pres. William Green's attempts to mangle the Wagner Act through amendments. Both men, Vice-President F. D. Laudemann of the Intl. Assn. of Machinists and Pres. George Q. Lynch of the Pattern Makers warned that Green's proposed changes would destroy the Act, seriously damage their unions, promote company unionism, and result in interminable court delays.

Pres. Lynch put his finger on the mistake the AFL would make in pushing for amendments in a letter to Green:

"The most eloquent spokesman for the employers' interest is Senator Burke. He has endorsed the AFL amendments wholeheartedly. His only added suggestion is more amendments. He realizes the importance of permitting employers to express preferences," he wrote.

"We may assume that such statements of preference will be for the AFL. If we face realities, however, we must know from past experience that they will eventually be for company unions."

OPPOSES AMENDMENTS

"So far as our League is concerned, we will oppose any amendments giving broader powers to the employer to pactice intimidation so long as he remains outside the limits of physical and economic coercion."

Both President Lynch and Vice-President Laudemann show their concern over the proposal to turn Board decisions over to the courts for review at every turn.

"We are opposed to conferring upon courts the right to supersede, beyond present limitations, the powers and prerogatives of the NLRB," Lynch wrote to Green. "The records of courts in labor matters supply us with no reason to desire their interference in employer-employe relationships."

In conclusion, Lynch nails Green's pretense that his amendments were fully endorsed by the AFL convention at Houston, pointing out that some were submitted to the Executive Council for further consideration — which is a different matter.

DISPUTES FREY

Laudemann, writing to John P. Frey, head of the Metal Trades Department of the AFL, examines the proposed amendments and repeats Lynch's warning of their dangers to the AFL.

"Provision after provision of the amendments gives jurisdiction over cases to the District Courts and tremendously widens the opportunity of the courts to intervene in labor disputes," he wrote.

"These courts will not abide by the niceties of the law limiting their power, but will grasp every one of the many opportunities granted them in the proposed amendments to extend their jurisdiction over labor disputes and representation cases."

THE BOSSES' CHOICE

Laudemann is also concerned with the amendment that would allow bosses to express their preference for one kind of union over another.

"This gives the employer an opportunity to express his disfavor of labor organizations or his favoritism towards independent unions we will have no opportunity to prove any company unions," he told Frey.

Power of the employers to send strawbosses and other supervisors to use propaganda against unions is also seen as a serious threat to the AFL in Laudemann's letter.

Methodist Church Group Defends Act

WASHINGTON, Mar. 4.—Church groups in the U. S. are aware of the dangers to democracy in the present attempts to destroy the Wagner Act and are joining with labor in the struggle to preserve it as a contribution to industrial peace and democracy.

Latest group to lend its support to the defense of the Act is the influential Methodist Federation for Social Service, headed by Bishop Francis J. McConnell and Dr. Harry F. Ward of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

ACT A MILESTONE

"The Wagner Act is a milestone in the progress of American democracy," the Federation says in its monthly bulletin, "Social Questions". "It marks the establishment of democratic control over industrial relations. If that control is impaired by crippling amendments the development of economic democracy is halted.

OPEN-SHOP WAILS

"The criticism of the Act has come mainly from the same open-shop forces that fought the law's enactment and tried desperately to block appropriations for its enforcement," the Federation adds.

"The Walsh bill proposes amendments to the Act that would enable it to serve the interests of business rather than of labor, of suppression of labor unions rather than of their development.

"The defense of the Wagner Act is the holding of a key position for the advance of democracy."

CIO SUPPORTS DEMAND *for* Amalgamated Label On Clothing

The Constitutional Convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations unanimously adopted a resolution in support of the union label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

The resolution reads:—

"Resolved, that this Convention of the CIO go on record as urging all members of its affiliated organizations to demand the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America label on all men's and boys' apparel in daily wear and work clothing of all kinds and to refuse to buy articles of apparel not so labeled."

Men's, Boys, children's suits, overcoats, pants, men's uniforms, sheep-lined leather and sport clothing, mackinaws.

—ON—
Overalls, Work Clothes, Work Shirts

Neckties

Men's, Boys' shirts, pajamas, underwear, white duck clothing, children's wash suits.

Gloves

The Amalgamated label is a guarantee that the product was made by Amalgamated members who enjoy union standards of wages and hours, and that the product is of the best workmanship.

Make sure that the Amalgamated label is on the coat, on the pants, on the vest and on every article of men's and boys' wearing apparel.

Civil Rights 50% Honored, Survey Shows

NEW YORK, Mar. 6.—The Bill of Rights is observed as much in the breach as in the observance, the American Civil Liberties Union announced following its annual survey of civil rights throughout the nation.

No city in the country achieves more than a 50% observance of civil liberties, the report asserted, while in many more the percentage was considerably lower.

In order of their general excellence, the 13 largest cities rated as follows in the ACLU score sheet:

Very good: New York, Cleveland, St. Louis.

Good: San Francisco, Milwaukee, Pittsburgh.

Fair: Buffalo, Philadelphia, Baltimore.

Poor: Chicago, Boston.

Very poor: Detroit, Los Angeles.

FREE SPEECH

On the question of free speech, all 13 of the largest metropolitan centers and most of the other cities of over 10,000 population rated as "good". Outstanding among those in this group listed as bad were Jersey City; Memphis, Tenn. and Little Rock, Ark.

"The right of free speech apparently suffers less assault than any others, and, as seems always to have been the case, the closely related right of public assembly is the most universally disregarded."

Geography, economics and politics seem to offer little guidance to the state of civil liberties in any particular city, the report noted.

DEPENDS ON PEOPLE

"Regardless of constitutions, charters, legislatures, courts, laws and decisions both federal and state, civil rights in a community stand just about as local forces themselves maintain them," the civil liberties union commented.

Generally, the survey shows, "conditions are probably better in the Northwest than in other sections of the country—but not much better. A greater respect for the Bill of Rights, by and large, exists in the largest cities of the country as well as the smallest, but it is worse in the middle-size cities."

PICKET RIGHTS FLOUTED

Picketing stands next to public assembly as the civil right most frequently flouted, the report declared.

All 13 of the largest cities claim to give adequate freedom for picketing, "despite the record to the contrary in certain cities such as Chicago and Los Angeles," it said. In cities of the smaller population groups, picketing conditions are worse on the whole.

RIGHTS OF NEGROES

"The rights of Negroes are more commonly violated than those of any other race or class, but violations are a matter of local practice and less commonly a legal discrimination (except in the deep South," the Union said.

The survey was conducted by a committee of the ACLU. Its findings were based on questionaires sent to leading city officials and to correspondents of the ACLU. Replies covered 332 cities with a population of 36,000,000 people.

$1,500 Fine For Pay Chiseler

Boston, Mar. 4. — Brown's Contract Stitching Corp. and its boss, Nathan Brown, were out $1,500 today for having violated the federal wage-hour act.

The company, the first to be prosecuted under the new law, filed a plea of guilty in federal district court, thereby giving the wage-hour administration a clear-cut victory in its enforcement battle.

PAYS BACK WAGES

Brown admitted having paid his employes less than the required 25c an hour rate in his Lawrence plant. The 50 workers involved in the case received some $700 in back wages—the difference between their pay and what the act requires.

"This is significant because it indicates that violators of the law will not face simply paying fines," declared Thomas Elliott, New England regional director of the Dept. of Labor's wage-hour division.

"The law is destined to help the underpaid workers, and to assure them of justice.

"Inspectors are at present engaged in investigating some of the 200 complaints received in this office since it opened last fall.

"I am hopeful that, as a result of the conviction of the Brown Co., employers who have been disregarding the law will be more careful to comply and that the number of complaints will consequently be reduced."

In Washington, Administrator Elmer F. Andrews commented that while the wage-hour division has established a policy of cooperating with employers to insure compliance with the statutes, it is ready to prosecute any "deliberate violations of the Act."

"As I have stated in the past," he said, "this act has teeth in it."

CIO Local Wins Poll In New York

New York, Mar. 4 — An AFL attempt to break the closed shop contract between United Photographic Employes, CIO local industrial union 415, and the Pavelle Laboratories, Inc., ended in a State Labor Relations Board defeat.

The CIO union won the election hands down, with the AFL union receiving only 18 of the 44 votes cast. Several foremen circulated petitions for the poll several months ago.

The union, according to Pres. Patrick A. McDonough, is now preparing to commence negotiations for a new contract with the industry associations covering 62 shops.

Don't Like Nazis

Dorothy Thompson (left) and Pres. Haywood Broun of the American Newspaper Guild differ on many issues—but they agree in their hate of the Nazis. When members of the German-American Bund, Hitler mouthpiece in this country, tried to eject Miss Thompson from the fascist mass meeting in New York City, Broun came to her rescue, forced the police to allow her to return to the meeting.

See Wagner Act Changed By Courts

Continued from page three

"Disapproval of a sitdown does not logically compel the acceptance of the theory that an employer has the power to bar his striking employe from the protection of the Act," declared the minority opinion.

"As now construed by the court, the employer may discharge any striker with or without cause, so long as the discharge is not used to interfere with self-organization or collective bargaining.

"NOSE-THUMBING"

"Friction easily engendered by labor strife may readily give rise to conduct, from nose-thumbing to sabotage, which will give fair occasion for discharge on grounds other than those prohibited by the Labor Act."

Declaring that though both management and labor had "erred grievously in their conduct" during the strike, the minority suggested that the wisest course would be to restore their former status to both sides in the case. That would mean re-instatement of the employes fired after the strike began.

NO INTERFERENCE

The minority decision also certified the right of the NLRB to collect and weigh evidence, adding that the "courts certainly should not interfere with the normal action of administrative bodies in such circumstances."

Unless the majority of the court reverses its decision in some future case—a common practice—future Labor Board cases may be determined by a broken window or a slugging engineered by company spies in the ranks of the workers.

The courts could then point to the Fansteel decision, decide that the strikers had "used violence" and bar them from the benefits of the Wagner Act.

OVERLOOKED BACKGROUND

In rendering its decision, the majority of the justices practically brushed aside the unfair labor practices of the company which had goaded the Fansteel employes into striking—the employment of labor spies, the refusal to bargain with the union, the isolation of the local union president from his fellow employes, and the discharge of the strikers.

The National Labor Relations Board, in its argument before the high tribunal, held no brief for the legality of the sitdown strike, but took the position that any damages due the company as result could be gained through application of the various state property and criminal laws.

BOARD'S ARGUMENTS

The Board presented a threefold case to the court:

1. That the strike was caused by an unfair labor practice, and thereby furnished the NLRB the justification for demanding re-instatement of the workers.

2. That the discharges, which came the day the strike started after the workers refused to quit the plant, were a violation of the Wagner Act on the part of the company, and did not affect the workers' status as employes of the companies.

3. That the reinstatement order of the Board in order to "effectuate the policies" of the Wagner Act, was justified.

Skipping over these arguments, the court held that the workers' conduct "manifestly gave good cause for their discharge." Justification of the sitdown strike would "be to put a premium on resort to force instead of legal remedies and to subvert the principles of law and order which lie at the foundations of society."

TWO OTHER CASES

The Supreme Court over-ruled the Labor Board in two other less important cases, in both instances by five to two decisions.

Dissents

Supreme Court Justice Stanley Reed, who, with Justice Hugo Black, offered sharp dissents to the majority rulings in three National Labor Relations Board cases this week.

Miss Lewis Sails For Uruguay

Washington, Mar. 4—Miss Kathryn Lewis, daughter of CIO President John L. Lewis, sailed for Montivideo, Uruguay, last week to attend sessions of the International Congress of Democracies, which opens there March 20.

She will represent Labor's Non-Partisan League at the conference, which will bring together delegates of pro-democratic forces from both hemispheres.

Miss Lewis was one of the representatives of the United States at the recent international conference in Lima, Peru.

Labor Unity Negotiations Start Tuesday

Continued from page three

president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and chairman of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee also represent directly some of the largest and most powerful unions of the CIO.

The AFL committee members come from comparatively small affiliates of the Federation.

HEARINGS POSTPONED

One of the first-fruits of the peace proposal was an announcement by Senator Elbert D. Thomas, chairman of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, that hearings on proposed amendments to the Wagner labor relations act, which had been set for March 10, would be postponed.

"I am sure that I bespeak the sentiments of the entire Education and Labor Committee and I trust of the Senate," Senator Thomas said, "when I say that it is the earnest wish of all that the movement initiated by our President may prove successful.

"The negotiations would undoubtedly be carried on at the same time as our hearings. This I am sure will be deemed unfortunate by all. Therefore I should like to give notice that I shall postpone these hearings until some future date."

LETTERS TO LEADERS

The President made his proposal to bring CIO and AFL together in almost identical letters addressed to Lewis and Green respectively.

He declared that he was asking both sides to appoint committees to negotiate terms of peace for four reasons:

"First, because it is right;

"Second, because the responsible officers from both groups seem to me to be ready and capable of making a negotiated and just peace;

"Third, because your membership ardently desire peace and unity for the better ordering of their responsible life in the trade unions and in their communities; and

"Fourth, because the government of the United States and the people of America believe it to be a wise and almost necessary step for the further development of the cooperation between free men in a democratic society such as ours."

CERTIFIED

Washington, Mar. 4—Gas, Coke & Chemical Workers, Local 12119 has been certified by the Labor Board as sole bargaining agency for employes of the American Cyanamid & Chemical Corp., Joliet, Ill. The union belongs to District 50, United Mine Workers, CIO.

Consumers' Groups Quit World Fair, Blast Whalen

By ALEXANDER L. CROSBY

NEW YORK, Mar. 4 (FP) — Just two months before the opening date, the New York World's Fair has found itself with a dandy Consumer Interests Building and enough written protests against its commercial exploitation of the consumer to make a fair-sized exhibit.

The protests were signed by more than a score of experts representing consumer groups, labor unions, cooperatives, federal agencies, universities and scientific foundations. All the signers had served as members of the fair corporation's advisory committee on consumer interests.

The fair corporation has lost not only its non-commercial advisors, but also half of its non-commercial consumer exhibits. Donald E. Montgomery, consumers' counsel of the Department of Agriculture and a former member of the committee, said that his bureau had cancelled plans for an exhibit.

CONSUMERS UNION REMAINS

Only one bona fide consumer exhibit remains, the display by Consumers Union of the U. S. But Prof. Colston E. Warne of Amherst College, head of CU, has resigned from the committee.

The seceding experts were led by Miss Ruth Ayres, delegate of the American Association of University Women to the Consumer-Retail Council. Miss Ayres revealed that the committee had earnestly tried to interest Pres. Grover A. Whalen of the fair corporation in carrying out the announced plans for an educational exhibit.

"During the fall we tried to get the fair officials to do something which would be of real benefit to consumers," she said. "But our letters were not even answered."

RESIGNS FROM FAIR

Last week the committee members sent their resignations to Whalen.

"We are forced to the conclusion that the purpose of the committee as you see it is solely to advertise the fair to consumers and others and to promote the commercial interests of persons enjoying the confidence of the corporation . . . The overwhelming preponderance of exhibits at the fair will be commercially sponsored without benefit of the consumer advice and opinion which this committee was orginally set up to make available to them . . .

"For these reasons we believe that continued participation by us in the work of the committee will serve no good purpose. On the contrary, the use of our names may lead consumers to the false conclusion that representation has been accorded their interests in the planning and execution of exhibits."

Texas CIO, AFL Fight Sales Tax

Austin, Tex., Mar. 4. — Delegates from CIO and AFL unions will work together against the sales tax plan proposed for the state of Texas by Gov. W. Lee ('Pass the Biscuits') O'Daniel.

P. F. Kennedy, executive secretary of the Texas State Industrial Union Council, announced that CIO and AFL groups will share the time and the expense of a radio program to fight the tax.

Earlier, Kennedy called for O'Daniel's impeachment "unless he changes his policies" and announced that the organization would seek 200,000 signatures for recall petitions.

O'Daniel alienated labor's affections early in his term of office by naming a 29-year-old company unionist from the offices of the Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. to be state labor commissioner.

CIO Wins 31 More Elections

Washington, Mar. 4.—CIO unions won 31 elections in various parts of the country in recent weeks, according to figures released this week by the Natl. Labor Relations Board. Largest of these was the poll conducted among employes of the Postal Telegraph-Cable Corp., won by the American Communications Assn. by a vote of 6,506 to 1,469.

UTILITY WORKERS

Next in size were two elections won by the Utility Workers Organizing Committee, at the Consumers Power Co., Jackson, Mich., by a vote of 1,164 to 1,072, and at the Southern California Gas Co., Los Angeles, by a vote of 779 to 420.

Among other large elections were two won by the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers, one at the Alaska Juneau Gold Mining Co., by a vote of 521 to 332, the other at the American Metal Co. of New Mexico, by a vote of 327 to 287.

A number of the polls were in western states.

WOODWORKERS WIN 3

In the State of Washington, the International Wood Workers won three elections by votes ranging from 323 to 152, while the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee won two polls, one in Denver, the other in Kansas City.

Five elections were won in Arizona by locals of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers.

Outstanding elections won by CIO unions in southern states include: Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Greensboro, N. C. carried a poll at the Blue Bell Globe Mfg. Co., 239 to 138.

Textile Workers Organizing Committee won elections at Burlington, N. C., Griffin, Ga., and Baltimore, Md.

United Mine Workers, won an election at the Barker Straight Creek Coal Co., in Kentucky, Oil Workers Intl. Union, at the Shell Petroleum Corp., Houston, Tex.

'Liberty' Retracts Libel on CIO Union Organizer; Pays $500

QUINCY, Mass., Mar. 4.—Lucien Koch, organizer for the CIO shipbuilding workers, won a libel suit against "Liberty" magazine recently for a scurrilous article printed about him more than two years ago. McFadden Publications, Inc., owners of the magazine, retracted the story and paid Koch $500 to settle the suit.

Written by Nolen Buloch under the title of "Rah, Rah, Russia," the lurid article purported to be a first-hand account of activities at Commonwealth College, labor school in Mena, Arkansas, at the time Koch was head of the school. He is now New England director for the Industrial Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers, and has worked for the CIO union in the Fore River area for the past two years.

Commenting on the suit he won, Koch revealed that before settling the publishing firm went to considerable expense to send investigators to Arkansas in an attempt to "get something on him."

Two other libel suits based on the same article are still pending, Koch disclosed, one against "Iron Age," steel trade paper which used excerpts from the "Liberty" story in an attack on him called "Mr. Koch Comes to Town." The other is against two company union officials at Fore River who distributed copies of the "Liberty" article.

Labor's League Forms Branch In Georgia

ATLANTA, Mar. 4.—Labor's Non-Partisan League of Georgia, formed at a state-wide meeting here, has mapped out a campaign to help liberalize politics in the south and give millions of workers a chance to express themselves at the ballot box.

Representatives of CIO and AFL unions in the state worked together to form the state league branch.. They named John S. Martin, regional director of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, as chairman.

G. F. Finley of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen is vice-chairman; John Manrey of the International Typographical Union, executive secretary, and G. R. Hathaway of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, treasurer. Representatives of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee and other important unions are represented on the executive board.

FOR WPA FUNDS

The league called for adoption of President Roosevelt's request for a WPA appropriation of $150,000,000, condemned the poll tax and went on record against the sales tax.

E. L. Oliver, LNPL national executive secretary, was guest speaker at the meeting.

"We are finding a continual line-up of northern Republicans and southern Congressional representatives who call themselves Democrats, but who are voting against us," Oliver said.

LABOR MUST FIGHT

"The reason we have been licked for the last 30 or 35 years is because the other fellow had the organization and then supervised the counting of the ballots. We must do honestly what they have been doing by any means.

"Politicians realize that resolutions adopted by organized labor do not elect them. Labor must determine which are the candidates favorable to it, and then must exercise their right to vote."

Salmon Week Tribute To CIO Union

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 25 — "Canned Salmon Week," which started yesterday and will run through to March 4, is hailed by the Fishermen's Union of the Pacific, CIO, as a tribute to the 25,000 union men and women workers of the west coast annually employed in the industry.

The industry is graphically described in a release sent out by the union to coincide with the opening of the "week," which points out that scores of industries are involved in supplying the materials for salmon canning—all of them employing numbers of organized workers.

"Hundreds of tons of tin plate, thousands of board feet of lumber, tons of coated paper for labels, millions of fibre board cases, tons of salt to say nothing of the vast amounts of fishing gear and grocery supplies, all are needed each year to produce the annual six to eight million cases of the American pack," the union says.

A UNION LABOR JOB

According to the union, all branches of the industry are organized. "From the fishermen who take this delicious product from the cold clear northern sea through to the labellers who attach bright labels to the canned product, union labor performs all the tasks," the union adds.

"All branches of this leading northwest industry, which brings the 'King of the Sea' to millions of dinner tables throughout the world, are unionized. Union labor, represented by members of the CIO and the AFL, both work side by side, to make a living for their families."

The union closes its statement with an analysis of the dietetic values found in canned salmon, and tells the housewife "who watches the food value of her menus," that "canned salmon is a frequent answer to the problem of what to serve."

Declaration of Independence

Members of the Hollywood Committee of 56, composed of famous stars, producers, directors and writers, who signed a declaration of independence calling for breaking off economic relations with Nazi Germany. The petition will eventually go to Pres. Roosevelt, with 20,000,000 signatures, its sponsors hope. Left to right, seated: Melvyn Douglas, James Cagney, Edward G. Robinson; standing: Gale Sondergaard, Helen Gahagan, Henry Fonda, Gloria Stuart.

Murray Hails CIO As 'American Institution'

Denies Auto Union Losing Autonomy, Raps Disrupters

DETROIT, Mar. 4.—"The CIO will continue to be an American institution," Vice-President Philip Murray declared in a radio broadcast during the course of which he answered the slanders spouted almost nightly by Homer Martin, former head of the United Automobile Workers.

"The CIO is exactly what its affiliated unions make it," Murray explained. "One such affiliate of great importance to the CIO is the United Automobile Workers. And of equal importance to the United Automobile Workers is the CIO.

"The CIO has never yet been asked for help by one of its affiliates and found wanting. It is no secret that the United Automobile Workers have frequently sought the counsel and help of the CIO. So have many other affiliates.

"I make reference to that point simply because there are those who would like to have you believe the CIO is intruding itself into the present situation in the auto union."

DON'T FALL FOR HOKUM

The American working man's "resourcefulness and keenness" are a source of "never-ending amazement to me," Murray continued. In Detroit, within a month's time, the UAW membership has "quickly cut through the hokum" and is rapidly putting its "house in order in preparation for the final settlement" of the union's problems at its March 27 convention in Cleveland, he declared.

The CIO vice-president said the "autonomy issue" raised by Martin is "simply the dying gasp of a disrupter and deserves little consideration."

PLEDGES CIO AID

"Let me pledge to you, the membership, here tonight my personal help, the help of John L. Lewis, the help of Sidney Hillman and the CIO executive board to prevent any attempt that might be made to take the UAW's autonomy away from the rank and file," Murray continued.

He denied that the CIO is aligned with communism or any other "ism" in the current dispute in the auto union. "We found factionalism to be a major problem," he said. "Its complete elimination was absolutely necessary.

"We certainly condemned the practices of all subversive and political influences injecting their factional war cries into the councils of the UAW . . . We named specific instances and specific solutions. That was our policy then. That is our policy today."

Amendments Seen As Step To Fascism

Denver, Colo., Mar. 4.—Proposed amendments to the Wagner Act present to American workers "the first outward attempt toward controlled labor as practiced under a fascist state," Reid Robinson, president of the CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, declares.

Discussing the Walsh and Burke proposals in the current issue of the MM and SW CIO NEWS, Pres. Robinson warns that the attack on the Act is coming from sources "dangerous to the future welfare of the labor movement and to the general good of all people in the United States."

Robinson makes a detailed analysis of the proposed changes, and comes to the conclusion that they would "deprive the workers of the benefits of the Act to such an extent that we would be better off without it, if they are passed.

URGES DEFENSE ON ALL

"Workers should eat, sleep, live and talk opposition to any amendment to the Wagner Act, until such time as all amendments are defeated and the Act is left untouched," he concludes.

Mine Workers' Charges Upheld By Labor Board

WASHINGTON, Mar. 4.—Charges of unfair labor practices filed by the United Mine Workers, District 23, against the Operators' Association, employer organization composed of some 19 coal mining companies, and four of its member operators, were upheld in an order issued last week by the National Labor Relations Board.

The Association's headquarters are in Madisonville, Kentucky.

The Board ordered the operators to withdraw all recognition from the Independent Miners Union of Western Kentucky, and to cease interfering with the collective bargaining rights of its employes.

The four member operators of the Association included in the Board's order are: Williams Coal Co., Mannington, Ky.; Reineck Coal Mining Co., Grapevine Coal Co., and Sixth Vein Coal Corp., Madisonville, Ky.

GUARDS SHOT PICKETS

Various acts of interference with union organization at the mines of the four member operators cited by the Board revealed that during a strike at the Sixth Vein mine in 1936, armed guards fired on the picket line, and that the mine superintendent appeared on the scene carrying a machine gun. Previously a photographer took pictures of the picket line.

The so-called "Independent," the Board disclosed, was organized in 1933 by a former mine foremen and four other agents at the instigation of the Association shortly after the UMWA extended its organizing activities to western Kentucky following passage of the National Industrial Recovery Act.

FAKE UNION DUES

Since August, 1933, the Board reported, the Association and the Independent "entered into successive agreements relating to wages and working conditions at the mines of member operators.

"These agreements, so the evidence showed, were enforced as closed shop contracts." Dues for the stooge union were checked off the miners' pay.

The Board ordered the companies to refund all sums so checked off to its employes, and also ordered them to re-instate a number of workers fired at various times during strikes or lockouts, with remedial wages in certain individual cases.

The Grapevine Coal Co. was ordered to bargain upon request with the UMWA.

Rossi Cigars Placed On Unfair List

Oakland, Cal., Mar. 4—Rossi cigars, smoked largely by workers, have been declared unfair to organized labor by the CIO tobacco workers local here now on strike against the firm.

Charging that the Rossi Cigar Co., violated its agreement with the local and forced many of its employes to leave the union by threatening to fire them or their relatives, the CIO Tobacco Workers is asking all CIO members throughout the country, who smoke cigars to refuse to buy any of the four Rossi brands.

RENEGED ON PACT

Following a lockout and strike in February last year, the Rossi factory employes, practically all of whom are Italian women, were 100 per cent organized, and an agreement was won improving working conditions and raising pay.

But after signing the contract, the company started a campaign of disruption and intimidation against the workers, frequently threatening to shut down and using "pets" to spread false stories against the union.

USE COERCION

Some of the women who have relatives working in the Italian controlled Bank of America where the owner of the Rossi concern has influence, were told that unless they dropped the union their relatives would be fired from the bank.

A minority of the workers stood firm against these threats and went out on strike. Charges have been filed with the National Labor Relations Board in the name of the Tobacco Workers local industrial union 771.

Martin Goons Exposed; Use Fake Papers

Detroit, Mar. 4.—Failing in his efforts to swing the membership of the United Automobile Workers into his disruptive camp, former president Homer Martin has resorted to the use of goons and hoodlums to break up union meetings.

Search of a half-dozen of the goons showed that they carried forged union dues receipts and "I'm for Homer Martin" buttons. The receipts and the buttons were given them, it was revealed, at Martin's headquarters.

NEVER BELONGED

The majority of them have never belonged to the UAW. Picked up on the streets or in city lodging houses, they are paid 50c an hour for their union-busting activities and given meals and cigarettes.

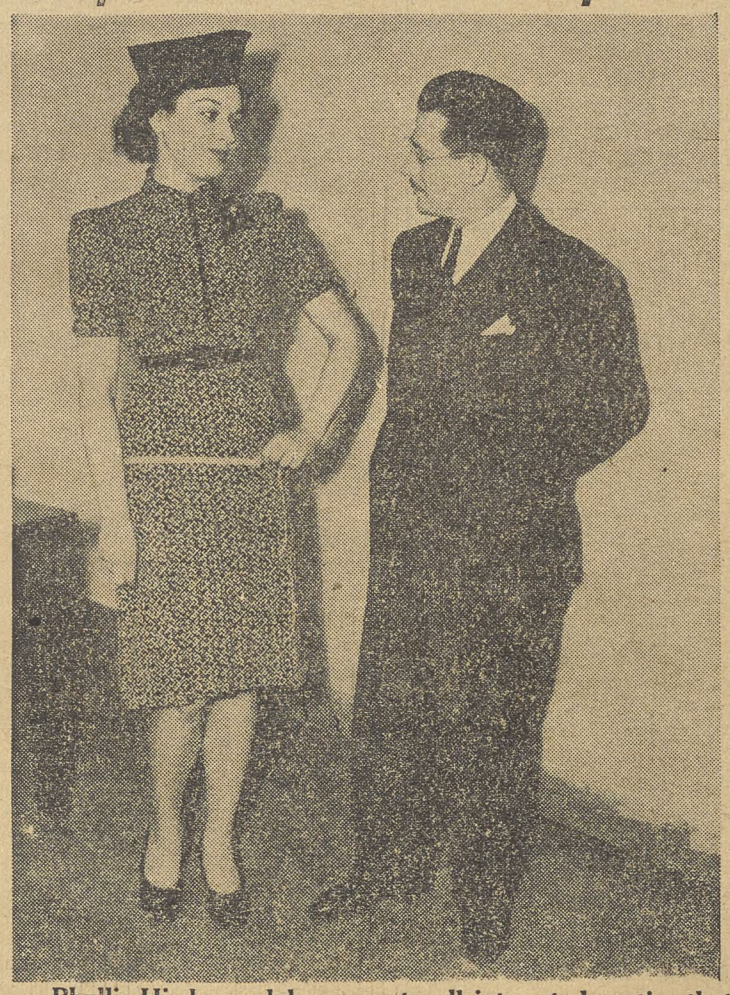
Emmett Hyde, one of the Martin disrupters, swore that he had been getting 50c an hour for handing out leaflets and literature.

"I was supposed to yell and holler and break up the meeting in Hamtramck," he said. "It was the Chevrolet (Forge) meeting. I never was a member of the UAW."

Martin's technique has been to send his paid retainers into the local meetings with their forged receipts books. At some point during the meeting, when things go against the Martin faction, the leader calls out, "All good union men follow me out."

Usually about 30 of the Hessians get up and walk out.

Hips—A Labor Dispute



Phyllis Hirsh, model, proves to all interested parties that here her hips are a perfect size 14, despite her ex-employer's story that she was fired for being one size too long. Demonstration took place in the offices of the New York State Labor Relations Board, where Miss Hirsh filed charges against the company, Shipman & Baker. She says her firing was caused by activity in the independent Professional Models Union. Jonas Ellis, the girl's lawyer, is shown above giving the evidence the once-over.

League Names Manning

Washington, Mar. 4.—E. L. Oliver, executive vice-president of Labor's Non-Partisan League, announced this week the appointment of Frank Manning as regional director of the League for New England.

Philly Shoe Men's Strike In 6th Month

Philadelphia, Mar. 4—On strike for six months, employes of ten Philadelphia Tri-Plex Shoe Stores, subsidiary of the Spencer Shoe Corporation, are maintaining their picket lines intact in spite of 25 arrests and a campaign of terrorization.

The firm has stubbornly refused to bargain with Local 114, United Retail Shoe Employes, although the union represents more than a majority of the company's shoe clerks.

ATTEMPTS FAILED

The union is affiliated with the United Retail and Wholesale Employes, CIO.

Attempts by both federal and state mediators to settle the strike have been unsuccessful. The company has tried to evade the National Labor Relations Act by forcing its employes to sign individual contracts, in clear violation of the act, the union charges. It has also started a suit for $100,000 damages against the union.

In an appeal for funds to carry on the strike which has drained the union's treasury, Local 114 declared that the strike "is a challenge to organized labor throughout the nation." It asks that funds be sent to United Retail Shoe Employes Local 114, 52 North Tenth St., Philadelphia.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 11 | March 13, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

PEACE PLAN OF CIO WINS WIDE ACCLAIM

Congress Gets More Protests On Wagner Act

(See Stories Page Five)

WASHINGTON, Mar. 11.—Though CIO-AFL peace negotiations stole the news spotlight, labor's protest against any changes in the Wagner Labor Relations Act continued to mount

Hearings of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, originally scheduled for March 10, have been indefinitely postponed pending outcome of the unity discussions. Unions, nevertheless, kept up their barrage of mail and telegrams to Congressmen and Senators, practically all of them attacking amendment of the Act.

The fight against the proposed change was redoubled when it became known that the reactionary New York Chamber of Commerce had endorsed the Walsh amendments, and that Sen. Burke of Nebraska, arch-foe of the National Labor Relations Board, was helping the National Association of Manufacturers to distribute Tory propaganda against the Act.

In the House, meanwhile, a new amendment bill which would wipe out the present National Labor Relations Board as it now stands, was filled with the House Labor Committee.

Other developments:

1. A survey showed enormous gains made by CIO affiliates with the protection of the Act and the NLRB.

AFL GROUP HELPS

2. An AFL Committee to aid CIO Hearst strikers in Chicago warned the Illinois Congressional delegation that amendments would be considered an action hostile to labor.

3. Similar action was taken by CIO groups in Portland, Oregon, and New York state, while the Aluminum Workers of America launched an active campaign among all affiliated locals to build support for the law as it now stands

Peace Groups Leave Parley

U. S. Congress Of All Labor Discussed

NEW YORK, Mar. 11 — The eyes of labor and the nation turned to New York this weekend, as leaders of the Congress of Industrial Organizations and the American Federation of Labor met to discuss the CIO proposal for uniting all organized workers in a great American Congress of Labor.

The far-reaching CIO plan for labor unity stirred the whole country when it was presented at the first unity conference called in the White House by President Roosevelt.

Calling for a unity convention to bring the three great labor groups, CIO, AFL and the railroad Brotherhoods, under one roof, it won widespread acclaim and brought a flood of approving telegrams from labor unions all over the nation.

Agreement to discuss the plan in New York was reached at a second unity conference held in the U. S. Dept. of Labor and attended by John L. Lewis, Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman, representing the CIO; and by Harry C. Bates, Daniel J. Tobin, Matthew Woll and T. A. Rickert, representing the AFL.

(See Stories Page Three, and Editorial and Column Page 4).

The photographer caught members of the AFL and CIO unity committees as they left the White House after the first session of the peace parleys last week. Shown, left to right, are CIO Vice-Presidents Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman; Matthew Woll, head of the AFL photo-engravers; Sec. of Labor Frances Perkins; Harry Bates, head of the AFL bricklayers; and Pres. John L. Lewis of the CIO. Missing from the picture is T. L. Rickert, third member of the AFL committee. Next day Pres. Daniel Tobin of the teamsters union joined the federation's group.

OVERRULE FORD

Kansas City, Mo. (FP) — The regional office of the National Labor Relations Board, over-ruling protests of Ford company attorneys, took steps to shorten testimony by the company as the Ford hearing entered its second year.

Guild Strike Costs Hearst $500,000

CHICAGO, Mar. 11—William Randolph Hearst has lost a cool half-million dollars in advertising revenue as a result of his stubborn opposition to the Chicago Newspaper Guild. strikers on the Evening American & Herald-Examiner estimated today.

The strike is now in its fourth month. During that time, Guild leaders said, advertising records show a loss of 1,283,060 lines, largely the result of Guild pressure on advertisers, which has caused 482 of them to withdraw their space from the two papers.

Union Fights Merger Of Wire Companies

WASHINGTON, Mar. 11.—A campaign to protect employes in the telegraph industry from being thrown out of their jobs in the event of a merger of Western Union and Postal Telegraph, was announced by Mervyn Rathborne, president of the American Communications Association, CIO union.

A bill proposing the merger has been introduced in the U. S. Senate by Senator Wallace H. White, Jr., as an amendment to the Communications Act of 1934. The proposed measure would also repeal Section 314 of the Act, which provides for the preservation of competition and the prevention of monopoly.

WORKERS 'FORGOTTEN'

The ACA points out that no protection for the employes who might be displaced by a merger is contained in the Senate bill.

In a letter sent to President Roosevelt and to heads of various government agencies, Rathborne called for a conference between government and union representatives to discuss "the immediate needs of the workers in the telegraph industry and their attitude toward these vital problems."

Past and present policies of the telegraph companies, Rathborne said, "have placed in serious jeopardy the jobs of 75,000 employes in the industry," hindering the economic recovery of the nation and "seriously impairing" an industry which is a vital arm of the national defense.

"Of late these polices of the telegraph companies have been proceeding in the direction of absolute monopoly without regard for the welfare of these 75,000 workers or the effect of such monopoly on the nation's economy," he declared.

CIO SUPPORT

The companies were charged with seeking "an unsanctioned monopoly at the expense of labor and the public" by John Brophy, CIO national director, in a statement urging an immediate Congressional investigation.

"The CIO welcomes the investigation of the telegraph industry proposed by Senator Burton K. Wheeler, chairman of the Interstate Commerce Committee.

Catholics Form Legion of Justice To 'Buy Union'

VILLANOVA, Pa., Mar. 11—A "Buy Union" campaign with a new twist is being started by friends of labor here, with the formation of a Legion of Justice whose members pledge themselves to buy only those goods made under fair conditions.

Pledges are being circulated by Richard Deverall, editor of the Christian Front, progressive Catholic monthly published in this city. The drive is described by Deverall as "a form of Catholic activity available to all, Catholics as well as non-Catholics, to help the worker in his righteous struggle for a just, living wage."

Information can be secured from Richard Deverall, editor, the Christian Front, Villanova, Pa.

Texas Governor Croons Again, Fearing Labor Attack On Sales Tax

HOUSTON, Tex.—Labor has been so effective in muffling Texas' reactionary Governor W. Lee O'Daniel, the hill-billy flour salesman, that he is again resorting to singing hymns and reciting poetry over the airwaves in an effort to regain popularity.

A crushing blow was dealt to the governor's tax proposals last week when Roy Sessions, vice-president of the Texas State Industrial Union Council, and Ted Denman, business representative of the Joint Teamsters Council, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, divided a half-hour radio program over the Texas Quality Network.

FIRST JOINT PROGRAM

It was the first time in Texas that a joint program was sponsored by the CIO and AFL. Sessions and Denman tore the governor's tax schemes to shreds, and offered numerous taxation substitute proposals which will not reach into the working man's pockets.

Principal of them was the suggestion to tax the natural resources which huge corporations net millions yearly and give little in return.

WINS PUBLIC APPLAUSE

The radio program, arranged for by the CIO, was applauded throughout the state by the newspapers. An exception, however, were the Houston papers, which "played" the story down with a few paragraphs. Jesse Jones' Houston Chronicle suppressed the story entirely, and KXYZ, from which the program was broadcast, refused to permit it in Houston.

When it became aparent, a number of other Texas radio stations would not use the program, protest telegrams were sent to the Federal Communications Commission, and to Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel in Washington. Through actions taken by Pressman most of the network stations used the program.

Steel Union Gains in Texas

Dallas, Tex., Mar. 11—The Steel Workers Organizing Committee won an important victory in its southern campaign when the National Labor Relations Board ordered the dissolution of a company union at the Emsco Derrick & Equipment Co.

The company was directed to withdraw recognition from the phoney outfit and to cease interfering with workers' rights to join the SWOC. As a result, SWOC Lodge 2005 expects to win many new gains, according to Harold Rasmussen, SWOC director here.

Chicago Stockyards Sign CIO Contract

By LESLIE OREAR

CHICAGO, Mar. 11.—CIO stockhandlers in Chicago are overjoyed at the final settlement of their strike of last November against the Union Stockyards and Transit Co., signed this week. The workers are members of Local 567 of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee.

It remained for the PWOC to be the first to sign a contract with the firm, which in its 68 years of business boasted of never dealing with a union. Conditions won included a five cent an hour raise for approximately 200 workers, a guaranteed 40-hour week, time and half for overtime, vacations, seniority, and sole collective bargaining rights for the Local.

STEP TO ARMOUR

Principal stockholder of the firm is Frederick Prince, chairman of the board of Armour & Co. PWOC leaders hail this long-fought-for victory as an indication that a contract will likewise be signed with Armour, key member of the Big Four of the packing industry.

The stockyards in Chicago were practically shut down in November by the strike, precipitated by a dispute over wages and working conditions. One of the points in the agreement which ended the militant walkout was a promise on the part of the company to bargain collectively with the union.

Sioux City Labor Unites, Wins At Polls

Sioux City, Ia., Mar. 11—Standing shoulder to shoulder, CIO and AFL union members here got out the biggest vote for a special election in the city's history to help smash an attempt by reactionary business men to change the city government from the commission to the manager form.

The manager proposal, which in one way was a disguised recall directed at labor sympathizers on the city council, was defeated by a vote of 11,372 to 7,862.

JOINT ACTION

The defeat was a victory for joint action by CIO, AFL, railroad organizations, Workers Alliance and unemployed groups, all of which sent delegates into a single committee which took the name, Citizens Welfare Committee, for the purposes of the campaign.

Well-known liberals of the city flocked to support the joint efforts of the unionists, providing funds to help the campaign and speakers for a number of mass meetings at which the chief slogan of the oppositionists' drive, "Keep Hitlerism From Sioux City," was explained in the terms of the businessmen's proposed city manager plan.

Big Eyeglass Firm, CIO In Contract

New York, Mar. 11.—The largest retail eyeglass making shop in the country has signed a contract with Local 208, United Optical Workers Union.

The 40½ hour week, vacations and holidays with pay, seniority rights and arbitration of disputes were included in the agreement, reached with the M. H. Harris Co. The 40-year-old firm makes all the eyeglasses for its 25 large retail outlets in New York and New Jersey.

LIBERAL ATTITUDE

The pact was reached without work stoppage. M. H. Harris, president of the company, waived public hearings and a Labor Board election, agreeing to accept signatures on union cards as evidence of membership in the CIO local.

A contract with the Optical Employers Assn., covering 100 shops and providing for a $60 a week minimum for optometrists, has also been signed recently. As a result the union expects to organize the rest of the industry in rapid fashion, and eliminate long hours and low wages.

'Safety, Courtesy' Is CIO Union's Slogan For World Fair Visitors

NEW YORK, Mar. 11.—A campaign for "greater safety and courtesy" on the transit facilities of the city in preparation for the World's Fair was announced this week by the Transport Workers Union, CIO.

Transit workers will constitute "the front line of the city's army of welcome" to the 60,000,000 visitors to the World's Fair, the TWU executive board said in a letter sent to all union members. The board urged them to begin preparing now to assure the greatest degree of safety and courtesy during a period when all transit facilities will undoubtedly be taxed to the limit.

55,000 UNDER CONTRACT

The TWU has closed shop contracts covering more than 55,000 men and women employed on all the major subway, elevated, trolley and bus lines and taxicab companies.

Austin Hogan, president of the TWU of Greater New York, said the union's campaign will be based on the theme of "How to greet and treat World's Fair visitors." More than 3,000,000 leaflets and pamphlets on this subject will be issued within the next two months, according to Hogan.

PLAN CAMPAIGN

Plans to further the campaign were presented to some 800 officers, stewards and other key men in the unionized transit industry at a meeting held this week at union headquarters.

A letter writing competition on the general theme of how to greet and treat the World's Fair visitors open to all TWU members has also been announced. The best 28 suggestions will be awarded prizes and will be printed in literature to be distributed to passengers. Cash, gold-plated TWU membership pins and admission tickets to the Fair will be awarded as prizes.

Mooney To Attend Mine, Mill & Smelter Union Convention

DENVER, Colo., Mar. 11 — Tom Mooney has accepted an invitation to attend the 1939 convention of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers, to be held in Denver starting August 7.

Arrangements have been made by the union officials to hold a mass meeting in Denver at that time, with Mooney one of the leading speakers. Pres. John L. Lewis, of the CIO, has also been invited to attend.

In a letter to the union, Mooney said, "I shall consider it an honor and a privilege to be with you." Mooney added in another communication that he is not "free" as long as Warren K. Billings remains in prison.

"My first thought is of Billings," he wrote, "and then to work for labor unity, so that the American Federation of Labor, the Congress of Industrial Organizations and the Railway Brotherhoods may be united into a powerful labor movement to protect the American workers on the economic front and preserve our democratic institutions."

Thomas Edison Co., Union In Contract

WEST ORANGE, N. J., Mar. 11. — Guaranteed minimum hourly pay, paid vacations, strict seniority rights and other benefits were won in a new one-year contract signed between Local 407, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers and the Thomas A. Edison, Inc.

The agreement covers 850 employes at the company's Storage Battery, Spitdorf & Power Service division.

Other divisions will be included under the general terms of the contract as they are organized. The company has agreed to recognize the union as sole bargaining agent for additional units whenever a check of the union membership with the payroll shows that a majority of the workers belong to the UERMW.

A drive is now under way to complete the organization of other battery plants in the area. Edison is the largest plant in this district. The smallest, General Lead Co., is also under contract with the UERMW.

Summer Session On Democracy

Buffalo, N. Y., March 11—CIO unions have been invited to send representatives to the Summer Institute for Social Progress, which will meet at Wellesley College, Wellesly, Mass., July 8-22.

Subjects for the various lectures and discussions will be on the general theme, "How Can We Make Democracy Work?" Further information can be obtained by writing to Miss Dorothy P. Hill, director, 22 Oakland Place, Buffalo, N. Y.

Goodrich Signs New Pact With Rubber Union

AKRON, Ohio, Mar. 11.—Members of the Goodrich Local, United Rubber Workers, by a vote of more than two-to-one, have ratified a new contract signed between the union and the B. F. Goodrich Rubber Co.

The agreement, which provides for maintainance of the present wage rates, is the second to be signed by the company. It is to be effective until December 31, 1939, or until either party gives 30 days notice of desire to end it.

Union officials hail the agreement as knocking the slats out from under Akron Chamber of Commerce arguments for lower wages to "keep the rubber firms from moving out of town."

HITS TORY CLAIM

They point out that not only have wage rates been kept intact in the Goodrich pact, but also the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., has announced that it will spend $3,000,000 to modernize its Akron plants.

The new contract calls for a minimum vacation pay of $20 a week for men and $12 for women, with one week for employes with five years' service, and two weeks' for ten years' service. A new provision specifies that three days' notice or 15 hours' pay shall be given in cases of layoffs.

36-HOUR WEEK

The six-hour day, 36-hour week are declared the normal working hours, although provision is made for a "flexible working schedule" not to exceed eight hours a day or 40 a week, with the check that in no case shall the total yearly hours exceed 1800 for any employe. This would be the equivalent of a 36-hour week for 50 weeks.

Goodrich is the second major Akron rubber company to renew an agreement with the CIO rubber union. The other is Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., now in its second year under contract. Goodyear, the third of the "big three" has so far continued to stall on signing up with the union.

San Francisco Print Trades Join League

San Francisco, Mar. 11—The Allied Printing Trades Council of San Francisco, with a membership of more than 6,000, has affiliated with Labor's Non-Partisan League in this state.

More than 500,000 California workers are now represented in the League's state branch, officials estimated.

Peace Committees Discuss 'American Congress of Labor'

Peace Proposals Of The CIO

Following is the complete text of the proposals for labor unity submitted by President John L. Lewis of the Congress of Industrial Organizations at the conference in the White House on March 7.)

Between April 15 and April 30, 1939, the Congress of Industrial Organizations and the American Federation of Labor shall each hold a special national convention. These conventions shall be held separately and at any convenient place. The purpose of the conventions will be to pass upon and approve the following basic plan of procedure.

(1) Not later than June 1, 1939, there shall assemble in the city of Washington, D. C., in the hall owned by the Daughters of the American Revolution, a convention of representatives of: (a) the American Federation of Labor; (b) the Congress of Industrial Organizations; and (c) the four Brotherhoods in the railroad transportation field, heretofore independent.

(2) This convention is to organize and dedicate the American Congress of Labor, designed to supersede and embrace the membership of the CIO and the AFL, and to include the membership of the before mentioned railroad organizations. The convention will outline its objectives, adopt a constitution, and elect officers for a term of one year.

(3) John L. Lewis and William Green shall not be eligible for election to any office in this convention. The ACL will grant Mr. William Green a life tenure of his present salary for services rendered. The same arrangement will include Mr. Frank Morrison.

(4) The executive board or governing body of the ACL will be composed equally of representatives of the AFL and the CIO, with proportionate representation for the four Railroad Brotherhoods. The president of the ACL, to be elected by the convention, shall be selected from the membership of the Brotherhoods, from such types of executives as A. F. Whitney, President of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, and D. B. Robertson, President of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen.

(5) During the year ensuing from the organization of the ACL, the services of the United States Department of Labor and its Conciliation Bureau shall be continuously available for cooperative mediation on all controversial questions affecting overlapping jurisdiction or other matters existing between the constituent unions of the Congress.

(6) To insure the orderly, tranquil and good faith execution of the suggestions herein noted, the President of the United States is requested to preside at the sessions of the unified ranks of labor, when its constituent representatives assemble for the purpose of stating objectives, electing officers, and adopting a constitution.

Comedy Of Errors

San Francisco, Mar. 11—Ordinarily there is nothing funny in 15 union men being arrested for picketing and carted off to jail, but as the thing happened in the Shasta Dam dispute, it had its comic side.

Charged with violating the Shasta county anti-picketing ordinance, 15 of a number of CIO men arrested were in court before the judge who had committed them to jail. When everything was ready, however, the judge discovered that all the deputy sheriffs were out patrolling the highway and there was nobody to take them to jail, several blocks away.

JUDGE GETS IDEA

Suddenly the judge had an idea. Turning to CIO Attorney Richard Gladstein, who was present in a double capacity as representative of the men and a prisoner under arrest, himself, the judge said, "Why don't you let me deputize you? Then you can escort them to the jail as an officer of the law."

Gladstein refused to mix matters more by taking on this third role, explaining that as a CIO representative he couldn't serve as a deputy sheriff in a labor dispute.

"Never mind the deputizing," he said. "Just give me the commitment papers. I'll carry them over to the sheriff and the boys can walk behind me."

ESCORT THEMSELVES

In parade formation and carrying their own commitments, the prisoners escorted themselves to jail.

The dispute over which they were arrested concerned jobs with the United Concrete Pipe Co., contractors in charge of the Delta Tunnel job on a railroad relocation project. Although practically all the workers belonged to the CIO, the company signed a closed shop contract with some AFL officials before the project opened.

When the men reported for work they were told they would have to leave the CIO and join the AFL, paying good sized initiation fee before they could go to work. They struck, and later were arrested for violating the county anti-picketing law.

Mine Pact Negotiations Start Soon

Washington, Mar. 11.—Completion of arrangements for contract renewal conferences was announced this week by the United Mine Workers of America. The first meeting of the Bituminous Policy Committee has already taken place in New York, followed by a meeting of the International Executive Board.

March 14 the joint conference of the UMWA and the Appalachian area operators will be held, followed a week later by the Tri-District Anthracite Convention. Early in April the Anthracite Joint Wage Scale Conference will meet, also in New York.

Temporary headquarters of the UMWA during the meetings will be at the Commodore Hotel in New York.

G. E. Plant Votes For CIO Contract

Bloomfield, N. J., Mar. 11.—One more plant of the General Electric Co. is due to come under the terms of the corporation's contract with the CIO United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workes.

Employes of the Bloomfield plant voted by a lage majority to have Local 422 of the union represent them as sole bargaining agency.

The original contract signed with the company covered only certain plants, but provided for the inclusion of others as soon as workers vote for the union as their exclusive agent.

CIO Issues New Wagner Act Leaflet

Washington, Mar. 11.—"Don't be fooled—its your wages and your unions they're after. Save the Wagner Labor Act!"

These slogans on the front cover, plus a cartoon, preface the newest leaflet put out by the CIO in defense of the Natl. Labor Relations Act.

The leaflet, designed for mass distribution, outlines in simple terms the objections of labor to the amendments proposed by Senator Walsh, Senator Burke and others.

Copies can be obtained from the CIO, 1106 Connecticut Ave., Washington, D. C., at 40 cents per 100, $3.75 per 1,000.

UNPOPULAR

New York.—When the New York World-Telegram asked readers for letters of approval or criticism of its increasingly anti-New Deal editorial policies, it found that only 28% of the letters favored the paper's present stand.

CIO Unity Plan Stirs Labor's Applause

WASHINGTON, Mar. 11 — Unity of all American labor in an all-inclusive American Congress of Labor is the CIO proposal on which national attention has been focussed since peace negotiations started last week.

John L. Lewis, Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman, representing the CIO, presented their six-point plan for unity to President Roosevelt and the AFL committee at the White House March 7, in the course of the first conference called by the President. The AFL representatives agreed later to discuss it at a conference in New York over the weekend.

The CIO plan calls for separate conventions of the CIO and AFL between April 15 and April 30, 1939 to pass upon and approve the following procedure:

(1) A joint convention of the AFL, the CIO and the railroad transportation Brotherhoods to be held in Washington not later than June 1.

(2) Formation at this unity convention of an American Congress of Labor, to include the CIO, AFL and railroad labor organizations.

(3) Neither John L. Lewis nor William Green to be eligible for election to any office in this convention, and life tenure of present salary to be assured for Green and AFL Secretary Frank Morrison.

(4) Executive board of the ACL to be composed equally of AFL and CIO representatives, with proportionate representation for the Brotherhoods, and the president to be elected from the Brotherhoods.

(5) The U. S. Department of Labor and its Conciliation Bureau to be asked to aid in mediating jurisdictional and other differences between unions during the year following organization of the ACL.

(6) President Roosevelt to be requested to preside at the convention "to insure the orderly, tranquil and good faith execution of the suggestions noted."

(The full text of the CIO pro-

These rates compare with the .50

The direct and sweeping character of the CIO peace proposals electrified the country and took the AFL committee by surprise. This committee, consisting at first of Harry C. Bates, Matthew Woll, and T. A. Rickert, issued a statement the same day denouncing the CIO plan as "fanciful" and questioning CIO motives in presenting it.

ASKS CONSIDERATION

On the next day (March 8), when the CIO and AFL committees met again at the Department of Labor, President Lewis of the CIO made a plea that the AFL "give intelligent analysis to our proposals rather than to continue attacking our motives."

At this conference, the AFL committee agreed to give consideration to the CIO proposals, as well as to any others that might be made, at the next unity conference which was set for Friday evening, March 10, in New York City.

TOBIN JOINS GROUP

The AFL committee meanwhile had been enlarged to four by the addition of Daniel J. Tobin, President of the Teamsters Union. Tobin was named by President William Green in the first place, but resigned from the committee shortly after. He was persuaded to withdraw his resignation in time to attend the Wednesday conference.

The CIO proposal for speedy and inclusive unity of American labor in one great body which will represent some nine million workers, met with an immediate and favorable response throughout the country.

MANY WIRES

Telegrams approving the CIO peace plan at once began pouring in on both AFL and CIO head-

Continued on page six

Asks Unity

Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt, who brought unity negotiators from the CIO and AFL together for their first conference at the White House last Tuesday.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II March 13, 1939 No. 11

The CIO Proposals for Unity

The CIO has reaffirmed and made more emphatic its consistent stand for a united labor movement, in the peace proposals which its representatives, John L. Lewis, Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman, presented at the first unity conference called by President Roosevelt.

The CIO suggests concrete plans for a unity convention to be called at the earliest possible date. The purpose of this convention would be to unite the three great labor groups, the AFL, the CIO and the railroad Brotherhoods, in an all-inclusive American Congress of Labor.

Under this plan, neither Lewis nor William Green would be eligible for election to the presidency of the new united body, but a neutral president would be chosen from the railroad Brotherhoods.

The CIO further proposes that President Roosevelt be requested to preside at the Unity convention; and that the U. S. Department of Labor be asked to lend its aid in mediating jurisdictional differences between unions.

* * * *

The CIO proposals deserve the most serious consideration not only of AFL and railroad Brotherhood leaders but of all organized workers, regardless of affiliation.

They are sincerely offered as a constructive suggestion for bringing about just and effective unity within the shortest possible time.

In making these proposals, the CIO representatives are fully conscious of the great demand which exists within the ranks of labor for united action on the part of all unions in the promotion of labor's common objectives.

Many intricate difficulties stand in the way of the labor unity which is so greatly desired by American workers. The railroad Brotherhoods have never been able to unite in one Federation with the AFL. And now a whole new labor movement has come into being through the CIO, because the AFL did not permit of the growth of industrial organization within its ranks.

The CIO is not unaware of these difficulties. But it considers that unity is nevertheless possible if immediate steps are taken to bring all existing unions together, without sacrifice of their rights, in one inclusive body, leaving minor jurisdictional differences to be worked out later within this great new family of American labor.

* * * *

The CIO has consistently stood for labor unity and for a spirit of live-and-let-live among labor organizations.

While subscribing to the principle of industrial organization in the mass-production industries, the CIO has never challenged the rights of craft unions where these are preferred by the workers and function effectively in their behalf. It has only demanded equal rights for industrial unions where the workers need and desire this form of organization.

The CIO never desired a split in the AFL; on the contrary, it fought hard to prevent it as long as possible. The split was finally forced by the action of the AFL executives in driving out the CIO unions, rather than to permit the growth of industrial organization within the Federation.

Since the split occurred, the CIO has repeatedly tried to restore the unity that was thus disrupted. And its present proposals are motivated by the same desire it has always held to unite both craft and industrial unions, without sacrifice of the rights of either, in a unified labor movement.

* * * *

The unity which the CIO proposes is of immediate concern to all of labor. But there are also even wider considerations of public welfare. Labor needs to act unitedly, not only for its own immediate economic interests, but also in defense of all progressive legislation and of our country's democratic institutions.

It is in this spirit, and with all of these considerations in mind, that the CIO has made its sweeping proposals for labor unity. They deserve the study and support not only of all labor unionists but of all public-spirited Americans.

All for One, One for All

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Why Not Unite?

THE best way to unity is to unite.

That is exactly what the CIO peace plan proposes, and that is why it has caused such a stir.

Some people have been quite shocked by its daring. It is almost as if, at a disarmament conference, some bold spirit would propose that the nations actually disarm.

Unity conferences to such critics are simply formal occasions for endless wrangling over details.

Both sides are supposed to meet day after day, week after week, month after month, to argue and quibble over jurisdictional differences—until the main goal is all but forgotten.

The American Federation of Labor has been debating and squabbling over just such jurisdictional disputes within its own ranks for more than half a century. And most of them are still as far from a final solution as they ever were.

If the CIO were not genuinely concerned with uniting labor, it might be willing to spend the next fifty years too in the conventional type of "unity conferences."

Instead of that, it has been just rude enough and crude enough to suggest cutting the cackle and getting down to unity—by actually uniting the country's three great labor groups in one all-inclusive American Congress of Labor.

The CIO Plan

The CIO proposal is brief and simple. It is that both CIO and AFL hold separate conventions to approve plans for a unity convention not later than June 1.

At this unity convention the CIO, the AFL and the railroad brotherhods would all be represented, and an American Congress of Labor would be formed to unite all existing labor unions in one federation.

It is proposed that both John L. Lewis and William Green step aside and let a neutral president be selected from the railroad brotherhoods.

The last time Lewis proposed that he and Green resign, to answer the argument that their personal claims stood in the way of unity, the objection was raised that whereas Lewis would still be president of the United Mine Workers, Green would be out of a job if he resigned as AFL president.

To meet this objection, the CIO proposal includes life tenure of present salary for Green and AFL Secretary Frank Morrison.

Finally, it is proposed that the U. S. Department of Labor aid in mediating jurisdictional disputes between unions within the united Congress; and that President Roosevelt be asked to preside over the unity convention.

The American Way

The CIO peace proposal may be a bit breath-taking in its simplicity for those who cannot see the wood for the trees. The legalistic minds of labor experts have dwelt so long on the intricacies of labor division that they do not see the genuine demand for unity now, regardless of red tape and details which can be worked out later.

The CIO proposal is addressed not only to the AFL negotiators but to millions of American working people in all labor unions. It speaks clear and straight to them in the American language, on a subject that is close to their hearts.

All of these workers want a united labor movement. And the American way to get what you want is usually the direct way. That is why the simple and direct proposal of the CIO is meeting with such a tremendous response throughout the ranks of labor.

A Realistic Approach

The CIO proposal is realistic. It takes account of the fact that there are now three main groupings of American labor, the CIO, the AFL and the railroad brotherhoods; and that each of these groups consists of unions which have every desire, intention and right to maintain their identities and to continue serving the members who have chosen them.

Several years ago it was reasonable to talk in terms of restoring unity in the AFL by lifting the suspensions that caused the split and by permitting industrial organization within the Federation.

But that is no longer the most realistic approach. A whole new labor movement has come into being, with scores of strong unions that were never in the AFL. To adjust AFL jurisdictions in such a way as to preserve the rights of all these new unions would now present great difficulties.

The CIO therefore proposes, not absorption, but a uniting of two movements which are approximately equal in strength.

One stumbling-block to such a merger is the natural struggle for control of the united body between the two groups which are so nearly equal. To meet this difficulty, and to prove that it is more concerned with unity than with control, the CIO proposes the inclusion of a neutral element, the railroad brotherhoods, which would hold the balance of power.

The brotherhoods have always held aloof from the AFL. One reason for this has been the same jurisdictional rigidity which repels the CIO. But the formation

Continued on page five

New York Tories Praise, Endorse Amendments

NEW YORK, Mar. 11.—The efforts of certain AFL leaders to win amendments to the Wagner Act today had backing from influential quarters—the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York.

The action came after the bankers and businessmen had heard and applauded a speech by Matthew Woll, vice-president of the AFL and one of the federation's peace negotiators.

The Chamber also approved the AFL executive council's blast against New Deal spending policies, made at Miami last month.

COMMENDS COUNCIL

The resolution declared in part that the Chamber "commended the executive council of the AFL for its recent declaration regarding the policies which should be pursued to bring about a solution of the unemployment problem and a return of prosperity."

It added that the C. of C. "hereby records its belief that the Walsh bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act should be enacted into law as it is an important step along the lines previously advocated by this chamber as a necessity to promote industrial peace."

ENEMIES OF LABOR

The chamber's action attracted interest here since among its officers and members are some foremost enemies of organized labor. One of the three vice-presidents of the chamber is Leroy A. Lincoln, president of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., which has spent thousands of dollars collected from policyholders to fight unionization of its workers.

New Bill Introduced In House

Washington, Mar. 11 — Amendments to the Wagner Act sponsored by AFL leaders have been introduced into the House of Representatives by Cong. Graham A. Barden, North Carolina Democrat.

The Barden bill is said to be similar to the one previously filed in the upper house by Sen. David I. Walsh of Massachusetts, who has spent a considerable portion of his time since then in explaining away his actions to angry union groups in both the AFL and the CIO.

AFFECTS NLRB

The House bill calls for scuttling of the present National Labor Relations Board and the substitution of a five-man board with five-year terms. The measure reflects the hostility of the AFL top leadership to the present Board.

The bill has been referred to the House Labor Committee, headed by Cong. Mary Norton of New Jersey. Mrs. Norton has revealed that her committee has not yet scheduled hearings on the bill.

Hearings on amendments in the Senate have been postponed by Sen. Elbert Thomas, chairman of the Education and Labor Committee, pending outcome of AFL-CIO unity negotiations.

Look'ng Ahead

Continued from Page Four

of an all-inclusive Congress of Labor, in which the rights of all unions would be fully protected, would unquestionably have a great attractive force for the railroad workers as well as for all other sections of American labor.

NAM Helps Burke Fight Wagner Act

Washington, Mar. 11—Senator Burke, who wants to kill the Wagner Act, believes in "educating" his constituents—with the help of the Natl. Manufacturers Association.

He has just sent thousands of copies of the February issue of the NAM Law Digest, legal guide to the Association's reactionary anti-labor policies, to the voters back home with a covering letter, plus copies of his own proposed amendment to the Wagner Act and all the others offered to date, plus copies of his letter to Chairman Madden of the Labor Board.

ROUND-UP OF REACTION

The NAM Digest gives the employers reasons why the Act should be changed to allow company unionism, to allow collusive contracts, to turn the Act over the courts at every turn; in general to make it a bosses' law rather than a workers' law.

The Burke amendments put all these proposals into the correct statutory language. The Burke letter to Madden, sent some time ago, was described by the Board Chairman as "full of misstatements of facts, mishandling of statistics and perversions of Board policies," in a reply which Burke has not yet rebutted.

ONLY EMPLOYERS' SIDE

Incidentally, Senator Burke didn't include any material answering either the points raised by the NAM or himself in the little bundle sent out to the expectant voters. All they got was the employers' side, plus Burke's able interpretation of the NAM point of view.

Sen. Lodge Hits Changes Hurting CIO

Washington, Mar. 11 — Sen. Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., Massachusetts Republican, today was on record as firmly "opposed to any amendment" to the Wagner Act that "will hamper industrial organization."

The youthful Bay State Senator's statement was given to the general executive board of the CIO United Shoe Workers of America, which has been interviewing numerous Congressmen and Senators on their attitutde towards the Act.

BLOW AT UNIONISM

Lodge told the shoe workers that, though he had not given detailed study to all the suggested amendments, he was convinced that any major blow at industrial unionism is a blow at all unions. Modern industrial plants, he indicated, can be successfully organized only on an industrial union basis.

The delegation told the Massachusetts senator that amendment of the Wagner Act would crimp their efforts to organize runaway shops, many of which have left Massachusetts in recent years for low-wage areas in nearby states.

Chicago AFL Joins Campaign

Chicago, Mar. 11—The AFL committee formed to aid members of the Chicago Newspaper Guild striking against the Hearst publications here went on record today as opposed to amending the Wagner Act.

In a letter to the Illinois Congressional delegation, the committee said:

"The rank and file of organized labor consider the Wagner Act one of their important gains, and will interpret any attempt to amend or weaken it as an unfriendly act, and as citizens will not hesitate to show their disapproval in accordance with labor's policy of rewarding friends and punishing enemies."

Report Shows Board Averts Many Strikes

NEW YORK, Mar. 11.—Employers and unions are turning increasingly to the National Labor Relations Board for speedy and peaceful settlements of their disputes, Eleanor Herrick, NLRB regional director in the important metropolitan New York area announced in a report released here this week.

"Employers have learned that they cannot be said to bargain in good faith if the answer to every proposal is a flat 'no!'" Mrs. Herrick said. "Unions have learned that they cannot slap a contract down on the desk and say: 'Sign there or else we'll throw a picket line around the plant.'"

PEACEFUL TALKS

The New York office of the board handles about one-fifth of all its cases, the report noted, and 90 per cent of these cases have been closed. About half of them have been settled by informal discussions between employers and employes under the auspices of the NLRB.

"For the year 1938 alone, these settlements carried with them $131,083.85 in back pay to workers discriminately discharged," she commented. "A total of 2,454 workers have been reinstated in this region after illegal discharge. . . "

Other points noted in the report:

1. Cases are being handled more speedily by the Board, indicating growing faith in the NLRB's work.

2. Elections with the consent of all parties are increasing in number.

3. Use of injunctions against the Board has practically been abandoned by employers.

4. A decrease in the number of strike cases and a corresponding rise in petitions for certification as bargaining agencies shows a tendency on the part of unions to use the NLRB rather than the strike as a method of solving labor disputes.

Wagner Act Aids Peace, Unions Say

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON, Mar. 11.—Contracts won, wages boosted, strikes avoided and industrial peace maintained with the help of the Wagner Act is the general story reported by CIO unions in a survey of progress since the Act was passed three years ago.

A look at the record of one CIO union—the Electrical and Radio Workers — shows what the Wagner Act has meant to workers in the basic industries of the U. S.

The United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America took part in 66 elections covering 66,000 workers in the period August 1, 1936, to July 31, 1937. Fifty-nine thousand workers voted for the UERMW, which was certified in 52 plants.

In the space of three years, the union has won contracts covering 250,000 workers, boosted pay 10 per cent, reduced hours, won paid vacations for thousands. And the significant point about these gains is that only 5 per cent of the workers covered had to resort to strikes.

Ninety-five per cent won without having to use the strike weapon—because, as President Carey pointed out, the Wagner Act offered a peaceful, orderly way of achieving collective bargaining.

PRAISE FROM BOSS, TOO

These gains were possible, with industrial peace, because "the Wagner Act and its administration helped to establish a measure of industrial democracy within the gigantic plants of the electrical manufacturing industry," Carey said.

Sensible employers recognize the benefits the Wagner Act has brought to them, as it has helped to establish collective bargaining. This is what one of them, a high officer in the General Electric Co., had to say:

"We have had no trouble with the Wagner law. It was designed to take care of the employe who can't take care of himself. My suggestion would be to let the Wagner law ride and let some of these employers who haven't tried it, give it a try. . ."

OLDER UNIONS GAIN

Older unions, including those that helped to start the CIO in 1935, report similar gains in the period since the Act's passage. The Amalgamated Clothing Workers, one of the founding unions of the CIO, reports for the period 1936-1939:

Membership increased from 150,000 to 253,000; contracts from 3,576 to 5,420; organization in men's clothing from 85 per cent to 95; in cotton garments an increase of 25,000 members; in laundries (a new field) strong locals containing 30,000 previously unorganized workers.

36-HOUR WEEK

During the same period, the 36-hour week in men's clothing was maintained and a 12 per cent general wage raise secured. Wages in cotton garments were boosted from $6.00 per 60-hour week to an average of $16 for a 40-hour week. General increases were won for laundry workers. In 1938, a depression year, workers' incomes were increased $2,000,000, and 38,000 new members added through the international union.

The Flat Glass Workers, CIO, reports contracts won, workers reinstated, company unions dissolved throughout the industry. "We can definitely say," Secretary-Treasurer De Shetler writes, "that the fact that the Act is the law of the land saved major disturbances in the greater part of the plate, window and laminated glass industry."

AIDS PEACE

The Packinghouse Workers, one of the newer CIO affiliates, reports 13 complaint cases adjusted under the Act, involving more than 12,000 workers. Elections involving close to 9,000 were held, in which the union won certification.

The Natl. Maritime Union, headed by Joseph Curran, list 53 contracts, wage increases from 15 to 30 per cent, 54 elections won. "Never before," the union says, "have the American seamen had the conditions they get today through the merits of this Act."

Benefits have been won for lumber workers in the Pacific northwest. A. F. Hartung, president of Council 5 of the Intl. Woodworkers of America, CIO, has this to say about the Act:

"We are opposed to any changes. The Board is just, and should not be hamstrung by any amendments. Letting the workers decide by a fair ballot the issue of affiliation is certainly based on the U. S. Constitution and is the most democratic way to settle labor disputes."

WHITE COLLAR, TOO

"White collar" unions, particularly in the newspaper industry, add their contribution in praise of the Act. The American Newspaper Guild in a brief tabulation reports wage increase "well over $6,000,000," the five-day week, severance pay, vacations, etc., and credits much of these gains to the operation of the Act.

This is only a partial listing of the gains organized labor in the CIO has won through the Wagner Act. Further study shows great improvements in wages and working conditions through the CIO, won by a combination of organizing and full use of the protection the Act affords to workers.

Reports

Mrs. Eleanor Herrick, National Labor Relations Board director in New York City, whose report showed how the Wagner Act has contributed to industrial peace.

Discuss CIO Unity Proposal

Continued from page three

quarters from unions in all three labor groups, and press reaction was generally favorable.

A definite reaction was not immediately forthcoming from most railroad Brotherhood officials. But President A. F. Whitney of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, who was mentioned along with President D. B. Robertson of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen as examples of the type of neutral labor executives who might be elected to head the American Congress of Labor, commented as follows:

WHITNEY'S COMMENT

"If the groups want to set up a cooperative program, I think I could go along with them. A federation of organized labor, or something of that sort, I think, would appeal to the average person. We will cooperate with one or all of the groups at any time for the benefit of society or labor."

The CIO and AFL committees were first called together by President Roosevelt at the White House with Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins also in attendance.

ROOSEVELT'S MESSAGE

In opening the first conference, President Roosevelt emphasized the importance of labor unity, urged that the conferees enter negotiations with open minds, and declared: "It is desirable that this should be a negotiated peace made by this committee, using your own ingenuity and resourcefulness to find various ways of settling knotty problems."

"I accept the premise that both sides want peace," Roosevelt said, pointing out that in many cities the local CIO and AFL "are working together in closest harmony," and calling attention to the volume of demand for unity from the rank and file of labor.

Push Drive In New York State Office

New York, Mar. 11—Local 45 of the State, County & Municipal Workers, CIO, is pushing its campaign for recognition and the establishment of grievance committee procedure in the offices of the New York State Insurance Fund.

The office, a division of the state Department of Labor, handles workmen's compensation funds. The union charges the management of the state bureau with responsibility for the breakdown of harmonious employer-union relations, and with intimidation of union representatives.

Ask Help For Railroads

Indiana Harbor, Ind., Mar. 11—Led by District Director Nicholas Fontecchio, executive representatives of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee in the Calumet district have called upon Congress and Pres. Roosevelt to speed legislation designed to rehabilitate the nation's railroad system.

Such action, they said, "would not only benefit the railroad industry but will greatly aid a large number of steel producing and fabricating plant workers in this territory and elsewhere, who are now idle."

Negotiators Meet

CIO and AFL peace negotiators as they met in the Department of Labor building in Washington for their second session. Seated, left to right: Vice-Pres. Philip Murray and Pres. John L. Lewis of the CIO; Harry Bates of the AFL bricklayers, and Pres. Daniel Tobin of the AFL teamsters. Standing, CIO Vice-Pres. Sidney Hillman, Matthew Woll of the AFL and T. A. Rickert of the AFL garment makers.

Martin's Convention Is Great 'Flop'; CIO Auto Union Pushes Ahead

By ROBERT DALE

Detroit, Mar. 11.—Plans for the special convention in Cleveland starting March 27 were pushed this week by the United Automobile Workers, CIO, here, while a rump meeting of ex-president Homer Martin's retainers broke up in discord.

The UAW-CIO, of which R. J. Thomas is acting president, announced that locals with a membership of 334,000 have voted to send delegates to Cleveland. Martin's dual union session represented less than 17,000 UAW members, a careful check showed.

Martin's one-man show was marred by continuous bickering and factional fighting revolving around Lovestone followers on the Martin payroll. Martin took the convention floor against a proposal to bar members of this group from the union. His defense kept out a reference to Lovestonites from a resolution barring Communists and Nazis, which was adopted.

TRIES TO DICTATE

Another source of squabbles was Martin's attempt to dictate the convention procedure and policy. Detroit newspapers report he demanded the right to appoint executive board members but was defeated by his own hand-picked delegates. He did win the right to appoint regional directors, contrary to the UAW-CIO policy of election.

On the subject of delegate's expenses, there was a bitter backstage row. Martin had two classes of phoney delegates, Class A and Class B. The "A" boys got $7.50 a day, the others but $5. These rates compare with the 50c. an hour Martin has been paying flophouse inmates and floaters to try and worm their way with phoney credentials furnished by Martin into UAW-CIO meetings.

There was a staged demonstration for Martin when he was elected "president" of the dual outfit. This show of enthusiasm soon waned, however, as the factional scrap became more bitter.

TORIES SEND GREETINGS

Among the few greetings received by Martin were expressions from Michigan's anti-labor Governor Fitzgerald, sponsor of a bill to limit the right to strike, and Detroit's Mayor Reading, who was vigorously opposed by labor when he ran for office.

Though Martin had Sosed the White House, all he got was regrets from a presidential secretary who said the President was too busy on "important business" to recognize Martin's "goonvention", as it is known in auto centers. There was a lone AFL subofficial on hand, but no other representative of organized labor, CIO, AFL or independent, honored the meeting with his presence.

Neither Harry Bennett, Ford union-buster, nor Gerald L. K. Smith, self-styled "ism expert of America", were seated but both watched proceedings with interest. Both Bennett and Smith are also Martin pals in the fields of union busting and frenzied oratory.

WISHES HE'D QUIT

The Martin farce was mercilessly razzed by the Detroit papers. At a press banquet Martin confessed that he wished he had quit "at the peak" and that he now plans to be the pastor of a nonsectarian church in Detroit.

Scores of locals seated by Martin were either dormant or nonexistent. He also seated a number of so-called "rank and file" delegates from locals that have already voted to go to Cleveland. Some of these dual union delegates were suspended "for 99 years" by the Dodge local here.

On the key question of affiliation with the labor movement, Martin led his group right out of the labor movement altogether, voting not to affiliate with either CIO or AFL but to stay independent.

LINE UP WITH CIO

Even before the Martin sessions broke up, there began a further parade of locals to the UAW-CIO. Several of Martin's delegates whose expenses had been paid for them by Martin came over to the Fort Shelby Hotel, headquarters of the legitimate UAW, to make overtures. Numbers of locals that had kept neutral or been steamrollered into attending Martin's meeting, are now seeking UAW-affiliation.

Hillman, Murray Help AFL Strikers

Washington, Mar. 11—CIO Vice-Presidents Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman showed their union solidarity with AFL pickets when the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Alliance, AFL affiliate, called strikes in 13 major Washington Hotels this week.

The two CIO leaders in Washington for labor peace conferences, immediately moved out of the hotels in which they had been registered. Murray discovered the strike, which had begun at dawn as the result of a refusal of the employers to sign a new contract, when he came down into the lobby in the morning.

Scorning the services of a scab elevator man, he walked four flights of stairs, packed his bags and walked out. Hillman was notified of the strike when the headwaiter offered to serve him breakfast. He immediately left the hotel, sending a messenger boy back for his luggage.

MEXICANS DROPPED

Austin, Tex. (FP) — Thousands of WPA workers, most of them Mexicans, have ben dropped under the new citizenship requirements.

Union Asks $400,000 From Firm

NEW YORK, Mar. 11. — The CIO Utility Workers Organizing Committee today had on file with the National Labor Relations Board a complaint asking payment of back wages amounting to $400,000.

The sum, the largest ever involved in a Labor Board decision, is due to 275 members of Amalgamated Utility Workers, UWOC affiliate, who were fired in August, 1935, by the giant Consolidated Edison Co. of New York, the union said.

Only a few months ago six members of the UWOC received $22,000 in back pay when the U. S. Supreme Court upheld the Labor Board's order, and declared the utility firm affected by the Wagner Act.

At that time Con-Ed was ordered to stop interfering with CIO organizing activities and to cease favoring an AFL company union.

'COURAGEOUS FIGHT'

Commenting on the case, Allan Haywood, chairman of the UWOC, said that "our local, the Amalgamated Utility Workers, has waged a long, courageous fight against one of the biggest corporations in the country, and one whose labor relations deserve the strongest censure.

"This case will go far toward completing organization and assuring workers benefits now subject to management whim. Despite huge annual profits, Con Edison has discharged 6,000 men and women in less than two years—and further layoffs seem imminent to union observers who consider the many forms of speed-up and artificial work elimination now in effect highly detrimental to the security of employes."

Win Closed Shop Pact In New York

New York, Mar. 11. — Thirty-eight members of Local 415, CIO United Photographic Employes, have returned to work with a closed shop contract, a 10% pay increase and a raise in minimum wage rates at the plant of Emil Koudelka, Inc.

The settlement needed a lockout and strike lasting almost eight weeks.

The same local recently signed a contract with the large Barber Photographic Co. in New Jersey and is looking forward to winning other agreements in New York and New Jersey.

Music Group Affiliates With Philly CIO

Philadelphia, Mar. 11. — The Philadelphia Music Center, sponsored by numerous liberal music lovers, has become affiliated with the CIO Industrial Union Council here.

The Center plans to work in conjunction with the council on cultural projects. First of these will be an evening of choral music for officers and leaders of the CIO, to be held Saturday evening, March 18.

YOUR WPA JOB

By James B. Carey

Secretary of the CIO
Chairman, Committee on Unemployment

We are just now being treated with the happy spectacle of everyone joining in a fervent obeisance towards the Mecca of recovery. To this we are glad to say "Amen."

Let us realize that recovery does not occur through simple repetition of the word, that recovery is built upon economic fact, not on rhetoric.

HURTING RECOVERY

Today, especially in Congress and in certain of the most reactionary business groups, those who are shouting recovery the loudest are the ones who are doing the most to damage it. In less than three weeks, if Congress does not act, the WPA will begin throwing out of work a million to two million workers. That would be the most brutal blow against recovery that could be struck at this time.

The effect would be something like the effect upon recovery if the steel industry closed down all at once. Or if the automobile industry stopped every payroll.

INDEX SLIPPING

Look at the index of business since Congress slashed $150,000,000 off the President's request for WPA. It has been slipping downward. I predict that unless Congress makes some adequate provision for our unemployed, the country will stop here and now advancing towards recovery. Take the WPA payroll alone.

It amounts monthly to more than a third of all the wages paid in all the American manufacturing industries. The WPA employes every month more than half the number of workers employed in American manufacturing industries. Slashing this payroll by two-thirds, cutting this employment anywhere from a half to two-thirds, would do more to blast recovery than any conceivable occurrence today.

It does not take much imagination to realize what would happen to the economic health of the country if we turn loose jobless, penniless, hopeless upon the streets of our cities and towns two million workers with more than four million dependents.

That is not recovery. That is chaos.

Mooney Record Available

New York, Mar. 11—Recordings of dramatic scenes when Tom Mooney received his pardon from Gov. Olson of California are available now.

The record, which includes Mooney's and Olson's speeches, gives a realistic impression of the tense and emotional feeling of the principals and the audience at the proceedings.

Copies are available from the Key Recordings, 103 Park Ave., New York, at $2.00 each. Profits go to the Mooney Defense Committee to aid the fight to release Mooney's fellow victim in the 1916 frame-up, Warren K. Billings.

No Need For Union?

Marenisco, Mich., Mar. 11 — A survey of conditions in 102 upper peninsula lumber camps conducted by Local 12-15 of the Intl. Woodworkers of America has revealed intolerable conditions in camps not under union contract.

Out of 102 jobbers' camps, only 22 had single beds, seven had shower baths, and nine had steam baths. Eighty-six had no bathing facilities at all, 75 had poor ventilation, 63 had poor food and 90 had no pillows.

SEEKING CERTIFICATION

Camps under contract have bath houses, single beds, blankets, pillows, lights, good food and plenty of ventilation.

The union is seeking Labor Board certification on an industry wide basis as bargaining agent for the northern Michigan area. This would pave the way for uniform contracts with numerous small jobbers and break the monopoly of the Hardwood & Hemlock Assn., which has controlled wages and lumber prices in the past.

READY TO BARGAIN

Oakland, Calif., Mar. 11—The Westinghouse porcelain plant is prepared to sign an agreement with the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, Supt. J. W. Ryan has informed the union.

Strikers In 7th Month Appeal For Support

Long Island City, N. Y., Mar. 11.—CIO Furniture Workers are appealing for nation-wide support in their seven months' strike against the Spring Products Corp. of this city.

The strike began August when the employer replied to a request for a contract with a cut in wages and a demand for the open shop in his plant. The 400 strikers, Negro members of the CIO United Furniture Workers, have held their morale firm since that time.

The Furniture Workers have put the company on the unfair list, and ask all unionists and friends of labor to withhold patronage until the strike is settled.

New York CIO Fights Tory Legislation

By SAUL MILLS

NEW YORK.—New York City CIO unions, having an aggregate membership exceeding 500,000, are mobilizing their forces to fight increasing Tory-sponsored legislation, both on a national and local scale, designed to smash organized labor's gains.

The Walsh-Green amendments to the Wagner Labor Relations Act pending in Congress and the Wicks transit bill before the New York State legislature came in for special condemnation at an emergency conference of presidents, secretaries and legislative representatives of CIO affiliates, held here recently.

Following adoption of a resolution describing the Walsh amendments, Senate Bill 1000, as "union-busting, fostering of company unionism and the shackling of organized labor to the courts," a permanent joint legislative committee was set up to conduct the campaign against this bill in the metropolitan area.

CONTACTING AFL

Delegates voted to contact all local AFL affiliates to impress upon them the dangers of the Walsh amendments. A form resolution condemning the bill was drafted for distribution to all labor and progressive organizations in the city and a post card campaign to the majority and minority leaders of both the Senate and the House was inaugurated.

The conference, held at the headquarters of the Transport Workers Union, voted authorization to the officers of the N. Y. State Industrial Union Council to call a public mass meeting to protest the Walsh amendments, the Wicks bill and other anti-labor legislation pending in Washington and Albany.

AGAINST WICKS BILL

In relation to the fight against the Wicks Bill, which threatens the jobs of thousands of TWU members and if enacted would deprive all city transit workers of their seniority rights, pension benefits and the right to collective bargaining, the conference heard that more than 800 organizations, having an aggregate voting strength of more than 2,000,000, had gone on record in opposition to the bill.

The Wicks Bill, introduced by an upstate Republican who recently was defeated for the post of majority leader of the State Senate, has been condemned by many posts of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Catholic War Veterans and civic, church, political and fraternal organizations. More than 30 AFL unions also have joined the fight against the Wicks Bill.

PLAN MASS MARCH

The conference voted to mass further pressure on legislative leaders and on Mayor LaGuardia, who has not taken any position on the bill. It also was voted to take a mass delegation of "at least 10,000" to Albany when a public hearing is granted.

Chairman of the conference was Gustave Strebel, secretary-treasurer of the State Council. Speakers included Martin Cooper, CIO legislative chairman; Murray Weinstein of the ACWA, Harry Sacher, TWU counsel; Lyle Dowling, TWU legislative representative and Mary Luciel McGorkey of the State, County and Municipal Workers.

Wants Opinion Of 'Sitting Bull' On Sitdowns

San Francisco, Mar. 11—The Supreme Court's decision outlawing sitdown strikes is full of legal phraseology "as complicated as a Japanese apology," the commentator on the daily CIO labor news broadcast here said.

"When you get to defining where a person may sit down and how long he may sit there, you've got a job on your hands," he declared. "It's too bad old Chief Sitting Bull isn't alive to give us an expert opinion on this matter."

Referring to various actions of anti-labor employers which really amount to sitdowns, such as last year's partial sitdown strike of big business against the New Deal, the commentator said the employer's attitude was:

"I'm so discouraged and unhappy about the Wages and Hours Act, the Wagner Act, the Social Security Act, and the WPA, that I haven't the heart to do business any more. I have lost confidence."

START RADIO STATION

Sydney, Australia (FP) — The first radio station in Australia owned and operated by a single labor union will start broadcasting in March when the Professional Employes Institute (radio artists and technicians union) take over Station 2LT at Lithgow, New South Wales. Central labor councils have been operating stations in a number of cities.

Life Insurance Firms Run For Bankers, Union Charges

NEW YORK, Mar. 11.—Interests of policyholders and employes are sacrificed to "the interest of the bankers", the United Office & Professional Workers charged in an attack on the present policies of life insurance executives, as revealed by the government's Monopoly Investigating Committee.

The Metropolitan Life Insurance was also charged with attempting to discredit the work of the committee, by seeking to create the impression that "the union has entered into a conspiracy with the United States government."

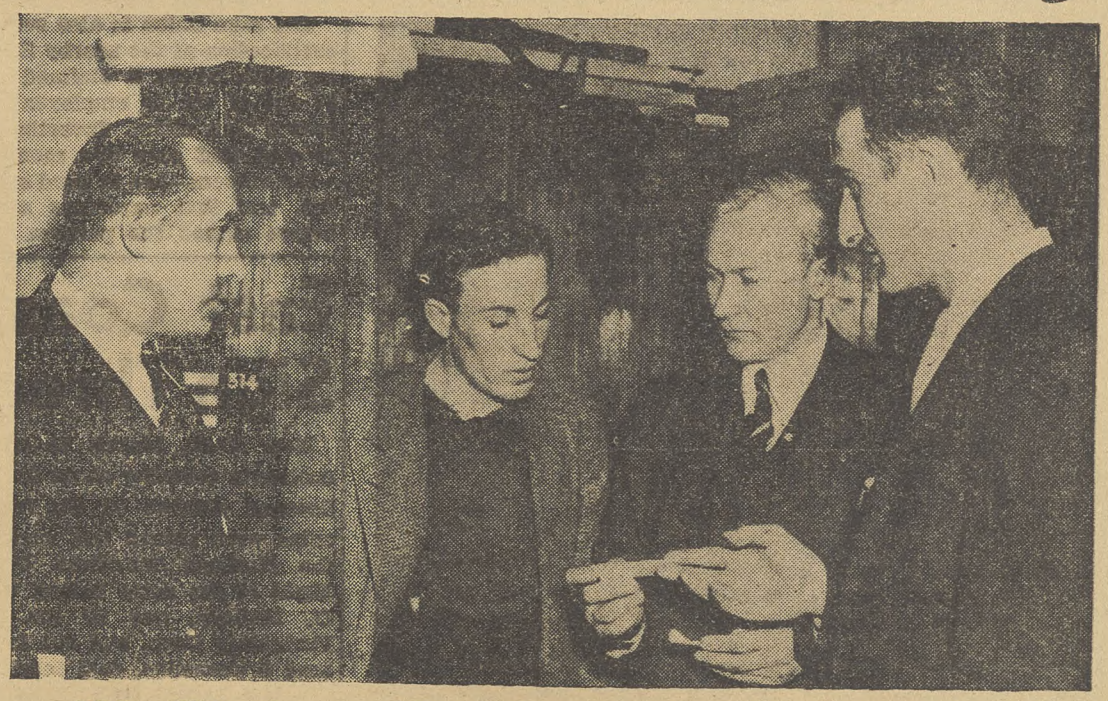
The charge was based on press reports quoting Samuel Roth, president of the Employes Fidelity Organization, Metropolitan company union, to the effect that testimony of several of the company's agents showing that managerial intimidation forced the agents to obtain signatures on election ballots for directors in a questionable manner was "part of a CIO plot."

"It is clear that this is an effort to discourage examination into the conditions standing behind the election balloting," an editorial in the union's official organ declared, "which enter the field of the permanent role of management itself."

Fire 13

NEW YORK, Mar. 11 — In and attempt to gag other employes from testifying before the Monopoly Investigating Committee, the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., last week fired 13 of its industrial insurance agents. The discharges followed testimony given by the agents exposing faked elections of directors.

Paid to Wreck Union Meetings



Walter White, the young fellow in the center, who admitted to members of the United Automobile Workers that he had been hired by Homer Martin to try to disrupt meetings of UAW locals. He carried a forged union receipt card, given him in Martin's office. With White are (left to right) William Hill, E. J. Danielowsky and Joseph Mader, UAW-CIO officials.

CIO Urges U.S. Public Works Dept.

Senate Committee Hears Labor Demand Guarantee of Rights

WASHINGTON, Mar. 11.—CIO approval of the creation of a Federal Department of Public Works including WPA and PWA, and of increases in Social Security benefits, was expressed by Ralph Hetzel, Jr., CIO Unemployment Director, and Alice Liveright, member of the CIO Social Security Committee in testimony at the Senate hearing on the Byrnes bill, S. 1265.

Both statements contained suggestions for improvements in the bill, following lines set forth by the CIO in previous policy statements on public works employment and social security.

CIO PROGRAM

Hetzel's statement quoted five basic points for a public works program laid down by the CIO Convention at Pittsburgh last November:

1. All workers should be employed on work suited to their needs and skill.
2. Projects should be socially necessary and productive.
3. Jobs should be given for all without humiliating means tests.
4. Funds should be appropriated to meet current needs as they arise.
5. Guarantees of collective bargaining rights.

Following these points, Hetzel urged that the Brynes measure should provide "employment and a means of livelihood for unemployed workers at times when and as long as private industry cannot use their services."

UNION RIGHTS URGED

Guarantees of collective bargaining rights were also asked, both to allow workers "to form, join or assist labor organization, to bargain collectively through organizations of their own choosing, or to engage in concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection."

At the same time, Hetzel urged "that no contract shall be awarded to any person who at the time of such an award shall be interfering with, restraining or coercing his employes in the exercise of their rights."

WHITE COLLAR PROJECTS

Protection of certain types of WPA projects unprovided for in the Byrnes bill was urged. These include WPA projects for women, clerical and white collar workers, musicians, teachers, artists, etc. Hetzel also pointed out that protection for unemployed farm workers should be included, "upon projects that will permit them to remain in the community where they reside."

Finally, Hetzel urged, in the name of the CIO, that the bill include provision to make full use of the U. S. Employment Service, and that this be kept as at present under the U. S. Labor Dept. "Labor is strongly opposed to taking the Employment Service out of the Labor Dept.," he said.

SOCIAL SECURITY

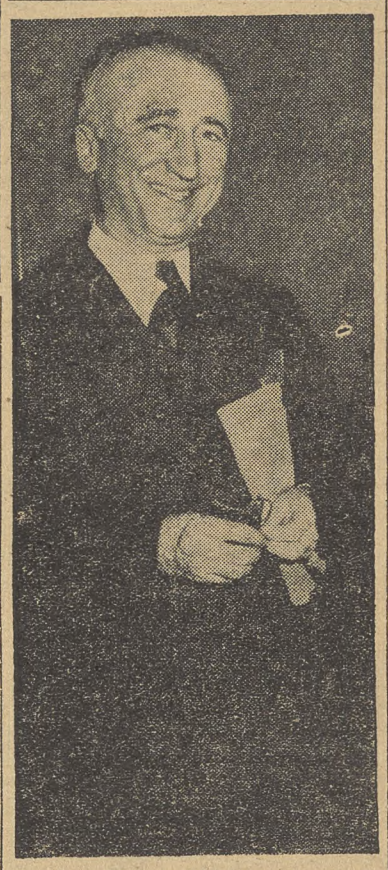
Mrs. Liveright's statement dealt with the Social Security aspects of the Byrnes bill, pointing out as Hetzel did that the CIO regarded the whole question as one of the utmost importance to all workers in the country.

Mrs. Liveright touched on four points in the proposed bill: (1) Approval of the principles of Federal control of personnel of state Social Security agencies on a merit basis ; (2) Approval of the principle of variable grants to the states so that poorer states are not handicapped in comparison to wealthier ones; (3) Approval of more Federal standards governing state laws; (4) Urged prohibition of discrimination of any kind against recipients of Social Security benefits.

Pushover

BAYONNE, N. J., Mar. 11—A Labor Board election among employes of the Conmar Co., here, was won overwhelmingly by the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers. Opposed on the ballot by the AFL Metal Polishers, the CIO union won by a vote of 305 to 23.

Sponsor



Sen. James F. Byrnes, sections of whose new relief bill have won CIO endrosement. The senator is presiding at committee hearings on his measure.

207 Deaths From Silicosis

Helena, Mont., Mar. 11 — Two hundred seven deaths from silicosis in three years!

This was the evidence placed before the House Committee of Public Health and Sanitary Affairs by a delegation from the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers Union, CIO. The miners were demanding new legislation aimed at cutting the devastating death rate among employes of the Anaconda Copper Mines.

Corporation lawyers said the proposed bill was "unconstitutional."

ARSENIC POISONING

Anaconda smeltermen were represented by John Emmons, who introduced two victims of arsenic poisoning, whose nostrils were partially eaten away.

"Every employe in the arsenic department," he said, "is in pretty much the same condition."

The delegation, consisting of 70 miners and their wives, showed a pile of death certificates. In each case, they said, death came either directly from silicosis or from conditions to which silicosis was a contributing factor.

Fink Heads Fake Union In Portland

Portland, Ore., Mar. 11—The AFL local at the Southeast Portland Lumber Co. is not only a company union, National Labor Relations Board hearings are demonstrating, but its president is a veteran strikebreaker.

Patrick Duane, head of Local 28-78 of the Lumber and Sawmill Workers, AFL, broke down and confessed he has scabbed half way across the nation. At one time a paid fink on the iron range in Hibbing, Minn., he also served as a strikebreaker in a western Oregon strike.

At present a deputy sheriff, he always packs a gun, Duane admitted during cross-examination in the union's petition for certification as sole bargaining agency at the lumber mill.

The fake union is also seeking certification at the nearby Kingsley mill, where it claimed that 97 out of the 99 employes supported their claim. Investigation showed that only five members —the officers—are in good standing, and that numerous strawbosses signed the petition.

Violence Again At Westwood

By MIRIAM ALLEN deFORD

Westwood, Cal.—Vigilantism is running riot once more in this California lumber town. New "deportations" of CIO lumber workers are threatened.

First fights broke up a hearing of Earlton Shannon, AFL business agent, on a charge of assaulting the wife of a CIO worker, and 20 CIO workers were injured in street attacks, some of them by hammer blows. A mob of 300 attacked CIO headquarters and reduced it to splinters.

APPEAL TO OLSON

A delegation from the CIO appealed to liberal Gov. Culbert Olson, who responded by announcing that he would send the National Guard here if disorder did not stop at once. State officials commented on the "remarkably clean record" of the CIO in this dispute.

In San Francisco, Mrs. Alice Rosseter, regional director of the NLRB, notified the Washington office of the new crisis, which will inevitably delay any consent election at the Red River Lumber Co.

EXAMINE BOOKS

Meanwhile, a certified public accountant selected by Gov. Olson is going over the firm's books to determine the truth of the company's claim that it cannot restore the 17½ per cent wage cut of last summer, the initial cause of the entire trouble.

For several days CIO workers were chased like rabbits through the streets by armed bands of vigilantes, or caught and beaten and their CIO buttons torn from their coats. The State Highway Patrol is now covering the main business streets, the only part of the town not the property of the company.

IWA COMMENTS

"The local law is stacked against us," said George Graf of the Intl. Woodworkers of America. "The deputies are the same ones who ran us out of town last July."

The Governor responded that "when local officers won't enforce the law, we shall have to send in the National Guard." He criticized the AFL for "creating disturbance while both unions were trying to obtain a pay-cut restoration from the company. The bitter animosity will have to die out before any permanent peace can be effected. There is real difficulty ahead."

They Liked WPA Show

A distinguished trio—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Sec. of Commerce Harry Hopkins and Mayor LaGuardia of New York—seem to be enjoying themselves at the opening Gotham performance of The Swing Mikado, produced by the Federal Theater Projects. Negro cast swings the old Gilbert & Sullivan tunes in modern tempo.

East Coast Seamen Sign Three New Pacts

New York, March 11—Three contracts covering about 325 unlicensed seamen on ten freight ships were signed last week by the National Maritime Union. Eight of the ships belong to C. D. Mallory, one to the Intl. Freighting Corp. and one to Boland & Cornelius, coal carrier.

642 SHIPS COVERED

A total of 56 companies employing nearly 30,000 men on 642 vessels are now under union contract, the NMU announced.

Mallory and Intl. Freighting signed the blanket agreement, with some of the terms improved, now in force on most East Coast passenger and freight lines. Boland & Cornelius signed the blanket collier agreement.

In the IFC agreement, the wage scale was raised $10 above the scale in the blanket agreement, and was increased $5 in the B & C contract. Other provisions of the new agreements include overtime pay, closed shop, hiring through the union hall and arbitration of disputes.

NATIONAL EDITION

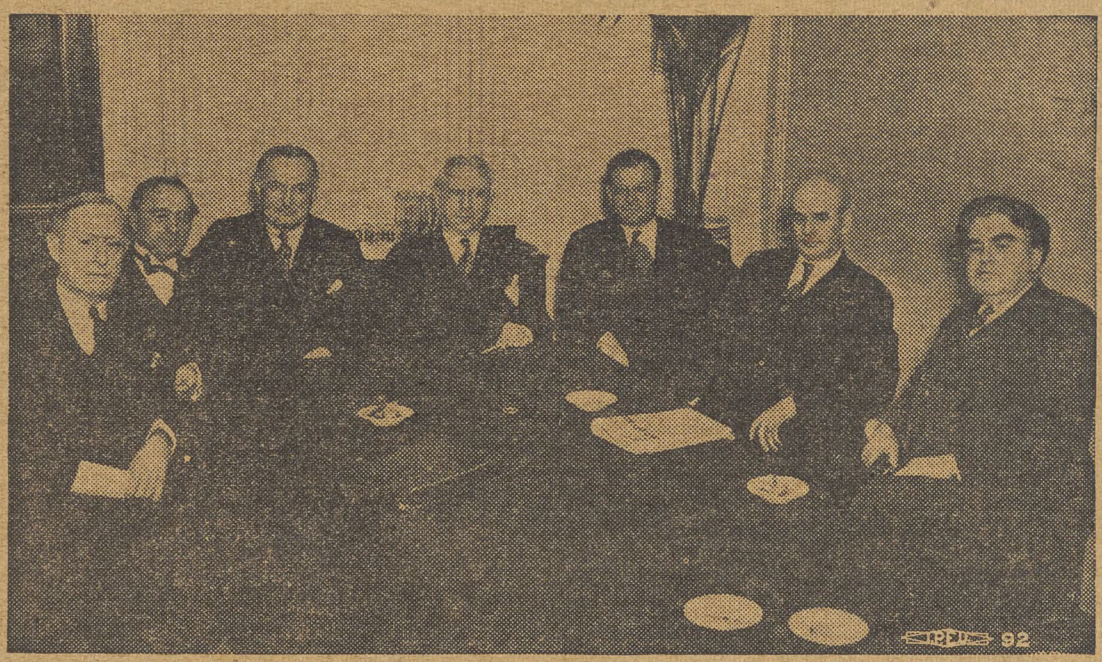
THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 12 | March 20, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

UNITY TALKS CONTINUE; NEXT MEETING MARCH 24

Peace Meetings Resume



Unity discussions between CIO and AFL representatives switched from Washington to New York. Picture shows conferees in session: (left to right) Harry Bates, Matthew Woll, T. A. Rickert and Daniel Tobin of the AFL group; CIO Vice-Pres. Sidney Hillman, Philip Murray and Pres. John L. Lewis.

CIO, AFL Plans Discussed In New York

(*See Stories Page Three*)

WASHINGTON, Mar. 18 — Conferences between CIO and AFL representatives are to be resumed in Washington, March 24, following a series of sessions in New York City.

During the recess, President William Green of the AFL has announced that a meeting of the Federation's executive council will be held March 22, to consider some of the questions raised by the CIO in the conferences.

Under consideration by the conferees are the CIO proposal to bring AFL, CIO and the railroad Brotherhoods into one united American Congress of Labor; and a counter-proposal by the AFL that negotiations be resumed at the point where they broke off in December, 1937.

Resolutions and wires continued to pour in on CIO headquarters from all sections of the labor movement testifying to the widespread popularity of the CIO proposal to bring all unions under one roof as soon as possible.

Rap Army, Navy 'War' On Labor

Washington, Mar. 18.—Action of the War and Navy Departments in cooperating with the National Association of Manufacturers to kill the Barkley amendment to the National Defense Bill was condemned today by Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel.

The bill would have made contractors supplying the government's defense needs abide by the terms of the Wagner Act.

In a letter to CIO affiliates (see page 5), Pressman said the fight will go on. In his Labor and the Law column (see page seven), the CIO attorney declared:

"This country has not yet reached the stage where the control over the destinies of the American people is to be placed in the hands of a few reactionary generals rather than in the hands of the representatives of the people."

To Name Date For Wagner Act Hearings

(*See Other Stories, Page Five*)

WASHINGTON, Mar. 18.—The Senate Committee on Education and Labor will convene on Tuesday, Mar. 21, presumably to set the date for hearings on amendments to the Wagner Act.

Sen. Elbert Thomas, it was understood here, wished to postpone the hearings still further, in order that they might not interfere with unity negotiations between the CIO and the AFL.

Sen. Robert Taft, Ohio Republican, was one of those who pressed for immediate hearings. Sen. Walsh, another member of the committee, is sponsor of the amendments offered by Pres. Green of the federation.

DEVELOPMENTS

Meanwhile, an increasing number of AFL locals have joined the fight against amendment, a survey shows.

In Tampa, Fla., AFL cigar workers called upon CIO Pres. Lewis to help fight the amendments.

Cong. V. Harrington of Iowa was under sharp attack from the Sioux City Industrial Union Council, which accused him of going back on election promises when he attacked the National Labor Relations Board in Congress recently.

World's Fair Theme Used By Pickets

New York, Mar. 18—The "World of Tomorrow"—theme of New York's World Fair—made its first appearance on a picket sign this week as the American Advertising Guild, CIO, opened a fight against the Gussow, Kahn & Co. agency.

The Guild, an affiliate of the United Office and Professional Workers, charged that the firm has paid salaries as low as $12 and $14 weekly, violated the wage-hour act and intimidated employes from joining the union.

The picket signs were the work of experienced advertising copy writers, layout men and artists. Slogans included: "The World's Fair, but Gussow, Kahn isn't"; and "Gussow, Kahn employes are 99.44 per cent poor."

Local Shows Big Majority

Omaha, Neb., Mar. 18 — Certification of Local 8, United Packinghouse Workers, as bargaining agent at the Omaha plant of Armour & Co. appeared certain today when the local showed 760 paid-up membership cards out of the 930 workers.

CIO Wins Sugar Poll, 296–36

Houston, Tex., Mar. 18—The United Sugar Refinery Workers Local Industrial Union No. 917 won an overwhelming victory, 296 to 36, and was designated as sole collective bargaining agency in a consent election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board at Sugarland, Tex., 30 miles from here.

Maurice Dineen, CIO representative, said that negotiations for a contract would be renewed immediately. He pointed out that the victory was the first in the south giving sugar refinery workers' union sole bargaining rights.

The Imperial Sugar Company owns and controls the entire town in which the plants are located. The union was organized in November. Three years ago the American Federation of Labor attempted to organize the town but failed.

UAW SIGNS

Brooklyn, N. Y.—A four-week strike by 45 members of Local 259 of the United Automobile Workers against the Fred Roeder Manufacturing Co., one of New York's biggest truck body makers, ended with the signing of a union shop contract.

CIO Legislators Win Praise

Cheyenne, Wyom., Mar. 18. — Two CIO union members elected to the Wyoming legislature received an approving slap on the back in an editorial in the Wyoming Eagle here for their work during the session which recently adjourned.

According to the editorial, the two men, David Gilfillan of Superior, and A. L. Zeiher of Reliance, "who make their living by digging coal in the coal mines in Sweetwater county, were definitely the outstanding members of the house of representatives."

Hear Relief Demand

Members of the House Appropriation Committee, together with WPA Administrator Harrington (at extreme left) after a session with Pres. Roosevelt at the White House. FDR renewed his sharp demand for $150,000,000 for WPA to prevent wholesale layoffs.

Charge Health Plan Used Against Coal Union Miners

NEW YORK, Mar. 18.—Miners in the Applachian coal fields have $6,000,000 a year taken out of their pay by the coal companies for medical care under a system so riddled with abuse and dishonest practices that it is little short of scandalous.

This is the conclusion drawn by the Bureau of Cooperative Medicine from a survey of how this medical plan works out in practice.

The study, made by a staff of trained investigators, gives much force to the demand for adequate medical care and hospitalization set forth as one of the points in the statement of policy drawn up by the United Mine Workers as a basis for negotiations for a new agreement now going on in New York between UMW officials and bituminous operators.

122,000 MINERS AFFECTED

According to the Bureau's survey, 122,000 miners in southern West Virginia, Virginia, eastern Kentucky and northern Tennessee, have had $2,500,000 deducted from their pay checks under the "check-off" medical care system. In addition they have been forced to pay $1,000,000 in extra charges for physicians' services, $2,000,000 for hospitalization, and $500,000 in extra charges for hospital care.

The investigators interviewed nearly 800 miners and their wives, 75 physicians, and a number of other interested persons.

OPERATORS' PROFIT

They found that a large part of the $2,500,000 checked off for medical care, "is going in unjustifiable profits to the operators and contract doctors, for an unsatisfactory, disorganized type of medical service over which the employes have no control, and with which they are very much dissatisfied."

Facts collected in the field by the staff showed that in many places a sizeable share of the sums checked off from the miners' pay was pocketed by the companies, while in other places, contract doctors who receive as much as $2,400 a month, hire assistants for half this amount or less to do their work.

WEAPON AGAINST MEN

Company doctors do not have to live in the vicinity of the mines. One case is cited of a contract doctor who lived in Philadelphia.

As the present system works out, the coal company doctor, rather than being a benefit to the miners, is "one of the company's most powerful weapons against the men," Dr. Kingsley Roberts, the Bureau's medical director said, in releasing the report.

In some instances the company doctor is used as a means of discharging men in violation of the union contract, by a false diagnosis of low or high blood pressure, leaky heart, or other ailment which the man does not have. "This kind of discharge is frequently used as a means of getting rid of men who are especially active in the union," the report states.

ROBBED WORKERS

Company doctors are also used by the companies to prevent miners from receiving just cash benefits under the workmen's compensation laws, the report brings out. Cases cited include one of a miner killed while carrying explosives, reported by the doctor as "suicide."

Another miner whose back was broken in the mine and who contracted pneumonia afterward while in the hospital, dying three days later, was reported by the hospital to have died of "natural causes."

One doctor lost his job because he reported a miner's death as due to carbon monoxide poisoning, instead of "stomach trouble" as the company suggested. A man who lost his eye in a mine accident was reported by the doctor as having nothing wrong with him.

A miner with a broken back was declared to have a "bad sprain"; another also with a broken back, was reported to have died of "meningitis."

BARED BY POLAKOV

Dr. Walter N. Polakov, director of research engineering for the United Mine Workers first called the attention of the Bureau of Cooperative Medicine to the abuses coal miners suffer under the present medical care system, in an address given before the National Health Conference at Washington in July, 1938.

The Bureau's survey was financed by a fund for medical economics left by the late philanthropist, Edward A. Filene. It is administered by two trustees each from the Twentieth Century and the Good Will Funds.

LEATHER STRIKE

Hoboken, N. J. — (FP) — Two hundred members of Local 34, Natl. Leather Workers Union, CIO, have struck against the R. Neumann Co., leather tanners, protesting a company proposal which would reduce the number of workers.

CIO Local 'Calm And Collected' Despite Attack

PENSACOLA, Fla., Mar. 18. — The traditional method of union-busting — shots in the dark and anonymous notes — is being employed here to try to persuade workers in Newport Industries not to join District 50 of the United Mine Workers of America.

Joe Tolbert, Negro leader in the newly-formed union in the plant, had a quiet evening at home punctured by a gang of hoodlums who drove past his home firing charges of birdshop at doors and windows, and departed leaving a threatening note behind.

The note read, "This is a warning to you and your friends to not vote on anything or join anything if you want to live and do well. And tell that man that's going from house to house telling you all what to do that he's on the spot if he stays here. And if you Negroes want to live OK stay out of any kind of ? This is just a sample if you don't take warning!"

REVERSE EFFECT

The note had a reverse effect, however, for Field Representative Maxwell, "the man that's going from house to house," reported that the most successful meeting of the union was held after the incident.

The union immediately appointed a committee to visit the Pensacola Chief of Police to urge action on the case. The committee offered a list of five suspects and promised to secure samples of their handwriting for comparison with the note.

PROMISE PROBE

Police are now patroling the plant and the county sheriff has promised an investigation. The union is pushing the case and will supply evidence. To counteract the local newspapers' interpretation of the shooting as just further "labor trouble" the Local adopted a resolution which received much favorable publicity.

It described that attack as a "craven and cowardly attempt to intimidate union members through gunfire," caused by "anti-labor ruffians and those who encourage them in such un-American practices."

"We publicly and contemptuously condemn the un-American vigilante tactics of these hoodlums," it continued, "which leave us collectively cool, calm and collected."

AFL Strikers Greet Brophy

John Brophy, CIO director, gets a warm smile from striking AFL hotel employes when he joined their picket line in front of the swank Mayflower Hotel, in Washington, D. C. Brophy told the strikers that CIO supports all bona fide workers' struggles for better conditions.

Plan Drive On Western Union

NEW YORK, Mar. 18.—A concerted organizing drive to bring the 42,000 employes of the Western Union Telegraph Co. into the American Communications Assn. CIO, was announced this week by Mervyn Rathborne, ACA president.

Proposed merger of the company with the Postal Telegraph & Cable Co., is the immediate cause of the drive, Rathborne said, as the jobs of the employes of both concerns must be protected.

Decision to undertake the organization of Western Union workers was made at a meeting of the Intl. Executive Board of the ACA held in New York. In his report to the Board, Rathborne declared:

"There is one job facing us today which ranks as the most important task ever assayed by our union—the complete and speedy organization in the American Communications Assn. of the employes of the Western Telegraph Co.

"The policies of Western Union and Postal Telegraph have placed the jobs of 55,000 workers in jeopardy. Both companies have for a long time cherished the thought of a merger that would mean absolute monopoly in the field.

MERGER BILL IN CONGRESS

"That they are driving toward merger right now is clearly indicated by the White Bill (S. 1520) recently introduced into the U. S. Senate, which by making certain changes in the Communications Act of 1934, would permit merger of these two companies without any provision for the protection of the telegraph workers.

"We must fight this vicious bill and we will. But the defeat of the White Bill alone is no solution to the problems which beset the communications workers. The only way they can get the protection which is rightfully theirs is through organization.

"The Postal Telegraph workers are organized into the ACA. Our job now is the organization of the workers employed by Western Union."

Shoe Union Maps New Campaign

Washington, Mar. 18—The general executive board of the United Shoe Workers of America today launched plans for an extensive union organizing campaign in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Maine and upper New York State.

Meeting for their first session of the year, the board members decided to concentrate efforts in the "stitch-down" branch of the shoe industry.

SEND GREETINGS

The board also sent greetings to nine union organizers now imprisoned in Auburn, Me., on frame-up convictions of a hoary state statute which purports to outlaw "conspiracies" to injure the business of a corporation.

The nine prisoners, whose imprisonment dates from the shoe strike in Lewiston and Auburn two years ago, were given a pledge by the GEB "of complete support in every effort to obtain your freedom."

Immediately after the sessions National Director Powers Hapgood left for Maine to make another attempt to win release of the group.

PLAN HEARING

Washington, Mar. 18.—A public hearing dealing with occupations in plants manufacturing explosives hazardous for minors between 16 and 18 has been announced by the U. S. Children's Bureau for Mar. 28 in the U. S. Departmental Auditorium opening at 10 A. M.

Labor Unity Meet Continues

Ask $150,000,000 For WPA to Save Million Jobs

WASHINGTON, Mar. 18.—Do you dare to drop 400,000 workers from the WPA rolls during the first week in April?

This was the blunt challenge hurled at the "economy" bloc in Congress this week by Pres. Roosevelt, as he renewed his demand for quick passage of a relief deficiency appropriation of $150,000,000.

The President warned that if the money is not forthcoming, an additional 600,000 persons will have to be dropped on May 1, and 200,000 more early in June.

"I cannot bring myself to believe that these discharged men and women will contribute to the prosperity of the United States, nor do I believe that the merchants and landlords they are now dealing with will become more prosperous when their trade ceases," the Chief Executive said.

WPA EXPENDITURES

He pointed out that of every $100 spent by WPA, $86 is spent directly for wages, $10.50 for materials, equipment and supplies, and only $3.50 for administration.

Roosevelt recalled that his earlier demand for $875,000,000 had been pared down by $150,000,000 in Congress, though with the proviso that not more than 5 per cent of the WPA workers could be dismissed before the end of March.

"Since my messages of January and February," he added, "a careful checkup shows that there has been no substantial change in the conditions of unemployment. On the contrary, recent data have become available substantiating the real need for an additional appropriation of $150,000,000."

FEW JOBS IN INDUSTRY

Improving business conditions will account for no more than 300,000 new jobs, he estimated. There are now about three and a half million people on WPA; if no new funds are made available by Congress, this number will have to be slashed to only two million by the end of the government's fiscal year on June 30.

The President took a sharp rap at those who desire to see the relief burden thrown back on the local communities.

"I am of the opinion," he said, "that states, counties and municipalities are doing, in the overwhelming majority of cases, all that their finances will permit to meet the situation."

CIO Backs Plea For WPA Funds

WASHINGTON, Mar. 18—The CIO today mobilized its strength behind Pres. Roosevelt's renewed demand for $150,000,000 WPA funds.

That sum, Ralph Hetzel, Jr., CIO unemployment director told Rep. Edward Taylor, head of the House Appropriations Committee,

RALPH HETZEL, Jr.
CIO Unemployment Director

"is not enough to do the WPA job adequately, but it will prevent a very serious nationwide emergency."

Hetzel said that numerous CIO affiliates had been told by their Congressmen and Senators that the low deficiency appropriation bill passed last January would have won little support if it had not left the door open for additional funds at this time.

SET-BACK TO RECOVERY

"It is hard to believe that anyone could sincerely question the fact that the failure to provide the $150,000,000 would create a serious emergency in the nation," he declared. "It would create among the unemployed a suffering unequalled by anything since the present Administration began.

"It would, in addition, strike a blow to recovery strong enough to wipe out most of the gains which have already been made."

In urging Congress to act hastily on the matter, Hetzel warned that delay will mean widespread firings—creating panic "not only among the unemployed but among the landlords, their grocers, their coal merchants and all of the millions of tradesmen who benefit from WPA wage expenditures."

Office Union Board Meets In Chicago

Chicago, Mar. 18—The general executive board of the United Office and Professional Workers, meeting in session here, won praise from John Brophy, CIO director, "for many advances in a difficult field, in the face of opposition from some of the most powerful concentrations of finance capital in the country."

OTHER ACTIONS

1. Sent fraternal greetings to Pres. R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers, CIO.
2. Elected Miss Alice Smith of Indianapolis to fill a board vacancy.
3. Asked Sen. Elbert Thomas to postpone indefinitely hearings on amendments to the Wagner Act.

Miners Ask Pay Raise

New York, Mar. 18.—A six-hour day, wage increases of 50c a day, vacations with pay and a guarantee of 200 working days a year were among the demands presented by the United Mine Workers of America, as negotiations opened with the Appalachian soft-coal operators.

Some 400 representatives of the miners and operators gathered in the ballroom of the Biltmore Hotel to begin negotiations for a new contract to replace the one which expires on March 31.

Walter L. Robison, a Cleveland operator, was elected chairman of the joint conference and Thomas Kennedy of the UMWA, secretary. President John L. Lewis of the UMWA introduced Vice-President Philip Murray, who read the statement of policy adopted by the international policy committee of the UMWA and explained the union's demands.

OPERATORS WANT CUT

The operators countered the next day with a proposal that discussions begin on the terms of the agreement that expired in March, 1937, under which wages were 50c lower than the present scale. Charles O'Neill, their spokesman, argued that the miners' demands would mean a large increase in costs, which the industry could not afford.

Lewis replied to O'Neill's arguments, declaring that the proposed wage increases would not increase production costs by 66c a ton, as O'Neill contended, but only by 27c a ton.

MEDICAL SERVICE

Lewis called attention to the

Continued on Page Six

Harlan Represented

New York, Mar. 18 — The Harlan County Coal Operators Association was represented for the first time in the union negotiations, due to the establishment of collective bargaining during the past year in what was formerly known as "bloody Harlan County."

To Resume Parleys In Ten Days

WASHINGTON, Mar. 18.—Following a series of conferences in New York, unity negotiations between the Congress of Industrial Organizations and the American Federation of Labor recessed for ten days, to reopen in Washington March 24 at the U. S. Department of Labor.

The New York conferences were devoted to discussion of the CIO proposal to bring AFL, CIO and the railroad Brotherhoods under one roof in an all-inclusive American Congress of Labor; and to a counter-proposal on the part of the AFL to go back to the point where the negotiations of December, 1937 were broken off.

Evidence of an enthusiastic reaction to the CIO peace proposal was seen in a large number of wires, letters and resolutions from CIO, AFL and railroad Brotherhood groups, endorsing it as the best plan yet offered for speedy and effective labor unity.

The December 1937 unity conferences broke down when the executive council, meeting in Washington, insisted on the original AFL proposal to admit at once only suspended CIO unions subject to certain craft limitations, leaving all other CIO unions outside until jurisdictional differences could be adjusted with the AFL internationals concerned.

ASK AFL POSITION

In discussing the AFL proposal at the New York conferences, the CIO representatives inquired as to the AFL position on the present jurisdictions of the CIO unions which were originally in the AFL. Conferences were then adjourned, to enable the AFL representatives to consult with Federation officials and President William Green announced that there would be a meeting of the AFL executive council in Washington on Mar. 22.

In announcing the council meeting, Green declared: "It was pointed out that several of these unions have extended the jurisdiction under which they formerly operated under AFL charters to new branches of industry.

"The executive council will be asked to decide at its meeting on March 22 whether these unions could be re-admitted to the AFL with charters."

Both the CIO proposal and the AFL counter-proposal are still under consideration, without any commitment being announced by either side.

The CIO proposal calls for separate conventions of the CIO and AFL during April to approve plans for a unity convention at which AFL, CIO and the railroad Brotherhoods would be represented.

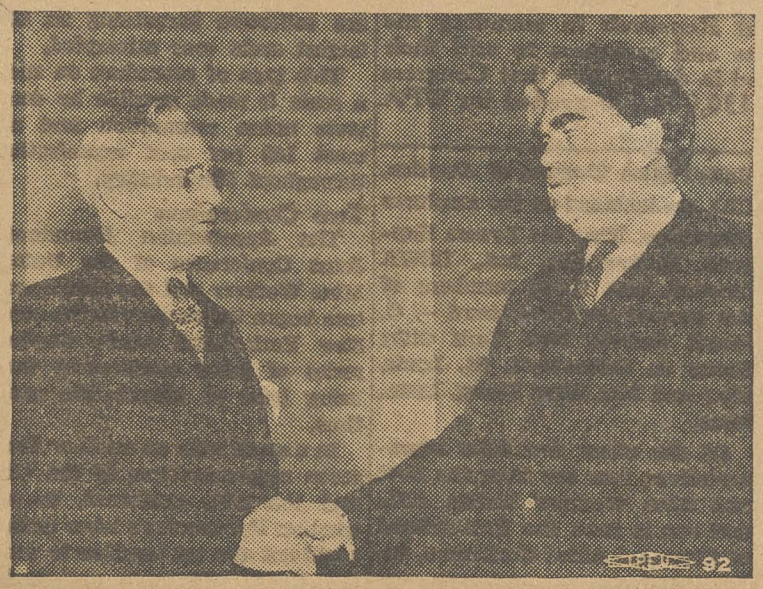
CONGRESS OF LABOR

This convention would organize an all-inclusive American Congress of Labor, and both John L. Lewis and William Green would be ineligible to election to office, the presidency going to a member of the railroad Brotherhoods.

Under the CIO plan, the executive board of the American Congress of Labor would be composed equally of representatives of the CIO and AFL, with proportionate representation for the railroad Brotherhoods.

President Roosevelt would be asked to preside over the unity convention, and during the year following the organization of the ACL, the U. S. Department of Labor and its conciliation bureau would be asked to cooperate in mediating jurisdictional controversies between unions.

Tobin, Lewis Meet



Daniel Tobin, (left), head of the powerful Brotherhood of Teamsters, shakes hands with Pres. Lewis during peace confab. Tobin, who had originally withdrawn from the AFL group, returned to serve on the committee.

Wires Say CIO Plan Popular

Washington, Mar. 18.—A flood of telegrams and letters is pouring into CIO headquarters here praising the CIO plan for a united labor movement to include CIO, AFL and the Railroad Brotherhoods in one American Congress of Labor.

The telegrams come from all labor sources, CIO, AFL and Brotherhoods, and urge that the CIO Committee stick to the plan as the most acceptable to the great mass of American workers.

HONORABLE PEACE

The messages from CIO unions stress the need for an honorable peace, and pledge their undivided support to John L. Lewis and the other CIO representatives in their efforts to unite the labor movement in one powerful organization.

To date 45 locals of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, affiliated to the CIO Textile Workers Organizing Committee, have wired their approval and support for the CIO unity moves.

AFL LOCALS PRAISE PLAN

Typical of AFL local and state bodies supporting the CIO plan for unity of the three organized labor groups is a message from the Salt Lake City, Utah, Federation of Labor, which wired to President Lewis urging "amalgamation of all three labor factions."

From the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, Lodge 236 in Chicago,

Continued on page five

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II March 20, 1939 No. 12

Appeasing the Chiseler

The Barkley amendment to the National Defense Bill was attacked by the National Association of Manufacturers as "lending a hollow note to talk of business appeasement."

Obedient members of Congress thereupon jumped to the crack of the manufacturers' whip and eliminated the amendment.

All the Barkley amendment proposed to do was to deny government contracts under the program to concerns which break the law governing workers' collective bargaining rights.

In Europe the word "appeasement" has come to mean granting violent aggressors all they want at the expense of peaceful and democratic peoples.

In this sense, the N.A.M. used the word aptly. For by killing the Barkley amendment, Congress has "appeased" chiseling and law-breaking employers at the expense not only of labor but also of fair employes who observe the law in respect to collective bargaining.

Things have come to a pretty pass when Congress thus encourages the breaking of laws which it has itself enacted.

For this is what it does when it permits government contracts to be awarded to anti-labor corporations which can underbid the fair employer because they deny to employes their legal collective bargaining rights.

The experience of the Barkley amendment will spur labor and all believers in governmental honesty and consistency to redoubled efforts for enactment of legislation to compel observance of the law on all government contract work.

A National Emergency

The unemployed have been knocking at the doors of Congress for some time asking for bread. But about all they have been offered so far is a fancy assortment of stones.

The first stone was a vicious slash in the appropriation necessary to keep WPA going. This was passed off as "economy."

Then when President Roosevelt called attention to the urgent need of another $150,000,000 for WPA, Congress turned a deaf ear and offered delays.

Now this urgency has become an emergency. A million and a quarter human beings will be deprived of their meager livelihood from WPA jobs in the next few weeks, if money is not voted.

So now the Congressional foes of "spending" are offering the unemployed the stony comfort of an investigation of WPA.

But human misery cannot wait upon political investigations —particularly when these are intended chiefly as a maneuver to delay or block the voting of funds.

This same cry of "investigation" was raised to block the first WPA appropriation in January. But once the reduced appropriation was voted, the politicoes lost interest in their proposed probe.

The present emergency is a desperate one for millions of unemployed and their families. It is nearly as serious for countless businessmen whose goods are bought with WPA wages. And it threatens recovery generally with withdrawal of millions of dollars of purchasing power from circulation.

The CIO joins with President Roosevelt in sounding the alarm. It calls on all its unions and members to add their voices to those of the unemployed in demanding that Congress quit stalling and vote the extra $150,000,000 needed for WPA without further delay.

Name Shoe Pay Board

Washington, Mar. 18.—Appointment of the Industry Committee for the shoe manufacturing and allied industries was announced this week by Elmer F. Andrews, administrator of the wage-hour law.

Composed of nine representatives each for the employes, employers and the public, the committee will be required to recommend a minimum wage schedule covering some 215,000 workers in the shoe industry.

Four representatives of the United Shoe Workers of America, CIO, are included on the employes committee. They are Powers Hapgood, Indianapolis, Ind., USWA director, and three members of the general executive board — C. Frank Farrell, New York City; Henry A. Schwarzett, St. Louis, Mo.; and Mrs. Mae Young, Lynn, Mass.

Of the other five labor representatives, four are from the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, AFL, and one is from the Brotherhood of Shoe and Allied Craftsmen, independent.

Francis J. Haas, dean of the School of Social Science at Catholic University, Washington, is chairman of the committee.

Quicksand

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Unity in Action

When the United Mine Workers and the coal operators open their negotiations, it is like a great convention.

Hundreds of union representatives and employers gather together in the same hall, elect a chairman and secretary, adopt rules of procedure and listen to the presentation of the point of view and proposals of both sides.

Subcommittees are then named to carry on the more detailed negotiations. But these subcommittees must report back finally to the whole assembly, and the democratic forms of convention procedure are followed throughout.

Coal negotiations have become a model of orderly and effective collective bargaining. The knottiest problems are regularly worked out with the minimum of friction and waste motion.

A huge industry and hundreds of thousands of workers are represented in these negotiations. They are collective bargaining on the largest scale ever attempted.

This type of procedure on such a scale is made possible by complete union recognition and almost 100 per cent organization throughout the industry.

Two Conferences

The Appalachian Bituminous Joint Conference of the United Mine Workers and the coal operators began its sessions in the same New York hotel where another series of labor conferences were being held at almost the same time.

In a small suite on another floor, seven representatives of the CIO and the AFL conferred, to see whether the country's labor unions could not also get together to work out their differences and problems in an orderly and democratic fashion.

Observers of both conferences noted that interests as divergent as those of coal operators and mine workers could be represented together in a common conference; and they wondered why the country's labor movements could not do likewise.

That in essence is what the CIO proposes in its peace plan. The basis of common conferences in the coal industry is complete mutual recognition. If AFL and CIO are willing to recognize the rights of their respective unions in both bodies, and to accord them proper representation, there is no reason why CIO, AFL and the railroad Brotherhoods cannot all sit down together in a common convention to work out their common problems.

Goal of Workers

The goal of an American Congress of Labor, or a similar body with another name, represents the fervent desire of most American workers who want to see labor really united by bringing all unions under one roof.

The first step in this direction is the mutual recognition and common conference, with all unions represented, which the CIO proposes.

The forms of unity which are now under discussion between CIO and AFL are means to an end, rather than an end in themselves. The main end is united action for labor's common purposes.

Without waiting for formal unity, there are many fields on which labor can already act unitedly.

Labor's open-shop enemies may try to play off one union against another. But basically they aim to cripple all effective labor organization. And right now they are concentrating on a number of legislative schemes to bring this about.

The anti-labor initiatives on the West Coast were opposed by both CIO and AFL unions. A similar united front is necessary to block the other anti-union moves which are being made in the present Congress.

The strength of labor's enemies in Congress is shown by the disgraceful manner in which the Barkley amendment to the National Defense Bill was scuttled.

This amendment simply proposes that government business in connection with the defense program should not go to chiseling concerns which refuse to accord to their employes the collective bargaining rights required by law.

The CIO, for its part, is determined to keep up the fight until this reasonable principle is applied to all government contract work.

But this is not the concern of the CIO alone. It is the concern of all labor organizations, regardless of affiliation. On this issue both CIO and AFL unions can and must act unitedly for the common benefit of all labor.

Defense of Wagner Act

Defense of the Wagner labor relations act is another issue on which united action is both possible and urgent.

Regardless of partisan claims of favoritism, the act has brought the greatest benefits to all of labor.

By encouraging shortsighted and partisan amendments, the act's enemies seek to play off one section of labor against another, while they prepare a wholesale attack on the act itself.

Many AFL bodies have already joined with the CIO in defense of the Wagner Act against amendment and emasculation, and the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen has also taken a similar position.

This is labor unity in action—and we need more of it.

Wagner Act Hearings May Be Set March 21

WASHINGTON, Mar. 18.—Labor has again forced postponement of hearings on the proposed amendments designed to destroy the Wagner Labor Relations Act.

The Senate Committee on Education and Labor, headed by Senator Elbert D. Thomas of Utah, announced that hearings would again be held over. One Senator, Republican Taft of Ohio, demanded immediate hearings. The Senate Committee, however, announced it would meet Tuesday, March 21, when it will take up the question again.

The postponement is the direct result of thousands of letters and telegrams pouring on in the Committee from CIO, AFL and other organizations demanding that the Act be left alone.

In the meantime the campaign should be kept up. Write and wire to Senator Elbert D. Thomas, chairman, Senate Committee on Education and Labor, Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D. C., and to your own Senators and Representatives.

Unions Blast Tory Speech by Iowa Congressman

SIOUX CITY, Ia., Mar. 18.—Cong. Vincent Harrington will think twice when next he wants to attack the Wagner Act and the National Labor Relations Board.

In a hot letter, the Sioux City Industrial Union Council told the Congressman that his last speech against the Board must have resulted either from "extreme ignorance" or "the completion of a deal made with big moneyed interests."

"IGNORANCE OR FALSEHOOD"

Harrington, the letter said, had totally misrepresented the facts at a recent strike in the Swift packing plant here. It charged that "only ignorance or deliberate falsehood can account for the statement that the CIO union was in the minority."

"We expect an apology and a complete explanation," the council told the Congressman. "You have betrayed us by bitterly attacking the most progressive piece of legislation ever enacted.

"We will always support the New Deal and we expect those whom we elect to be faithful to their electors."

Fight on Act Labeled As Blind Hatred

Waukesha, Wis., Mar. 18—The Central Labor Union (AFL) here has put the finger on the AFL top leadership drive to cripple the Wagner Act, describing it as due to "blind and unreasoning hatred of a great labor organization."

The description came from Henry J. Oettinger, vice president of the CLU, in reply to an attack by state federation leaders on the central body's opposition to amendments to the Act, expressed in a resolution some time ago. Henry Ohl, state AFL president, and J. J. Handley, secretary, accused "CIO elements" in the Waukesha group and its president, Gordon M. Hey, in particular of sabotaging the AFL and of having "sinister motives."

"SINISTER ACTIONS"

"Ohl and Handley are correct if seeking labor peace and trying to hold legislative gains are sinister actions," Oettinger replied.

Wires Say CIO Plan Popular

Continued from page three

comes a resolution saying: "Resolved, that the proposed plan for an American Congress of Labor to include all railway organizations meets the approval of this lodge and we hope for its speedy accomplishment."

Local 266, Butchers, Tanners, Fish Butchers and Poultry Workers of Santa Cruz, Calif., "wishes to second efforts of your organization to bring unity to the American labor movement," as does the Tri-City Central Council of Goose Creek, Tex. In Providence, R. I., Local 94 of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners writes "we are looking forward to and hoping for any early settlement."

In Shelton, Wash., Local 161 of the AFL Pulp and Sulphite Workers threatens to withdraw from the AFL if unity is not achieved.

CIO UNIONS BACK PLAN

CIO national unions, locals and state and city organizations are 100 per cent behind the CIO stand on unity and urge acceptance of the CIO proposal as the most effective means of securing it.

The Intl. Longshoremen and Warehousemen in Seattle sent a wire: "Kindly accept our 100 per cent endorsement of plan outlined by you for American Congress of Labor."

CANNERY UNION

In Maine, 26,000 members of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee added their support. Speaking for 127,000 CIO workers in the Cannery and Agricultural Workers, Don Henderson, president, wired Lewis: "Our union wishes to express to you and members of CIO negotiating committee complete support of your efforts to achieve unity in labor movement."

The list of CIO affiliatees supporting the proposal is much too long to give in detail. It includes unions from every section of the country, from every industry.

More AFL Affiliates Join Drive To Protect Wagner Act

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON, Mar. 18.—AFL unions continue to pile up protests against attempts to amend the Wagner Act out of existence and against unfair attacks on the Natl. Labor Relations Board.

Here are a few of their comments, picked from statements of AFL local, district and state officers and organizations.

In Chicago, Victor Olander, head of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, had this bouquet for the work of the Labor Board in carrying out the provisions of the Act:

"I will say on behalf of the American, the Chicago and the Illinois Federation of Labor, and all of the affiliated organizations, that we feel we have received the fairest treatment at the hands of the NLRB examiner. I am very grateful to him for his fair attitude. Everyone of us would like to thank him."

ELECTRICAL WORKERS

Local organizations of the AFL feel as strongly as Mr. Olander does that attacks on the Board and the Act should be resisted. Local 677 of the Intl. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, for example, writes from Pueblo, Col:

"We do very definitely oppose such amendments proposed by those who are known enemies of the principles of collective bargaining. We feel it behooves the organized labor movement of Colorado to vigorously oppose any tactics curtailing the benefits derived from the Act and to give their undivided support in behalf of the NLRB so that employes in industry will be protected."

TO THE LAST DITCH

The Employes Joint Council of Salt Lake City wrote to Senator Borah saying that workers would "fight to the last ditch with what resources they have any attempt to detour or impair the fundamental objects of the Act."

The Laundry Workers (AFL) of Hot Springs, Ark., passed a resolution putting themselves on record as "opposed to any amendments to the Act whatsoever." The Inter-Mountain Typographical Conference of Denver resolved to "join with the progressive organizations of America in their protests against any alteration or amendment of the law as it now stands." Local 80, Hotel and Restaurant Employes, of Washington did the same.

The Hod Carriers of Ste. Genevieve, Mo., resolved "That the Wagner Labor Relations Act stand as now administered, which has been upheld as constitutional by the Supreme Court of the U. S."

And from an AFL district organizer, Graeme B. Baker, of Montana, comes this statement: "I want to say at the present time that I am satisfied with the NLRB in its present form, and do not feel that its usefulness could be augmented by any changes, other than further financial assistance."

DON'T BE FOOLED!

It's YOUR WAGES *and* YOUR UNIONS *They're After*

Save the Wagner Labor Act!

Front cover of the CIO's latest pamphlet, Publication 27. Copies may be ordered from the CIO, 1106 Conn. Ave. N. W., Washington, D.C. at the rate of 40c a hundred, $3.75 a thousand.

Rap War, Navy Depts. For Protecting Tory Firms From Wagner Act

WASHINGTON, Mar. 18.—The CIO fight to make government contractors obey the Wagner Act will continue, Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, indicated in a letter to CIO affiliates today.

The struggle started last year and came to a head when the reactionary Rules Committee refused to let Congressmen vote on a bill that would withhold government contracts from persistent Wagner Act violators, Pressman explained. The bill, which had passed the Senate, was held up by the Rules Committee and could not reach the floor of the House.

This year the same stalling tactics were used. Passed unanimously by the Senate, this time as an amendment to the national defense program, the measure was again killed by a small anti-labor group of Congressmen on the Senate-House Conference Committee that meets to consider measures.

CIO, AFL, ROOSEVELT APPROVE

The amendment had the support of Senate majority leader Barkley and of Pres. Roosevelt, as well as of the entire CIO and big sections of the AFL. The November convention of the CIO made such a bill a No. 1 item in the legislative program for this session. As Pressman pointed out in his letter:

"The U. S. Government should lead the way in insisting that all people dealing with it comply with the Natl. Labor Relations Act. Opposition from such reactionary forces as the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers, the War and Navy Depts., and those in Congress following the lead of Vice-Pres. Garner should not be sufficient to overcome the demand from labor for such protective legislation.

"For this reason we intend to keep pressing forward for legislation to this effect. Your continued aid and support in this regard, as it has been furnished in the past, will be the deciding factor as to whether we obtain this legislation or not."

AFL Cigar Locals Fight Amendments

Tampa, Fla., Mar. 18—Seven thousand members of the Cigar Makers International Union, AFL, were on record here today as "unalterably opposed to any changes in the Wagner Act."

"All present proposals for changes are either unnecessary or else definitely harmful to labor," the union's joint advisory board declared in a telegram sent to CIO Pres. John L. Lewis.

At the same time the AFL group appealed to Lewis to help bring about a U. S. policy of ceasing to furnish the fascist aggressor nations "with the means of destroying democracy."

AVERAGE PAY DOWN

New York, Mar. 18.—The average income of the working population dropped from $1,110 in 1937 to $1,038 in 1938, according to figures released by Labor Research Association. In 1929 it was estimated to average $1,310.

AFL-CIO Council Oppose Changes

Bethlehem, Pa., Mar. 18. — The Joint Labor Council composed of delegates from both CIO and AFL unions as well as the International Ladies Garment Workers, independent, has gone on record as vigorously opposing any amendments to the Wagner Labor Act.

A resolution passed by the Council declared any action taken to change the act was "a deliberate attempt to destroy that bulwark of our liberties, no matter what the pretext to amend the Wagner Labor Act may be."

Confer On Contract

Delegates from District Five of the United Mine Workers talk over their plans for the new Appalachian coal contract in a session at the Hotel Commodore, New York City. Left to right: David MacDonald, Charles Adamson, George Knezevich, John O'Leary; Patrick Fagan (standing), president of the district; W. J. Patton, John Demascul, Samuel Hockenberry and George Marchines.

Mine Union Asks Pay Raise in New Contract

Continued from page three

union's demand for adequate medical service and joint supervision of medical facilities, pointing to a recent survey of improper medical care for miners, whose revelations he said were "astonishing and to some degree scandalous."

In explaining the UMWA demands, Murray declared that losses in the industry were due to the operators' unwillingness to work together and make the industry a profitable one. He criticized operators for attacking efforts of the Bituminous Coal Commission to stabilize prices.

MURRAY DEFENDS DEMANDS

Defending the miner's proposal for 50c a day increase, which would establish a basic rate of $6.50 a day, Murray declared that a wage survey showed miners' average net earnings to be only $886 a year in some districts. Living costs in some mining communities, he said, are as much as 44 to 61 per cent higher than in greater centers of population where there is independent merchandising of commodities.

In regard to hours of work, the UMWA is asking a six-hour day and a 30-hour five-day week. The present contract provides for a seven-hour day and a 35-hour week. The union is also seeking increases of 15c a ton in cutting and loading rates and of 25c a ton in pick mining rates, and a 20 per cent increase in yardage and dead-work rates.

ASK SHARE OF GAINS

Mechanized mining is receiving much attention in the negotiations, and the union asks that the miners be given an equitable share of profits accruing from the operation of mining machinery.

In asking for a guarantee of not less than 200 days work a year, the union seeks a minimum annual wage of about $1300 a year. The operators would be obligated to pay miners $6.50 a day for each day less than 200 worked.

Two week's annual vacation with pay are asked by the UMWA for all miners.

In regard to medical care, the union points out that "tragic inequality, inefficiency and dishonest practices" have prevailed under the present system. Its contentions are supported by a survey just completed in the mining industry by the Bureau of Cooperative Medicine.

CHOICE OF DOCTORS

The union asks that the miners have equal participation with the companies in the selection of physicians, and that the Mine Workers also participate in the supervision of hospital, medical, surgical and nursing facilities, in all cases where they are financed through deduction from miners' pay.

Other provisions in the UMWA demands cover seniority rights, safety at work, physical examinations, elimination of unfair differentials and a request for a standard checkoff throughout the industry.

HIGH ACCIDENT RATE

Murray pointed to the high accident rate in coal mines and criticized the virtual suppression of reports on mine disasters which are made by the United States Bureau of Mines.

In regard to mechanization, he pointed out that some 60,000 men have been displaced in recent years by the introduction of mechanical loading machines, and called for the cooperation of the operators in meeting the problem.

Hosiery Meet In September At New York

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Mar. 11—A decision to hold the 1939 convention of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers in New York some time in September was made during the meeting of the union's national executive board held here last week. The exact time was left to the discretion of the officers.

The board also pledged support to the Wagner Act, reaffirmed the hosiery union's support of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee and backed the efforts now being made to bring about unity in the labor movement.

Texas CIO To Meet April 1

By FRED SEELIG

Houston, Texas, Mar. 18—With important legislative and organizational matters coming up which will vitally effect all labor unions in Texas, elaborate preparations have been made for the third annual convention of the Texas State Industrial Union Council to be held in San Antonio, April 1 and 2.

More than 200 delegates are expected to attend. Outstanding labor leaders and government officials have been invited to participate in the speaking program. Among them are Walter Smethurst, assistant to CIO Pres. John L. Lewis; Dr. Edwin Elliott, regional director, National Labor Relations Board, and an officer of the Railway Brotherhoods.

SEEK CO-ORDINATION

An effort will be made at the convention to formulate a program which will ultimately lead to the co-ordinating of all the Texas CIO activities into the hands of the Texas State Council. The necessity of this will be brought before the delegates.

Another important project to be undertaken will be a concentrated appeal to the national office for the appointment of a regional director in Texas. Two sub-regional offices will also be asked.

Texas has 1,250,000 unorganized workers. Requests from groups throughout the state have come to the State Council, asking that organizers be sent to the respective localities and the council has been unable to cope with the demands from the unorganized.

DISCUSS WAGNER ACT

Among other topics are discussions on maintenance of the Wagner Act, WPA and Housing Act appropriations, and the danger of issuance of charters to company unions in Texas.

Outlining a legislative program to combat the present anti-labor state administration, a campaign for good-will through publicity, further plans for labor unity, and steps toward assisting progressive political groups are but a few of the matters to come before the convention.

New Homes For Old

A department dealing with the need for better housing and how to obtain it, conducted by the CIO Committee on Housing.

By THOMAS HUMPHPRIES

Are all the bad slums in the big cities?

If you think they are, you're making a big mistake.

The small towns and rural areas may not have teeming tenement houses. But they have their housing problems. Millions of small-town workers are forced to live in dilapidated shanties, shaky lean-to's and the shot-gun houses which are said to have been nailed together by throwing a few bits of lumber in the air and firing a load of shot at them.

It's even worse in the farm areas.

Five out of six farm-houses have no running water. Six out of seven have no electric lights. One half of them need major repairs. Only one out of twenty measures up to the so-called American Standard.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Fortunately, there are methods of doing at least a little bit toward remedying bad housing conditions outside of the big cities.

First—

Set up local housing authorities and borrow housing funds from the United States Housing Authority.

Practically any community, no matter how small, can build USHA-financed projects. At this very moment a 70-dwelling housing project is under way in Mt. Hope, West Va., a town with a population of about 2500.

In some states towns of this size are not allowed to set up housing authorities. But that shouldn't stand in the way! County housing authorities can be set up in such instances and can build a project in any of the towns within its boundaries.

Second—

Farmers themselves can borrow directly from the Farm Security Administration or secure FHA-insured loans from private banks—and use the money to repair their farm-houses.

But how about the farm laborers?

What about the millions of dispossessed sharecroppers and migratory fruit and vegetable pickers?

FSA CAMPS

Third—

Farm laborers can often succeed in having the Farm Security Administration build farm labor camps.

These camps are not subsistence homesteads. They are the farthest thing in the world from forced labor camps, such as prevail in Hitlerized Germany. They merely provide farm laborers with decent shelter at a very low price.

Two types of shelter are provided: cabins and tents. The cabins usually rent for about $8 a month, the tents for about $5. Hot and cold water are provided.

Most of these camps include a workers' council set-up. Union organization is welcome.

Naturally, the big fruit companies don't like such camps. According to Harry V. Olsen, organizer for the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers (CIO), "They want to keep the workers on the jump, so they can't organize and demand decent wages!"

MORE HOUSING FUNDS

The biggest obstacle to more and better housing is the lack of funds.

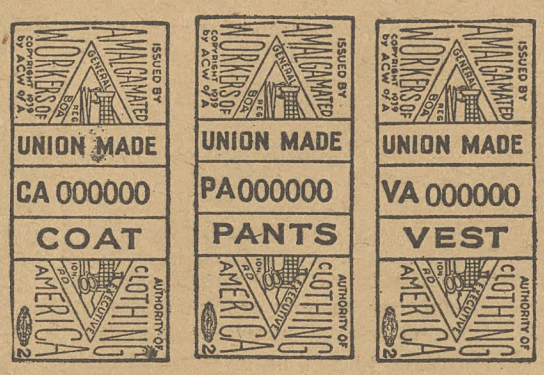
The Farm Security Administration has always had to operate on a shoestring. The United States Housing Authority is now dead broke.

Labor must see to it that Congress expands the work of both these agencies.

BE ON GUARD!

Look for the union label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America when buying men's and boys' clothing, overalls, shirts, undergarments, neckties, lumber jackets, gloves, and all other kinds of men's wearing apparel.

The Amalgamated Label is your guarantee that the articles you buy are of the best workmanship and produced under one hundred percent union conditions by members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.



By insisting on the Amalgamated Label you will help to guard against a return of sweatshop conditions to the industry. By helping the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America you help the labor movement generally.

Ask for the Amalgamated label on each part of the suit, coat, pants and vest. There are different Amalgamated labels for coats, pants, vests, shirts and undergarments, work clothes, neckwear and gloves.

Labor and the Law

By Lee Pressman
CIO General Counsel

Reactionary Generals and Labor

Last week a labor measure was defeated in a congressional conference committee.

It was the amendment to the National Defense Bill which would have required firms getting juicy government contracts for defense supplies to recognize the fundamental rights of labor.

The amendment was proposed by Senator Barkley who is the majority leader in the Senate. It was accepted by Senator Sheppard of Texas, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs. It was passed by the Senate. It was backed by the Secretary of Labor, and President Roosevelt was reported to be in favor of it.

WAR, NAVY AND NAM

However, the War and Navy Departments, joining with the National Association of Manufacturers, opposed it. The War and Navy Departments said that they were opposed to the amendment on two grounds: first, they claimed that the amendment would leave to the head of the department, awarding the contract, the determination of whether the employer was violating the rights of labor and thus deny the employer the right to go to the courts.

But Senator Barkley agreed to modify this provision so that an employer would be barred from getting government contracts only after a final court judgment had found him guilty of violating the federal labor laws. Second, the Department said there were certain supplies that could be furnished only by a single company, and the amendment might prevent the government from getting the necessary supplies, if that company were, for example, using labor spies.

AGREED TO MODIFY

Senator Barkley was willing to meet this second objection by authorizing the President to make exceptions in the public interest where there was only one source of supply. Nevertheless, the War and Navy Departments continued their opposition and the amendment was lost.

This record of the defeat of an important labor measure raises a very serious question.

The opposition of the National Association of Manufacturers can easily be understood. They are fighting tooth and nail against the full establishment of genuine collective bargaining in this country.

But the War and Navy Departments are agencies of the federal government and in opposing the amendment, they opposed not only labor's interests, but the Administration itself.

NO GREATER JURISDICTION

In these days when foreign affairs are in constant crises, our armaments must be increased and activities of the War and Navy Departments will necessarily expand. But the jurisdiction of the War and Navy Departments should be confined to the strictly military problems of the national defense.

They have no justification for interfering with the labor policy of the federal government. They have no justification for their opposition to the Barkley Amendment which was intended to protect the rights of organized labor.

It is not only labor that is involved, because the War and Navy Departments were also opposed to the flat limitation of 10 per cent upon the profits of aircraft corporations supplying planes to the United States.

This country has not yet reached the stage where the control over the destinies of the American people is to be placed in the hands of a few reactionary generals rather than in the hands of the representatives of the people.

Trade Unionism and Tap Dancing — Office Workers School Supplies Both

NEW YORK.—"I'll take Trade Unionism and Tap Dancing," said the pretty little brunette from Local 16.

"Make mine Social Psychology," said her boy friend, a maintenance man in a large social agency, who belongs to Local 19, the Social Service Employes Union.

They started something. With about 600 others, they took part in the autumn educational program of the New York Joint Council, United Office & Professional Workers of America.

They started a real, tangible, living aspect of "white-collar" and professional organization in the metropolitan area, something that is going far to make the union a part of its members' lives.

UNUSUAL

The Joint Council is an unusual sort of body, to begin with, unusual because of its composition. It takes in seven locals, whose 16,000 members include people as varied as clerical and office workers, social service employes, commercial and fine artists, industrial insurance agents, financial employes, book and magazine workers and advertising men and women.

Starting from scratch, the Joint Council's educational committee opened up a new field when it got down to business last Fall. Trade Unionism and Tap Dancing, Social Psychology and Women's Forums, Labor Forums and Chorus, Orchestra and Training for Active Leadership, Stenography, Public Speaking, Sports.

SO MEMBERS MAY KNOW

Some things trade unionists must know. Some things they want badly to know. Some things they need by way of self-expression, self-realization. The Joint Council set out to give the members these things.

There were some people at first who felt that it was too far a cry from Trade Unionism to Tschaikowsky . . . or Truckin' . . . or The Care of the Teeth. They were wrong.

PROPAGANDA

For years the anti-labor press has been pounding away on the phoney note that unions were strange, or un-American, or wrong, or just not "respectable." These arguments were particularly effective in the case of "white-collar" and professional people, in part because they have been traditionally the kind of people who read and pay attention to what they read.

Not that other unions haven't had to meet the same problem. But the office and professional worker has been conspicuously subject to the delusion that it was somehow wrong to do something about a skimpy pay envelope, insecurity, that summer vacation that never quite came off.

MAKE UNION ATTRACTIVE

Now, one of the most effective means for combating the crooked propaganda of the labor-haters is to make the union attractive, not only to prospective members but to new and undeveloped members. And another means for making the union strong is to make it a part of the lives of its members.

Mind you, what has just been said has nothing to do with the courses like Training For Active Leadership, or Beginnings Of Trade Unionism, to pick a couple at random from the Joint Council's attractive new catalogue. These courses are of a different nature. No one would dream of questioning the necessity for including them in a trade union educational program.

But there were, at the beginning, some people who felt the other matters were somehow outside the field, or, rather, too far afield.

POPULAR COURSES

They learned they were wrong when the pretty brunette from Local 16 and scores of others like her took the cultural courses, enlisted in the extra-curricular activities, and liked them! Talked about them, felt proud of them, became better union members because of them.

Tenant Farm Locals Rap Officers

St. Louis, Mo., Mar. 18—Fifty-two delegates representing 4,000 Missouri sharecroppers, tenant farmers and agricultural laborers voted here this week to continue as part of the Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers, CIO.

The decision was taken after a notice of withdrawal from the UCAPAWA by the executive council of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, of which the Missouri workers were formerly a part.

"This action constitutes a definite repudiation of the attempts of the STFU officers in Memphis, Tenn., who have been suspended, to split away from the CIO," Owen Whitfield, STFU vice-president and leader of the Missouri croppers, said after the vote was taken.

LEADERS SUSPENDED

STFU officers were suspended by the Cannery and Agricultural Workers after their refusal to pay per capita tax to the international, in violation of the constitution. A settlement requested by the STFU from the national office of the CIO was offered, which included compliance with the international constitution by the STFU officers, full autonomy for the STFU within the constitution, and lifting of the suspension.

This was rejected by the officers of the STFU, who announced withdrawal from the UCAPAWA.

End of Long Court Fight

Their long court fight against the Fansteel Metallurgical Co. at an unsuccessful end, members of a Steel Workers Organizing Committee lodge in North Chicago, Ill., start their terms, ranging up to six months, in the county jail. Supreme Court, brushing aside employer's violations of the Wagner Act, cracked down on their sitdown strike.

Gorman Fails In Try To Tie Up Union Funds

NEW YORK, Mar. 18.—Pretensions of Francis J. Gorman, former president of the United Textile Workers, that he still leads the UTW were shattered last week by Supreme Court Judge Aaron J. Steuer, who denied a preliminary injunction sought by Gorman to tie up the funds of both the UTW and the Textile Workers Organizing Committee, CIO.

Gorman was expelled from office some weeks ago by the UTW executive council on charges of setting up a dual organization and attempting to lead the union back into the American Federation of Labor.

Judge Steuer's decision was based on a number of affidavits, union decisions, resolutions and briefs submitted by TWOC counsel. A number of UTW and TWOC locals denounced Gorman's "attempt at usurpation" in supporting the TWOC's contention that Gorman no longer represented the membership.

Hearst Sues For Peace; Meets Guild

Chicago, Mar. 18—Publishers of the strike-bound Hearst papers here have felt the pressure of the American Newspaper Guild attack and have made their first step towards suing for peace.

The offer to negotiate came from Harry Koehler, publisher of the Herald-Examiner, and was addressed to Harry Wohl, Chicago Newspaper Guild president.

NOT YET OVER

Wohl warned that the strike is not over, and that it will continue until a settlement providing for job security of the 500 Guild members is secured.

"Now is the time to intensify and redouble efforts to bring the Chicago Hearst strike to a successful conclusion," Wohl said.

Meanwhile a five-page report signed by leading pastors and laymen declared that "we believe that the strike of the Hearst unit of the Chicago Newspaper Guild was justified." The committee was made up of representatives of a number of denominations.

Ask Probe of Dismissal Of Insurance Agents After Testimony

NEW YORK, Mar. 18.—Investigation of the recent discharge of 13 agents of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., who testified before the Monopoly Investigating Committee was asked in a letter sent to Chairman William O. Douglas of the Securities & Exchange Commission by Lewis Merrill, president of the United Office & Professional Workers, CIO.

"This action on the part of the company serves to intimidate any other agents who may be subpoened by the government," the letter declared, and "will naturally make it difficult for the committee to obtain reliable evidence at further hearings on the practices of insurance companies."

The fired agents testified concerning irregular practices in the election of the company's board of directors.

In a statement on the men's discharge, Merrill charged that the company "is seeking to place responsibility for these practices on the agents instead of in the management where it properly belongs."

CIO Fights Ban On Picketing

Indict 27 Men, Jail Scores In California

By MIRIAM ALLEN DeFORD

REDDING, Calif., Mar. 18. — Twenty-seven CIO leaders stood indicted today for conspiracy to violate Shasta County's recently enacted ban on picketing.

John Morgan, international representative of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers; Louis Goldblatt, California CIO secretary; and Richard Gladstein, CIO attorney, were among those named by the grand jury.

"We will carry this case to the Supreme Court," Gladstein said, "and make a national issue to see if peaceful picketing is a felony. The right to organize is meaningless without the right to picket."

Meanwhile, the county jail here, built to hold 22 people, is packed with 88 members of the tunnel constructors union, a Mine, Mill & Smelter affiliate. Seven wives of arrested workers who took to the picket line have not yet been arrested, though the sheriff promises that he will take care of them as soon as he "can get around to it."

AFL "CONTRACT"

The dispute started some time ago and concerns jobs with the United Pipe Concrete Co., contractors in charge of the Delta Tunnel job on a railroad relocation project.

Although most of the workers on the job belonged to the CIO, the company signed a closed shop contract with some AFL officials before the project opened. When the men reported for work, they were told that they would have to pay a high initiation fee to join the AFL before they could go on the job.

Rather than pay initiation fees to the AFL union, the CIO members placed picket lines around the company's projects.

PICKET BANS

As a result they came into conflict with county officials. Shasta County, like many others throughout California, has passed stringent anti-picketing ordinances at the behest of the Tory Associated Farmers group.

An injunction against the CIO forbidding it to "hinder by force, threat, violence or intimidation" AFL workers on the Delta project at Shasta Dam has also been issued by a local judge.

MAKE TEST CASE

Determined to make a test case of the anti-picketing ban—which they charge is clearly constitutional—local CIO leaders declined to remove the pickets.

"We repeat . . . that we do not feel that we have a moral right to abandon the constitutional privileges of workers to assemble—which is their right to picket—and that we will have to continue to organize picket lines even though there are county ordinances which seek to take away from labor this fundamental, traditional, necessary right," their statement said.

JAIL CONDITIONS BAD

Meanwhile arrested CIO members are finding conditions in the Redding jail intolerable. Prisoners were obliged to break the windows to get any air, and even so several of them collapsed and had to be moved to the county hospital.

There is not room for many of the prisoners to lie down on the floor.

LIKE "SLAVE SHIP"

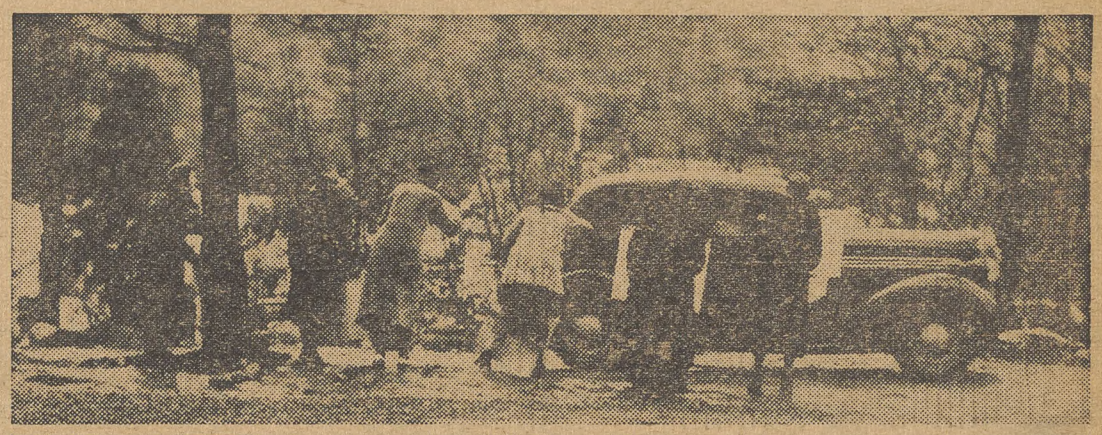
Harold Simon, CIO attorney, told the grand jury that conditions are "worse than on a slave ship, with food served to prisoners that would be a disgrace if served to a pig." He demanded a probe of a contract made by the county board of supervisors with a restaurant which provides the food for the prisoners.

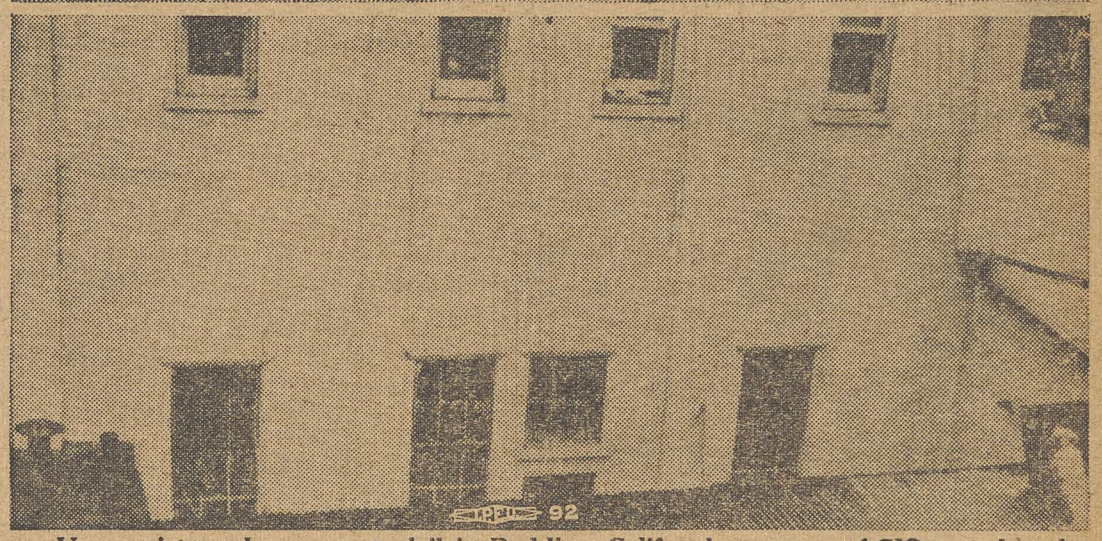
Plans are being made to move some of the jailed workers to the Glenn and Tehama County jails, to make room for expected new arrivals. When the men objected the sheriff agreed to move only single men, and to let the pickets choose these themselves.

"Some 60 odd prisoners were confined in a space originally intended for 22 men," Simon pointed out. "Due to the crowded space, human beings are forced to sleep on filthy, louse-infected mats, on concrete floors, at times flooded with water from faulty plumbing."

Four men have already had to be removed to the hospital suffering from respiratory infections due to these conditions.

Wives On Picket Line





Upper picture shows county jail in Redding, Calif., where scores of CIO tunnel workers were herded for violation of a county anti-picketing ordinance. Note windows broken, as unionists, almost suffocated, demanded ventilation. Lower picture shows wives on the picket line at the Shasta Dam railroad relocation project, where the CIO union is on strike.

Auto Union Maps Plans For Convention March 27

By ROBERT DALE

CLEVELAND, Mar. 18.—Final preparations for a harmonious and constructive convention of the United Automobile Workers, CIO affiliate, were completed by the International Executive Board. The convention starts here March 27.

Actions of the Board included trial and ouster of Homer Martin, former president, who has now misled a handful of followers into setting up a dual union to the UAW. Martin did not appear.

Testimony against him was offered by officers and rank and file members of the UAW. It was based on first-hand experience with Martin and his disruptive efforts. He was found guilty on 15 counts of conspiring to destroy the UAW in league with notorious enemies of labor.

R. J. Thomas, who had been acting president since Martin's suspension last month, was named president by the Executive Board. He will serve until the convention which will pass on all officers.

The Board instructed local unions to place on trial all members who attended Martin's rump convention in violation of decisions of their locals. Local unions that were misled into going to Martin's meeting but who now wish to return to the CIO fold were invited back by the Board. The convention credentials committee was instructed to receive such locals if they reverse their support of Martin.

EXPEL OFFICIAL

Expulsion was ordered of any international representative who, in support of Martin's dual union movement, took UAW-CIO issues to court before exhausting union procedure as outlined by the Constitution. Martin's regional man in Cleveland, Elmer Davis, was ousted under this ruling.

Committees elected by the Board were: constitution, credentials, resolutions, rules, organization, union label, competitive plants, education, and grievances. These committees will serve for the convention. The Board reconvenes March 24 here.

ONLY 15,000 FOOLED

With the disruptors and dual unionists finally out of the way except for a tiny minority of less than 15,000, the Board turned its attention on problems to come before the Cleveland convention. The remainder of the 375,000 members of the UAW have voted to be represented at Cleveland.

Among the constructive union-building jobs of the UAW this week was approval of new union contracts with a number of manufacturers. One of these was with the Jacobsen Mfg. Co., of Racine, Wis. It recognizes UAW-CIO as sole bargaining agent.

Among the principal charges on which Martin was tried and convicted was his effort, long concealed and denied, to try and take the UAW out of the CIO. He was accused of taking secret advice from the Ford Motor Co., to this effect.

Rank and file union members bared the notorious story of Martin's subrosa dealings with the Ford Co. and of his efforts to sell the membership of the Ford locals on a phony union agreement. Percy Lellewellyn, president of Local 600 (Ford), was a star witness.

FILE NLRB CHARGES

Charges similar to those on which Martin was tried by the Board have been filed with the National Labor Relations Board in a novel move to obtain protection for the UAW from the Ford-Martin machinations. It is believed the only case in which a union executive has been charged with violation of the Wagner act. He is accused of acting as an agent of the employers, especially Ford.

In addition to his alliance with Ford, Martin also associated himself with Father Coughlin, who acted as go-between on the Martin-Ford conversations.

What remains of Martin's support was fast crumbling away this week as his funds began to give out. His office staff was being curtailed and several members of the executive board of a dual Ford local were laid off. Added to the earlier dissensions in the rump camp between the Lovestoneites and the few honestly misled union members, the financial stringency created havoc.

Big Cannery Signs with CIO

San Diego, Calif., Mar. 18—Local 64 of the Cannery and Agricultural Workers, CIO, has just won over the biggest tuna fish cannery in the world, with a signed contract involving 700 workers.

The contract, signed with Van Camp's here, provides for preferential hiring, seniority rights, overtime, recognition of shop committees and maintenance of wage rates.

Last October the local won a collective bargaining election for sole recognition by an overwhelming majority. Following the election, the cannery closed down for three months. Now it is running again, with a CIO contract to protect the workers.

Court Dismisses Suit On Steel Pay Decree

WASHINGTON, Mar. 18.—A drive by seven independent steel producers to escape paying 62½c an hour on large government contract orders bogged down in federal district court here.

Judge Jennings Bailey ruled that the companies had offered no evidence to prove that Sec. of Labor Frances Perkins had acted "arbitrarily" in establishing the wage rate set by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee as the prevailing rate of pay in the important northeastern steel producing area. A temporary restraining order against the Department of Labor was dissolved and the case dismissed.

In making his decision, the judge heard arguments from both the government and the CIO legal staff, which maintained that the companies had failed to prove that the Public Contracts Board of the Labor Department had not given serious study to the case.

The Act provides that the government may establish certain fair labor standards in various industries, and that no contracts of more than $10,000 can be awarded to firms which fail to observe the standards.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 13 | March 27, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

LEWIS SAYS CIO AIMS FOR UNITY, NOT DIVISION

The News In Brief

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

Delay Hearings

Washington. — The Senate Committee on Education and Labor, heeding protests from workers in all sections of the nation, once again postponed the date at which they will decide when to hold hearings on proposed amendments to the Wagner Act.

Convene

Cleveland.—With dues payments at the highest point in its history, the United Automobile Workers opened its convention here free of a small clique of disruptionists and determined to push its campaign to organize Ford.

TWOC to Meet

Philadelphia. — The Textile Workers Organizing Committee, third largest CIO affiliate, will hold its first constitutional convention here May 15 to review the mighty gains of the last three years and pave the way for future successes.

Reports

Washington. — The LaFollette Committee in the fourth of a series of reports, charged that munitions, tear and vomit gas, and armaments used by large anti-union corporations against workers is a primary source of strike violence.

Miners

New York. — Pres. John L. Lewis and Vice-Pres. Philip Murray of the United Mine Workers warned eastern bituminous coal mine operators that the industry's half million workers are determined to win a 50c-a-day pay increase.

Victors

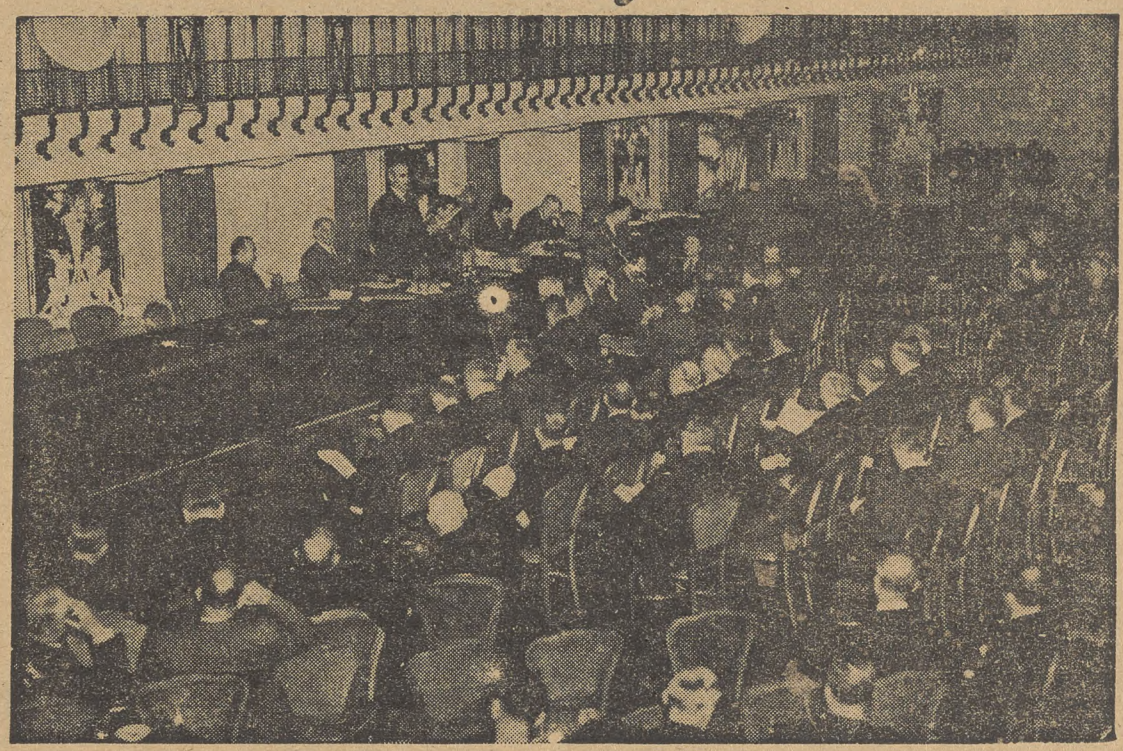
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. — The Wilkes-Barre Newspaper Guild emerged the victor from a six-month strike which had prevented the printing of a daily paper in the city, gaining the 40-hour week and other union demands.

Win Poll In South

New Orleans, Mar. 25 — CIO teamsters here have rolled up a smashing victory in a Labor Board election for collective bargaining agency, winning over the AFL by 477 to 157.

A strike last July held firm, despite mass arrests, beatings, wholesale deportations and similar terroristic acts.

As Mine Parleys Continue



Vice-Pres. Philip Murray of the United Mine Workers, shown addressing the joint conference of union representatives and mine operators in the Appalachian bituminous area. At the meetings, held in the Hotel Biltmore, New York City, the UMW spokesmen called for a pay increase of 50c a day.

AFL, CIO Unions Join In Praise For 'Congress of Labor'

WASHINGTON, Mar. 25.—Wires and letters from all sections of the labor movement—CIO, AFL and independents—continue to pour into CIO headquarters here praising the plan for unification of the labor movement under an American Congress of Labor, as proposed by the CIO committee in the first White House meeting with the AFL.

From Seattle, Wash., Local 28 of the Natl. Federation of Post Office Clerks, AFL, wrote to Pres. Lewis enclosing a resolution "strongly urging the adoption of the plan as suggested by you as a means of bringing about unity within the labor movement, since upon study it seems to offer a most practicable solution to the existing differences between the various organizations."

NEED INDUSTRIAL UNIONS

The Owosso and Shiawasee Federation of Labor of Michigan has passed on a letter sent to Green in which the members said: "we believe in settling this problem. Industrial organization must be conceded by the AFL. This caused the split and this concession on your part will heal the breach."

AFL cement workers in Chattanooga, Tenn., wrote, "We are convinced that both craft and industrial unions can be given their proper place within the AFL, if the heads of the craft unions will only see the situation as they should, and we hope they will."

In Chicago, the AFL Committee to Aid Guild Strikers, composed of representatives of 15 AFL unions, wrote to Lewis thanking him for his "splendid attitude toward the forthcoming conferences between your group and ours, and to express the fervent hope that out of these conversations will come a lasting unity of American labor."

In California both houses of the state government are on record as favoring unity between the sections of the American labor movement. The Letter Carriers of West Virginia wired in a similar message, praising "your desire to effect a peaceful settlement of the labor strife."

CIO messages supporting the American Congress of Labor plan from locals, districts, councils and internationals are too numerous to catalog, but a partial survey shows support from Councils in St. Louis, Cleveland, Wheeling, W. Va., San Francisco, Lowell, Mass., San Diego, Calif., Marion Co., Ohio, Bridgeport, Conn., Martinsburg, W. Va., Seattle, Delaware Co., Pa.

All these groups applaud the Congress of Labor plan and urge the CIO negotiating committee to continue its efforts to unite all labor in one powerful organization.

HONORABLE PEACE

The messages lay stress on the need for an honorable peace between the CIO and the AFL which will preserve the principles of industrial unionism that have built the CIO to its present position.

Typical is one from a local of the CIO Cannery and Agricultural Workers in Colorado, which said: "Our union supports the CIO program for unity with its insistence on democracy in the labor movement, industrial unionism in the basic industries, and preservation of existing unions."

These messages represent only a fraction of the total received. Throughout the general tone is endorsement for the Congress of Labor plan, for an honorable peace that will preserve industrial union principles, and for unity.

Local Wants Congress Session Broadcast

Baltimore, Mar. 25. — The Marine local of the American Communications Assn. here wants all sessions of Congress to be broadcast on the radio.

"The people of this nation should have the right to know every position their representatives take upon the problems that confront the nation as a whole," a union resolution said.

"It is a well known fact that if the people of this nation could hear the voices of reaction that are opposed to every liberal move made by the liberal forces in Congress, they would defeat those reactionaries at the polls in the following election."

Peace Confab Resumes

(See Story Page Three)

New York, Mar. 25. — The CIO is eager for labor peace and will consider any plans proposed, but its unions will not let themselves be cut to pieces as the price of association with the AFL, Pres. John L. Lewis declared at the anthracite miners' Tri-District convention.

The CIO leader's speech was delivered while the AFL executive council was meeting in Washington, to decide on its answer to CIO questions about the jurisdictions of CIO unions under the AFL proposal.

FOLLOWED RECESS

Conferences between the CIO and AFL committees were resumed Friday in Washington, following a ten-day recess.

Lewis told the cheering delegates of the United Mine Workers of the great achievements of the CIO. He warned AFL leaders who have been starting puny dual unions to harass the CIO unions, that if they reject unity and continue their attacks, "the CIO is capable of doing more than merely defending itself" and may make them live to regret their assaults.

UNIONS APPROVE

Meanwhile wires and other messages continue to pour in on CIO headquarters testifying to the enthusiastic reception of the CIO proposal for uniting all labor in one American Congress of Labor.

This proposal of the CIO and a counter-proposal of the AFL to resume negotiations where they broke off in December, 1937, have both been under consideration at the unity conferences.

Urge Probe Of Tory Farm Group

Washington, Mar. 25 — Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, today urged continuation of the work of the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee in a letter to all senators.

Pressman pointed out that "the committee is carrying on an investigation of the Associated Farmers, Inc., one of the most active violators of civil liberties on the west coast and elsewhere.

"We understand a great deal of material has been secured by the committee on this organization, but due to lack of funds it has not been prepared or put into report form."

U. S. Rubber Co. Subsidiaries Yield, Sign

KITCHENER, Ont., Mar. 25.—The United Rubber Workers, CIO, won its first signed contract in Canada recently when the Dominion Tire and the Merchants Rubber companies, subsidiaries of U. S. Rubber, signed agreements following a month's strike of 1,000 employes.

Under the terms of the contract, Locals 67 and 80 of the URW are recognized as union representatives for the workers. Time and a half pay for overtime, a nine-hour day, and seniority rights are also included in the agreement.

One of the major demands, a five cent wage raise, will be referred to an arbitration board of three, composed of one member each chosen by the union and the company, with the third selected by the other two. Award of the arbitration board will be retroactive.

HAD REFUSED TO SIGN

Originally the companies refused to sign a contract or grant an increase in pay, but after the strikers voted to continue the strike until their demands were recognized, the firms compromised.

The agreement will be in force until October 31, and may be terminated or amended thereafter on 30 days' notice.

Settlement of the strike ended the strike-breaking activities of a company-inspired "back-to-work" movement. A day before the strike was settled, a group threatened to force entrance to the plants, but failed to show up.

BIG VICTORY

Alfred Mustin and Harry James, presidents of the two locals, hailed the contract as "an outstanding victory".

The community and unions throughout Canada, both CIO and AFL, as well as locals in the United States, sent contributions to the strike and played an important part in winning the settlement.

Wire Union Backs Bill On Merger

Washington, Mar. 25 — When Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana introduced a bill into the Senate calling for an investigation of the telegraph industry, telegrams of approval began pouring in from numerous locals of the American Communications Association, CIO union, urging him to bring the bill to an early hearing.

Meanwhile, John Brophy, CIO director, issued a statement stating that "the CIO welcomes the investigation of the telegraph industry proposed by Senator Burton K. Wheeler, chairman of the Interstate Commerce Committee.

"It is a well-known fact," Brophy declared, "that the telegraph industry is today on the verge of collapse and chaos. After years of mismanagement and incompetence the telegraph companies should not be allowed to solve their problems by creating an unsanctioned monopoly at the expense of labor and the public."

The ACA union charges that in the plans advanced for the merger of Western Union and Postal Telegraph, no account is being taken of the loss of jobs involved.

Mayors Get An Ear Full

Without mincing any words, Mayor F. H. LaGuardia of New York warned chief executives of western cities that disaster lies ahead if the Tory bloc in Congress manages to slip through a cut in WPA funds.

WPA Cut Threatens 'Havoc, Carey Warns

WASHINGTON, Mar. 25.—While House Tories once again played with the idea of cutting WPA funds, Sec. James B. Carey of the CIO warned Congress of the "havoc" that would follow for business, the jobless and the nation as a whole if Pres. Roosevelt's request for $150,000,000 for WPA is refused.

Carey, who heads the CIO Committee on Unemployment, sent his message in a letter to every member of Congress.

CAREY'S LETTER

The letter said:

"... I would like to convey to you the CIO's conviction that it is of great importance to the nation that at least $150,000,000 additional be appropriated for the WPA for the current fiscal year.

"It is hard to conceive of the cutting of such an amount from any other of the non-administrative federal expenditures which would wreak so much havoc on the country.

"No other cut in such expenditures, we believe, would damage so many people, adversely affect so many businesses and cause such a blow to the morale of our people."

PREPARE AXE FOR 400,000

Meanwhile, WPA officials revealed that they have been forced to prepare the axe which will fall on 400,000 jobs by April 1 if Congress fails to pass the deficiency appropriation before that date.

The reductions will amount to 36,000 in Pennsylvania, 25,000 in New York City, 34,000 in Illinois, 36,500 in Ohio, 20,000 in Michigan and corresponding slashes in other states.

ECONOMY BLOC EAGER

Reactionaries in the House of Representatives are attempting to whittle twenty-five or fifty million dollars from the President's $150,000,000 deficiency appropriation request. Should they succeed, upwards of 100,000 jobs would be lost.

President Roosevelt told his press conference that he would favor less governmental spending if there were any indication that business would absorb the millions made jobless. There is no such assurance at the present time, he said, and a slash would mean added distress and a setback to the economic machine of the nation.

600 Protest WPA Slash

Des Moines, Ia., Mar. 25—Six hundred people heard 11 speakers protest any slash in the WPA appropriation at a mass meeting arranged by the Des Moines Industrial Union Council.

In addition, the audience passed a resolution condemning any attempt to amend the Wagner Act. Don Harris, director of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, was chairman of the meeting.

Attack On Miss Perkins Proves Dud

Washington, Mar. 25—A Republican-Tory Democrat attempt to embarrass the New Deal by instituting impeachment proceedings against Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins met its death in a House judiciary sub-committee today.

The committee found that there was no evidence to support charges of red-baiting by Congressman J. Parnell Thomas of New Jersey, Republican, that Miss Perkins and her legal staff had acted illegally in the deportation case against Harry Bridges, West Coast CIO director.

USED BY FASCISTS

Thomas, a vocal member of the Dies Committee, had filed an 8,000-word resolution demanding her impeachment. Thomas' statement was reprinted in pamphlet form by the Silver Shirts, a fascist organization.

Miss Perkins and legal authorities in the Labor Department have taken the position that they should await determination of the Strecker case—now under study by the U. S. Supreme Court—before taking any further action against Bridges.

Farm Equipment Workers' Meeting Hears Of Growth

CHICAGO, Mar. 25. — Organizing activities of the Farm Equipment Workers are proceeding with new vigor and confidence following the convention held the early part of the month at union headquarters in Moline, Ill. Delegates from 17 UFEW locals were present.

Reports on past activities and plans for the future were made by local delegates and organizers, with a final and summary report made by Joseph Weber, executive assistant director of the CIO union.

Resolutions were passed at the convention opposing any change in the Wagner Act, supporting President Roosevelt's demand for an additional $150,000,000 WPA appropriation; backing the CIO committee's proposal for peace in the labor movement, and endorsing the Chicago Newspaper Guild strike.

BAN SWIFT PRODUCTS

Meat products of Swift & Co., were declared on the unfair list, and all members were urged to support the union's efforts to win an agreement with the firm.

A constitutional committee of seven, headed by Jerry Fielde, UFEW secretary-treasurer, was set up by the convention to draw up a constitution for the union which will be submitted to the locals for ratification, amendment or rejection.

THREE STAGES

In his summary report, Weber outlined the three stages of the union's development, beginning with the formation of the organizing committee for the farm equipment workers in July 1937 by ten locals of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee in the farm equipment industry.

The second or expansion stage began with the affiliation of the Oliver Local 112 at South Bend, Ind., followed by the appointment of four new organizers by the CIO, the chartering of five new locals, and the affiliation of a number of other locals formerly belonging to other CIO unions.

UNION DEVELOPS

This prepared the way for the third and present stage, Weber reported, the period of development of mass organization with the winning of substantial gains.

Weber predicted that by the time of the next convention, the UFEW will be able to report gains commensurate with the vast size and importance of the farm equipment industry.

Gov. Olson Backs State 'Wagner Act'

Sacramento, Calif., Mar. 25—Gov. Culbert Olson, supporter of liberal policies in a state governed by reactionaries for a score of years, announced today he would ask the state legislature to pass a "baby" Wagner Act.

"There is a most urgent need for a state labor relations act," he said, "and for a mediation authority to deal effectively with state labor problems not falling under the jurisdiction of the National Labor Relations Board.

"I believe we should have such laws. We declared for them in the platform upon which I was elected. I shall urge the legislature to pass such laws."

CIO Chemists Win Closed Shop Pact

SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 25. — The Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists & Technicians, CIO, won a closed shop contract for laboratory workers in the Consolidated Chemical Co. plant here.

The contract negotiations were carried on jointly by the FAECT, the Intl. Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union and the Warehouse Office Employes Union.

Completion of the contract awaits settlement of negotiations on wage increases, which the FAECT has demanded.

Plan Confab

Bridgeport, Conn., Mar. 25—The Bridgeport Industrial Union Council has called a conference of representatives of all CIO unions in the city to review labor's progress and to map plans for future activities.

Prominent leaders in labor, the state and city governments have been invited to address the meeting, which is to be held April 1 at the Stratfield Hotel here.

Labor Unity Parley Resumes

CIO Auto Union Convention To Show Strength

By ROBERT DALE

CLEVELAND, Mar. 27.—Firm in its determination to move forward with the CIO, the United Automobile Workers, second largest CIO affiliate, meets in special convention at the Hollenden Hotel here today. About 500 delegates from all parts of the nation were expected to be in the hall when President R. J. Thomas bangs the gavel starting the sessions. It is the fourth UAW convention.

Locals representing all but a tiny fraction of the UAW membership are represented at Cleveland. Membership of the UAW was placed at 371,000, only a few thousand below the peak figure of 1937 right after the big organizing drive. Of this total all but 15,000 are represented here.

Maintenance of the dues-paying membership at so high a figure was especially noted in the report to the convention of President Thomas, who contrasted it with the mere 30,000 in the union prior to its affiliation with the CIO. The dues-paying membership increased by 39,000 from a year ago.

THOMAS LAUDS CIO

High tribute to the work of the CIO in holding its gains through the 1937-38 depression was paid in the Thomas report. "The American labor movement," Thomas said, "has come through the latest breakdown of American capitalism with its ranks solid, its gains intact and its spirit for new advances unchecked."

Credit for this achievement was given the CIO by Thomas. He said: "The CIO is the strong right arm of American labor ever ready to strike to maintain labor's hard-won gains, ever ready intelligently and aggressively to reach out for new gains."

320 UNION PLANTS

The UAW, Thomas revealed, has under contract 320 auto plants owned by 253 corporations. These contracts have obtained gains for more than half a million workers.

Forecasting a year of progress ahead for the UAW, Thomas said: "We meet in an atmosphere that promises well for the continued growth and health of the organization. The great threat raised by industrial dislocation has been overcome. The puny threat of disruptionists has been defeated in remarkably short time.

"The membership of the UAW has shown that it has the solidarity and the intelligence to proceed to the goal of making the automobile industry of the United States an industry which will lead not only in the volume of its profits and productions and in the superiority of its industrial technics, but also in its securing for its workers a full measure of economic justice and industrial democracy," he added.

Warm praise for the work of the

Continued on page six

Dock Union To Convene April 3

San Francisco, Mar. 25. — The second annual convention of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union opens here Monday, April 3, at Eagles Hall. Delegates from locals with a total membership of more than 33,000 will attend.

Fraternal delegates from other unions have been invited to the Convention, in a letter sent out by Secretary-Treasurer Matt Meehan. They are requested to have the customary credentials of their organization, duplicate copies of which are to be forwarded to the San Francisco or Seattle office of the union.

Textile Workers Plan Convention May 15

NEW YORK, Mar. 25.—Consolidation of the tremendous gains made by the Textile Workers Organizing Committee since its formation less than two years ago, will be the main objective of the union's first constitutional convention, which will open May 15 in Philadelphia.

The official call was issued this week by Sidney Hillman, TWOC chairman and Emil Rieve, vice-chairman.

"The convention, among other things," the union announced, "will consider measures for the consolidation of the tremendous advances in the organization of textile workers during the past two years under the leadership of TWOC and the United Textile Workers of America.

TO UNITE TWOC, UTW

"In furtherance of this objective, a proposal will be submitted to the convention to consolidate TWOC and UTW in order that all organized textile workers may be united in a single permanent organization, democratically controlled under its own constitution and by-laws.

"A convention of the UTW has been called by its international executive council to meet in Philadelphia on the same date, and after proceedings have been taken to consolidate the two organizations they will proceed to unite in a single convention."

Delegates from 32 states representing several hundred thousand textile workers will attend the conventions which will be held at 150 North Broad street, formerly known as the Scottish Rite Temple. Convention headquarters will be at the Hotel Lorraine.

New Orleans CIO Supports Wagner Act

New Orleans, Mar. 25—CIO labor here is taking care that its Senators and Representatives know how it stands on attempts to amend the Wagner Act or interfere with the National Labor Relations Board.

Lewis States CIO Position On Labor Peace

Meet Again

Washington, Mar. 25. — Unity negotiations between the CIO and AFL committees had been resumed in the U. S. Department of Labor, as this issue of The CIO NEWS went to press.

Following a series of conferences in New York, the negotiations were recessed to March 24, to allow the AFL committee to consult the Federation's executive council in the meanwhile.

The AFL council met in Washington on March 22 and 23, to determine its answer to several questions raised by the CIO committee, in regard to the AFL proposal.

JURISDICTIONS

The main question was whether the AFL proposed to readmit the CIO unions which it had ousted, with their present expanded jurisdictions, or whether it would insist on breaking them up to fit into the original AFL pattern.

President William Green announced that the AFL reply would be given to the conference which met on Friday.

CIO PLAN

Under discussion at the unity conferences are the CIO proposal to unite all existing labor organizations in a single American Congress of Labor, and the AFL counter-proposal that negotiations should be resumed at the point where they broke up in December, 1937.

The CIO proposal calls for conventions of the CIO and AFL during April to approve plans for a unity convention. The purpose of this convention would be to form an all-inclusive American Congress of Labor, in which the AFL and CIO would have equal representation on the executive board and the railroad brotherhoods proportionate representation.

CIO's Attitude

New York, Mar. 25.—The CIO has accepted the President's invitation without qualification and will discuss any suggestions for labor unity that may be made at conferences with the A. F. L., but its unions will not let themselves be chopped to pieces as the price of unity, President John L. Lewis, of the CIO declared in a speech before the Tri-District (anthracite) convention of the United Mine Workers of America.

"The great industrial organizations, comprising the CIO, do not propose to dissolve themselves and cut themselves up into a multitude of pieces as the quid pro quo of becoming associated with the AFL," he said.

WON'T SWALLOW POISON

The CIO unions, Lewis added, "will not swallow poison and go off and die merely to please those advocates and supporters of craft unionism who resent the fact that labor has organized through the medium of industrial-union philosophy and intends to continue its work of organization and the attainment of its logical objectives. America needs these unions in the mass-production industry."

The CIO leader struck back vigorously at enemies of the CIO who have been trying to pin a "red" label on it.

"It will not avail for the enemies of labor", he said, "to issue their fulminations against the CIO on the ground that it is less respectable or less virtuous or less sanctimonious than the previously organized AFL.

RAPS RED-BAITERS

"For be it known that the man, whoever he may be, on the street corners, in the counting houses, in the market places, or in the Congress of the United States, who makes the charge that the CIO is an un-American institution that is composed of

Continued on Page Five

Coal Operators Stall On Pact; Anthracite Miners Meet

New York, Mar. 25 — Negotiations for a renewal of the United Mine Workers contract with the bituminous coal operators were marked this week by refusal of the operators to agree to continue the present contract in force, if no agreement is reached by March 31, expiration date.

John L. Lewis, UMWA and CIO president, and Philip Murray, vice-president, charged the operators with "deliberate stalling" and with attempts to force a lockout of the industry's close to 400,000 workers.

REFUTES EMPLOYES

Lewis pointed out that conditions in the industry of which the operators complained were due to their refusal to abide fully by the Guffey Act, which stabilizes marketing and production in the field.

ANTHRACITE MEETING

At the same time he pointed out that the Mine Workers union was today stronger and possessed more resources than ever before, and that its position as the spearhead of a great labor movement made it impregnable in any dispute that might be forced on it.

Speaking at the Anthracite Tri-District convention, which also met in New York this week, Lewis told delegates that labor is the best defense that the democracy and the people of the nation possess.

"There is but one way for the U. S. to remain free from those ailments and malignant diseases which plague most other nations," he said. "That is, that a fair deal be given to the working men and women who must be responsible for the protection of their government."

ASK PAY RAISE

The anthracite miners' committee will ask for the 30-hour week, a $4.62-a-day minimum pay rate and a guarantee of 200 days' work, Pres. Lewis announced. The present contract, which covers 112,000 miners, expires April 30.

In the bituminous coal negotiations the UMWA is asking for a 50 cent raise in daily pay from $6.00 to $6.50 and a reduction in the working week from 35 to 30 hours, with a guarantee of 200 days work per year. The operators have countered with a request for a wage cut to $5.50 per day and an increase in hours to 40 a week.

Oregon Picketing Law Up For Test

PORTLAND, Ore., Mar. 25—Oregon's anti-labor law comes up for a test of its constitutionality before the Circuit Court here on April 3.

Unions throughout the state have been vigorously protesting against the initiative ever since it was passed last November. It so limits the rights of unions to conduct strikes as virtually to outlaw picketing.

Paper Praises 'Congress' Idea

Washington—Typical of the favorable public reaction which has greeted the CIO proposal for uniting AFL, CIO and the railroad brotherhoods in a single American Congress of Labor, is an editorial appearing in the Washington Evening Star.

"The plan offered by the Lewis group must be said to envision unity of labor in its broadest sense," the editorial stated in part.

"It would seem almost axiomatic, therefore, unless there is a conviction within labor that it should or desires to remain split, that the CIO proposal offers a most proper basis for further negotiations.

ROOM FOR CHANGES

"That there may be room for modifications or refinements in this original suggestion looking toward its eventual improvement or to its adaptation to conditions as they are determined in the course of negotiations is quite likely."

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II March 27, 1939 No. 13

Let the Workers Decide

The Wagner Labor Relations Act is based on the proposition that the public welfare can best be promoted by genuine collective bargaining in which workers as well as employers are free to choose representatives who really represent them.

The Wagner act has been notably successful in clearing the way for such collective bargaining, with great benefits to labor, industry and the whole country. But in spite of this, the act is now under serious attack. It has been subjected to a tremendous campaign of hostile propaganda and misrepresentation.

President John L. Lewis of the CIO, writing in Fortune magazine, cuts through the fog created by this propaganda campaign by examining the motives of those who inspire it and by calling attention to the real issues involved.

"The agitation against the act," he says, "comes chiefly from people who are opposed to all genuine collective bargaining, or who seek to use the act as an instrument to promote their narrow special interests at the expense of the general welfare of labor and industry."

The enemies of the act on the employers' side, according to Lewis, are die-hard anti-union industrialists who have resisted the law since its enactment; "professional agitators who make a profitable racket of conducting industrial welfare, ostensibly on the employer's behalf but more often at his expense"; and reactionary politicians "who are willing to seize on any stick to beat the present administration."

Such opposition would have little chance of success, however, Lewis adds, if it were not strengthened by apparent opposition from within the camp of labor.

"This type of opposition," he says, "comes from backward-looking craft-union leaders who oppose the forms of industrial unionism which follow the lines of modern industry, and who are disgruntled at the workers' obvious preference for modern unionism when given a free opportunity to express their choice."

But one thing which all the opponents of the Wagner act have in common is their unwillingness "to allow the workers a free and untrammeled choice of the type of union representation they desire."

"They seek," says Lewis, "to jockey and gerrymander in such a way that workers may have to accept alleged unions which are the employers' choice, or else craft unions which came into being long before the era of modern mass-production industry and are not adapted to cope with its problems."

Democracy demands that the workers themselves be free to choose what type of union best suits their needs, as the present act provides. This is also the only possible basis for real collective bargaining.

That is why all true friends of democracy and collective bargaining are rallying to the defense of the Wagner Act against all proposed amendments.

Unity of All Auto Workers

Ever since the automobile workers began to organize, they have sought the goal of unity in one powerful industrial organization of all workers in their industry.

One of the first tasks undertaken by the CIO was to aid in uniting a number of competing auto unions into a single organization and then to support this organization, the United Automobile Workers of America, in its claim to complete industrial jurisdiction, which was denied by the AFL.

The UAWA succeeded splendidly, with CIO assistance, in establishing itself as the one union for all auto workers. Following the CIO principle of industrial organization, it went from success to success in organizing the auto industry.

The UAWA triumphed over dual unionism. It triumphed over AFL craft division. It triumphed over union-fighting employers. But the toughest enemy with which it has had to contend has been division within its own ranks.

And now, with the Cleveland convention of the UAWA, the ground is prepared for a triumph over this enemy of internal dissension.

The attempt of Homer Martin to lead some deluded followers into a little breakaway dual union may prove a blessing in disguise. For it automatically cuts off from the UAWA the elements which have been most responsible for internal troubles.

The auto workers need and desire above all unity in a single industrial union. Martin's breakaway has been repudiated by such an overwhelming majority of the workers, that the UAWA can now go forward from its Cleveland convention as the one real union for the industry—drawing back those workers who have been tricked into leaving and proceeding to its goal of complete organization of all automobile workers.

A Goal Worth Shooting For

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Frey and the Ritz Brothers

THE Three Ritz Brothers better watch out for John P. Frey. He's on their trail.

Anyone could see that the four Marx Brothers have something to do with Marx. But it has taken a Frey to snoop out the redness that hides behind the bourgeois name of Ritz.

All the other boys and girls went to the movies to laugh or hold hands when the Ritz brothers played in "The Three Musketeers." But not John P. Frey.

He just sat and smelt for Reds. Until his great moment came!

All the other boys and girls snickered when the Ritz brothers clowned around shouting, "All for one, one for all." But not John P. Frey.

He just sat bolt upright and looked over the audience to see if anyone should give the high sign or answer, "Howdy, comrades," to the Red Ritzes.

For Frey had made a great discovery. One of those chaps who usually sell strangers such items as the Brooklyn Bridge had sold him an important clue. Through it he hoped to uncover, not a few hundred or thousand Reds, but literally millions of them.

What Nobody Knew

Here's Frey's secret — the thing that nobody knew. If you study it closely, you too may become a great detective and sniffer-outer of Reds — if the booby natch does not close too soon on your promising career.

All the other boys and girls thought that "All for one, one for all"—the slogan of the Three Musketeers—was just a harmless sentence from the novel by Alexander Dumas. They thought it was as much commonplace in the lingo of labor unions and most other organizations as "United we stand, divided we fall." But not John P. Frey.

He'd been told by the same fellow who tried to sell him the Brooklyn Bridge that, "All for one, one for all," was a secret slogan of the Communists whereby they identify themselves to each other when they address meetings.

His Great Moment

Since thus identifying the Ritz Brothers, Frey has gone from triumph to triumph with the aid of the above simple formula.

He has been able to prove—to his own, if nobody else's satisfaction — that everyone is a Communist who does not believe in the counter-slogan of the rugged individualists, "Every man for himself."

But Frey's supreme moment came when he saw in The CIO NEWS a cartoon of the Three Musketeers, with their slogan under it. He immediately got off a release to the press, referring to this cartoon as proof that the CIO proposal for a united labor movement was all a Communist plot!

A Well-Guarded Secret

Despite this release, Frey's great discovery has remained a well-kept secret until this day.

The reason is that most reporters are kindly fellows.

When a big politician or captain of industry says, "Me and them like me thinks this here Wagner Act is lousy," that's not what you read in the papers. The considerate reporters draw a veil over the great man's grammar and write something like this:

"The National Labor Relations Act is detrimental to industry and wholly unfair in its administration," said Mr. Highcockalorum.

So when Frey tried to take the whole world into his confidence about the Three Musketeers and their slogan, the papers kindly ignored his bid for the booby hatch.

The press all over the country carried stories about Frey's charge that the CIO plan for labor unity was "Communist-inspired." But hardly a paper mentioned his tommy-rot "proof" about the cartoon and the musketeers' slogan.

There may be a personal angle in Frey's picking on the Ritz brothers. He's something of a clown himself. But he favors the dead-pan technique of a Buster Keaton, when he springs his funny "red scares," rather than the smirks and contortions of the Ritzes.

A Serious Purpose

But whatever Frey's personal motives when he carries red-baiting to its most ludicrous extremes, those who encourage his buffoonery have a definite purpose of their own.

It is part of a deliberate propaganda campaign to smear a red label on the CIO. No serious charge of this character against a great American movement of millions of working people can stand the light of investigation. But any ridiculous claim is good enough to get a newspaper headline with the words "red" and "CIO" close together. And it is the repetition of such headlines that creates the desired impression in the minds of the unthinking.

There is more than this, however, to Frey's clowning. His latest and funniest offering was carefully timed to do the maximum of damage to the unity negotiations between CIO and AFL.

Opposed to unity are some craft-bound labor bureaucrats, union-hating employers, reactionary politicians and others of this ilk. These applaud and egg on Frey in his buffoonery. But the rest of the public emphatically prefer the Ritz brothers.

AFL Typo Union Vice-President Defends Act

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Mar. 25.—Unqualified opposition to amendments to the Wagner Act is expressed by F. G. Barrett, first vice-president of the Intl. Typographical Union in the current issue of the ITU journal.

"Personally, the writer feels that the Act should not be tampered with in any way at this time," Barrett declared. "Every effort to amend should be defeated. To open up the Act for amendments will be the signal for a deluge of changes whose purpose will be, in the majority of cases, designed to destroy rather than improve it.

"Both labor and industry have a fair conception of its operations and while there may be some inequalities, they do not begin to offset the inequalities and the injustices under which labor suffered for so many years.

"Local unions, typographical conferences, Allied Printing Trades Councils and central trades and labor councils should adopt resolutions against amending the Act at this time, and forward same to your senators and representatives as quickly as possible."

5,000 AFL Metal Workers Condemn Amendments

NEW YORK, Mar. 25.—Five thousand AFL metal workers in the Brooklyn Metal Trades Council joined the growing number of Federation members who have condemned attempts to destroy the Wagner Act by amendments.

The Council, which has 18 affiliated AFL craft unions in its membership, sent a strongly worded resolution and letter to President Green rebuking him for sponsoring Senator Walsh's proposed amendments to the Act, and urged the national leadership of the AFL to disavow all attempts to cripple the Act.

Any amendments to the Act at this time, the Council told Green, would have the effect of "playing right into the hands of those persons who have traditionally fought the AFL and its affiliated unions.

RAP WALSH BILL

"Our organization is particularly opposed to the amendments introduced by Senator Walsh of Massachusetts because past experience has shown that by giving the courts practically full control over the interpretation and administration of the Act, it will be turned into a law that will be used against labor," the letter said.

"It is our firm belief that by indirectly giving the courts power to determine jurisdictional questions, which has always been the prerogative of the AFL, it works against the best interests of our affiliated membership.

'SET US BACK YEARS'

"In view of the aforementioned, our Council, representing 5,000 members, feels that any amendments at this time will only help labor's enemies cut the heart out of labor's magna charta, and set us back many years.

"We hope the Executive Council will change its stand and fight any amendments to the Act this time."

CIO Head Raps Tory War On Act

New York, Mar. 27.—Motives of the real forces behind the present attack on the Wagner Act must be examined to understand fully how great a menace the attack is to organized labor and to democracy, John L. Lewis writes in an article in Fortune magazine released today.

The sources of the attack are in two main divisions, Lewis points out — certain die-hard Tory employers who have tried to block the Act from the beginning, and equally die-hard Tory leaders in the camp of labor.

"The only sound basis for orderly and peaceful labor relations is properly conducted collective bargaining," Lewis begins. "If this is to function effectively, the workers must be represented by responsible organizations which are their free choice and are capable of speaking for them with authority.

PURPOSE OF THE ACT

"The purpose of the National Labor Relations Act is to make possible such genuine collective bargaining, in the public interest. Its task has not been an easy one. But nevertheless measurable progress has been made in this direction in the last few years.

"All of such progress is now greatly threatened by the present campaign to amend and undermine the Act."

This campaign, Lewis shows, comes from employers "who refuse to admit the inevitability and the desirability of collective bargaining under modern industrial conditions in a democracy.

"Employers of this stamp have resisted the law since its enactment. They now seek to upset it entirely, thus penalizing more enlightened employers who have accepted the law and adusted their personnel matters accordingly."

AFL Local Leaders Help Defend Act

Washington, Mar. 25—Officers of three large AFL local unions have joined with a number of prominent Washington citizens in calling a conference to "preserve the social gains and protect the rights of labor embodied in the Wagner Labor Relations Act."

Lewis Tells CIO Stand On Unity

Continued from page three

Communists and has a leadership responsive to Communist principles, that man is a knave, a liar and a poltroon.

"And that statement is just as broad as a barn door and just as high as a church steeple, so that it will take in anyone who may come within its scope."

While emphasizing the sincere desire of the CIO for real labor unity, Lewis warned that if the AFL leaders reject unity and continue to harass the CIO unions, the CIO may have to change its present attitude.

"If peace with the AFL comes, well and good," he said. "Labor will be the beneficiary and the country will have reason to rejoice.

IF PEACE FAILS

"If peace upon an honorable and reasonable basis fails to come from these conferences, then the CIO will change its policy. Its policy has been one that has been merely defensive in its attitude toward the AFL.

"The CIO did not start out to reorganize the organized. It started out to organize the unorganized. The CIO has not struck back from the foul blows delivered to it by the AFL. It has not organized unions to absorb existing unions of the AFL. But the AFL now is organizing unions to absorb the unions in the CIO.

"Even in our own industry the AFL has chartered a puny little sickly group in the mining industry to try to destroy the United Mine Workers of America.

COULD HURT ENEMIES

"Well, the CIO will not long tolerate that policy, because the CIO is capable of doing more than merely defending itself. The CIO is capable of inflicting injury upon an adversary.

"The day will come when patience will cease to be a virtue, and those who are now enjoying themselves in the AFL in vile, lying attacks upon the CIO's integrity and its policies and in harassing its existing organizations may well look forward to the day when they will be fully occupied at home, because that day will come if peace comes not."

Labor Protests Postpone Act Hearings Again

WASHINGTON, Mar. 25. — Organized labor and liberal protests again brought a halt to the Tory attempt to rush hearings on Wagner Act amendments this week, with the announcement that the Senate Labor and Education Committee would postpone setting a date for another week.

Senator Elbert D. Thomas, chairman of the Committee, announced that hearings were held off in the interests of the CIO-AFL negotiations for unity. He said that a large number of messages had been received from CIO and AFL unions demanding delay in the hearings and expressing opposition to amendments.

The committee vote, which was unanimous for futher delay, came after a wire from Philip Murray, CIO vice-president, in which Murray urged no hearings "at least until after the two peace committees have had further opportunity to explore the possibility of unifying the house of labor.

"I feel as a member of the peace committee that hearings at this time would definitely hamper whatever chances there are of working out a solution of the CIO-AFL controversy."

MURRAY SPEAKS

Vice President Philip Murray also addressed the anthracite miners convention, tracing the growth and achievements of the CIO, which he said had increased the purchasing power of the nation by nearly five billion dollars through wage increases.

The Steel Workers Organizing Committee of the CIO, Murray said, has established 1400 lodges and negotiated 582 collective bargaining agreements resulting in annual wage increases of $300,000,000, and similar advances have been made in other industries.

"The CIO has furnished the only resistance against the onslaughts that might have been conducted by manufacturers on wages and employment," Murray said. "The CIO stopped wage slashes in 1938."

BOSSES BUSY TOO

But the bosses are busy too, Senator Thomas indicated. He showed reporters another pile of wires from chambers of commerce, members of the National Manufacturers Assn., and other anti-union employers' groups. This pile was alarmingly big—almost equal to that from the CIO.

"There is being developed pressure by the Manufacturers Assn. to open the whole field," Thomas said.

This was taken to indicate a change in the line of the NAM, which previously felt that President Green and other top leaders of the AFL could carry the ball for the employers who want the Act destroyed. It showed that refusal of AFL unions to fall in line with Green's proposals was also having its effect in forcing anti-labor employers to apply their own pressure direct.

BURKE APPEAL FAILS

Another development reported by Senator Thomas was the response to Senator Burke's recent radio appeal for wires to the committee in favor of amendments. Burke, of Nebraska, has been the most outspoken enemy of the Act in Congress to date. So far this response has been meager, Thomas said, but the whole campaign to speed hearings and to emasculate the Act has been stepped up to a considerable degree.

CIO unions and AFL locals and internationals who oppose changes in the Act are urged to keep up the barrage on the committee, which meets again Tuesday, March 28.

Ask The Man Who Carries One - -

And you'll find that the reason for this picket line is anti-union practices in the Gussow-Kahn Advertising Agency in New York. Members of the American Advertising Guild, CIO affiliate, picketed the swanky shop of Best & Co., client of the ad agency, with placards carrying some of the swankiest slogans yet seen in a labor dispute.

LaFollette Group Hits Use of Munitions

Corporations' Arms Cause Violence, Report Says

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, Mar. 25.—Employers who prefer the law of the jungle to the law of the land in dealing with their workers received added condemnation today as the Senate Civil Liberties Committee filed its report on industrial munitions.

"The possession and use of industrial munitions by employers is the logical end of a labor-relations policy based on non-recognition of unions—in opposition to the spirit of the national labor laws," the report declared.

"The principal purpose of such weapons is aggression. Their use results only in violence, embitters industrial relations and hampers peaceful settlement of industrial disputes."

A JOINT PROBLEM

The committee — composed of Senators Elbert Thomas and Robert LaFollette—advised no specific legislation to deal with corporation armaments alone. Regulation, it suggested, should consider munitions as "a part of the evils of the system of professional strike-guards and private police, since all three spring fundamentally from a hostility to the principles of collective bargaining."

Private persons who are apt to be involved in industrial disputes, however, "should be prohibited from possessing weapons, such as machine and submachine guns and offensive chemical weapons" which should be confined to the use of public authorities, the committee asserted.

In studying a group of selected corporations, the committee said it found that the commoner types of firearms were stored in "surprising large quantities," and that these same corporations maintained "'strike-preparedness' arsenals on a vast scale."

LOTS OF SALES

In the period between January, 1933, and June, 1937, some 80 corporations bought tear and sickening gas, and gas equipment, worth $490,598.93. The 80 corporations each purchased more than $1,000 worth of the material.

Another 115 companies, whose purchases ranged between $300 and $1,000 apiece, threw $57,532.19 into the industrial munitions pot.

Tom Girdler's Republic Steel Corp. — as might be expected—was the largest single buyer during the four and a half year period. The company paid out $79,712.42 for this purpose.

Other large purchasers included: U. S. Steel, $62,028.12; Bethlehem Steel, $36,173.69; Youngstown Sheet & Tube, $28,358.39; General Motors, $24,626.78; and Goodyear Tire & Rubber, $16,912.58.

MUNITIONS SUPPLY

During the Little Steel strike, when Girdler was crying of his defenselessness at the hands of "armed workers", Republic possessed "52 revolvers, 64 rifles with 1,325 rounds of ammunition, 245 shotguns with 5,784 rounds of shotgun shells, 143 gas guns with 4,033 gas projectiles and 2,707 gas grenades."

Youngstown had on hand "453 revolvers, 369 rifles, 190 shotguns and eight machine guns. These machine guns were not sub-machine guns but regular army model Colt and Lewis weapons." For these machine guns the company had built up a magazine of 40,000 rounds of ammunition.

Gas munitions—tear gas, vomit gas and others — are sold almost exclusively to public law enforcement agencies and private business concerns, the report said, "while approximately one-half of the sales of gas weapons ... goes to industrial employers."

The committee tossed into the wastebasket employers' arguments that these munitions are kept to protect private property from thieves or marauders.

"On the contrary," the senators said, "the character of the weapons purchased, the quantities kept on hand, the dates of purchase, the elements of their typical use in strike situations all indicate that such weapons are designed to be and are so used by agents of the employer against strikers, pickets, or other such groups of people."

The committee struck a blow at the whole theory of private armaments on the big scale used by the nation's larger corporations.

"The power and duty to maintain order and to control assemblages of people, it seems needless to say, properly reside only in public authority," the report noted.

"The idea that any corporation or individual can with force seek to determine the outcome of a labor controversy is repugnant; the possession of industrial munitions such as tear and sickening gas and machine guns, endowing the possessor with a degree of power sufficient to prevent the exercise of the right of free assembly, is in opposition to established public policy."

UNIONS DON'T BUY THEM

No record exists of any purchase of tear gas by a labor organization, the report said in answering the arguments of those industrialists who cloak their armaments in a slogan of "self-defense." Resort to arms by a workman, the committee asserted, is a "rare occurrence," though it disclosed that "in one or two cases there seems to have been a concerted resort to arms in response to the use of arms by agents of the employers."

The study of the industrial munitions traffic revealed that corporation owners frequently have the armaments of public law enforcement agencies used in their behalf.

"Reduced to its simplest terms," the committee charged, "police officials are armed by one side of an industrial dispute for the purpose of having them use the arms against the other.

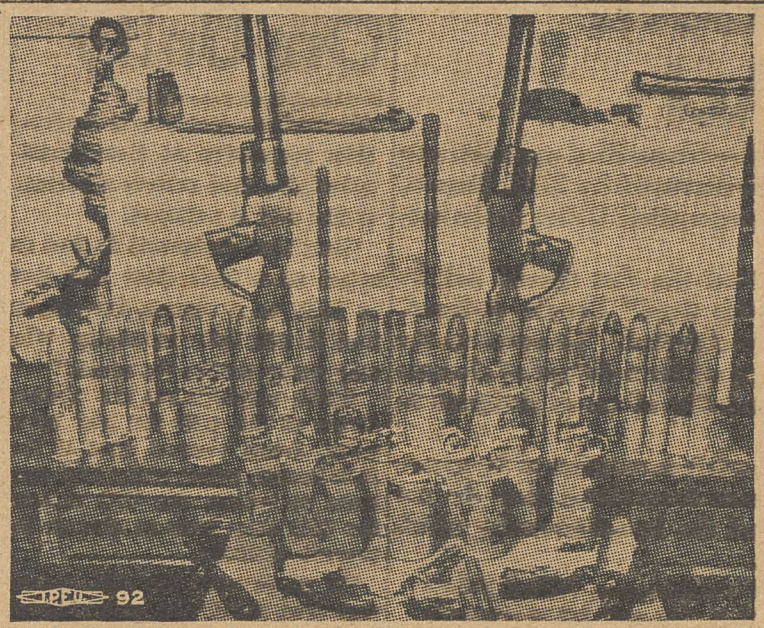
"Such private subsidization of public authority, occurring during a strike period, is at best of doubtful propriety. In one instance, examined by the committee, the acceptance of such arms was . . . an essential element in a scheme to break a strike in a donor's plant."

Principal caterers to the munitions appetite of anti-labor corporation heads are Federal Laboratories, the Lake Erie Chemical Co. and the Manville Manufacturing Corp.

ENJOY VIOLENCE

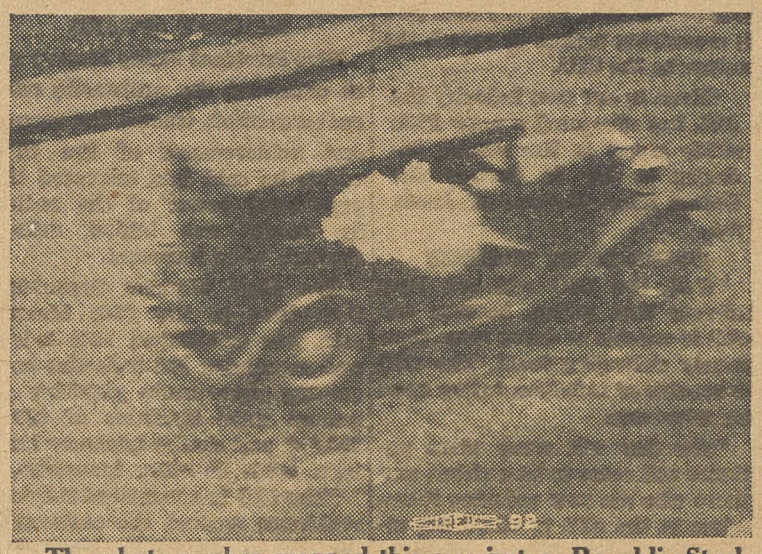
A letter from a California salesman for one of the munitions companies declared in part:

"Wish a hell of a strike would get under way. . . I hope that this strike develops and matures and that it will be a damn bad one; we need the money. . . . We are surrounded with strikes, but they are all too peaceful for me . . . I think someone should get out a restraining order on the President of the United States to prevent him from stopping all these strikes. It seems to me that his actions are absolutely in restraint of trade—that is, as far as we are concerned."



Industrialists who fight the Wagner Act seem to prefer the type of collective bargaining symbolized above. These weapons were taken from the car of some Republic Steel private cops during a strike at Canton, Ohio, in 1935.

Guards In Action



The photographer snapped this one just as Republic Steel guards fired a tear gas bomb towards workers during the 1935 strike at Canton, Ohio.

Auto Union Convention to Show Strength

Continued from page three

CIO in helping the UAW overcome internal difficulties and rid the union of dual unionists was voiced by the Thomas report.

That the UAW is and has been affiliated with the CIO since 1935 was cited by Thomas who quoted official resolutions and other action to that effect.

Thomas reviewed the internal problems caused by the rule or ruin policy of former president Homer Martin, who was tried and ousted by the executive board a week ago, and told of the UAW-CIO triumph over Martin's dual union policy. He told of secret financing of Martin by some unknown source in New York and of the latter's attempted sell-out of the UAW to the Ford Motor Co.

ATTACKS FORD

Initiation of an immediate "Ford Unfair to Labor" drive on a national scale with CIO cooperation was proposed to the convention by Thomas. He pointed out the CIO resolution adopted at Pittsburgh last November merely threatened to start such a campaign, yet even the threat has pushed Ford sales to third place among the big three.

Declaring that Ford's labor policies are rotten to the core, Thomas said that the machinery for a tremendous campaign of education among the labor and middle classes is being set up. He said that Ford workers are eager for unionism and urged an organization drive at the same time as the "Ford Unfair to Labor" campaign.

AFL Backs Probe

Washington, Mar. 25—The AFL Executive Council, meeting here, took time out from considerations of unity negotiations with the CIO to endorse the work of the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee and to urge its continuance.

The Result ---

Charles Minor, striker, being examined by friends after one of the tear gas bombs fired by a Republic Steel guard had struck him in the face.

Charge U.S. Officials Wink at Lawbreaking By Shipowners

NEW YORK, Mar. 25. — Secretary of Commerce Harry Hopkins was asked today to probe enforcement—or lack of it—of the eight-hour law for seamen as applied to licensed officers and engineers.

Edward P. Trainer, business manager of Local 33 of the Marine Engineers Beneficial Association, CIO affiliate, in a letter to Hopkins cited several flagrant cases of "extraordinary lenience" on the part of the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation in dealing with shipowner violations of the law.

He said that the Bureau is sabotaging the law by refusing to prosecute violations and refusing to collect fines when the violations are proved.

12 OUT OF 106

In the last report of the bureau's director, Trainer charged, out of 106 violations recorded, "fines were collected in only 12 cases and six were against the same company.

"These fines totaled but $425, although the fine set in the law is $500 for each violation. The usual fine, when one is levied is $25—which can hardly be said to have a deterring effect even when the company is forced to pay it.

"Many fines have been remitted for strange reasons. Others were simply not collected."

CUT TO 4%

A fine of $27,000 levied against the American South African line for a violation aboard the S. S. Atlantic was cut to $1,100—and then never collected.

Six charges against the American Merchant lines for violations aboard the S. S. American Traveler were dropped because "there may be more violations."

The 8-hour statute is part of Public Law 808. Congress authorized an appropriation for the enforcement of the act, but, according to Trainer, regular bureau inspectors are used and are paid out of Bureau funds.

Split Attempt Failure In Farm Union

Washington, Mar. 25—Attempts of the executive board of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union to pull the membership away from the CIO Cannery and Agricultural Workers have been a failure, Donald Henderson, president, indicated here.

Reports from two of the three states where the STFU has organizations show that members in Missouri and Oklahoma have unanimously rejected the executive board's withdrawal from the CIO international. Both have voted in convention to stay in the international.

The attempted break-away resulted from the refusal of STFU officers to observe the international constitution, and came after they rejected a three-point plan of settlement offered by the CIO and accepted by the international.

Nominated

William O. Douglas, 40-year-old head of the Securities & Exchange Commission, who has been named to the U. S. Supreme Court to fill the seat left vacant by the resignation of Justice Brandeis. He is expected to take a liberal view on social issues.

Calls For Stop 'Hitler' Protest

New York, Mar. 25—John Brophy, national director of the CIO, has endorsed the "Stop Hitler" demonstration called by the American Council to Combat Nazi Invasion.

"The barbarities of the Nazi invasion of peaceful nations, together with the cruelties inflicted on workers, Jews, Catholics and other sections of the German and European people are condemned by every civilized person," he said.

"The lights of freedom are being extinguished in Europe, not only by the savagery of Hitler, but by the criminal aid given him by reactionaries in power in other European nations.

"Our country has given a lead in the cause of world resistance to Nazism. We must follow this up with the widest popular action against Hitler we can assemble."

Marine Union To Honor Sea Heroes

NEW YORK, Mar. 25.—Heroism shown by members of the National Maritime Union in sea disasters and rescues will be appropriately honored by the NMU according to a plan announced this week by President Joseph Curran.

Medals will be struck off for presentation to each man exhibiting unusual bravery in sea rescues or crises, and a scroll is to be prepared at the union headquarters on which members named will be inscribed.

Curran said that nearly all the East coast seamen who have been cited for bravery in several spectacular rescues at sea in recent months have been members of the union.

"We feel that it is time that the union itself took steps to recognize the outstanding bravery of the men who effected these rescues," Curran said, adding however, that the union did not contend that "these men are unusual in the NMU", as 99 out of a 100 seamen would do the same things if they were placed in similar positions.

PART OF TRADITION

"No one is more surprised, probably, than the seaman himself when it turns out that he is a hero. To him his act was routine, in line with his duty. Rescues are a part of sea tradition," Curran said.

Recent rescues in which members of the NMU took part were cited by the NMU president:

October 2, 1938, eight members of the American Banker crew in a lifeboat, took off the crew of the schooner Pioneer in heavy seas south of the coast of Nova Scotia. The men were John Ponchane, boss'n; Arne Raaos and James Weiss, quartermasters; William Evans, George Halpin, Alex Craig and Olin Minott, able seamen; and Hans Hansen, fire watchmen.

DIVED OVERBOARD

In November, Clark Wyly, able seaman on the American Republic's liner Uruguay, dived overboard in the harbor of Rio de Janeiro to rescue a drowning longshoreman.

December 13, six members of the American Farmer crew in a lifeboat rescued a crew of seven from the Nova Scotia schooner Fieldwood, 200 miles southeast of Halifax. The rescuers were Roderic Emmons, William Nixon, Nathan Liberman, Timothy Moriarity, Philip Babcock, and Donald G. Forbes.

SAVED 13

December 23, an NMU lifeboat crew from the freighter Schodack took 13 men off the Norwegian freighter Smaragd, foundering in heavy seas 600 miles southeast of New York. The five seamen who received medals from the Life Saving Benevolent Assn. were Andrew Rosses, Joseph Lefthouse, Edward Sturkin, Olav Halle and Trygve Tjemme.

About midnight on January 21, a boat crew including six unlicensed members of the Esso Baytown crew picked up the survivors from the sunken Bermuda seaplane Cavalier, 200 miles off New Jersey. They were Tom Brady, John Thomaschek, Howell Smith and John T. Goodwin, able seamen; Joseph Minor, boss'n, and Stanley Taylor, ordinary seaman.

Most of those named have already received medals and money awards from organizations outside the union.

Transit Parleys Start

New York, Mar. 25—Negotiations were under way today for the renewal of the contract between the Transport Workers Union and the Interborough Rapid Transit Corp., operator of elevated, street car and subway lines in four New York boroughs.

A 90-day extension of the present closed shop contract is due to expire March 31. TWU officials said they will seek "adjustments upward in wages and other working conditions."

Recommend Textile Pay Rate of 32½c

WASHINGTON, Mar. 25.—With the approval of its labor members, the wage-hour industry committee for textiles today recommended a minimum hourly pay rate of 32½c an hour for the 600,000 wage earners in the industries under the committee's jurisdiction.

The committee vote was 13—6 for the recommendation, with the six dissenters holding that the proposed wage rate was too high, it was learned here.

If Wage-Hour Administrator Elmer F. Andrews accepts the committee report, some 120,000 workers will receive pay raises, the economic section of the wage-hour division estimated.

NO DIFFERENTIAL

Significantly, the recommendation contains no provision for a lower southern preferential. During NRA days, a rate of 32½c was established in the north, while southern employers were forced to pay only 30c an hour.

Industries affected include the manufacture of cotton, silk, rayon and synthetic yarns and fabrics, excluding knitted fabrics.

Plan Annual Picnic

Harrisburg, Pa., Mar. 25—The Broad Top Miners' Picnic Association of the United Mine Workers of America will hold its fourth annual gathering at Broad Top, Pa., August 18 and 19.

The gigantic two-day picnic is sponsored by the ten local unions of the Broad Top coal field. A general invitation is extended to everybody in the communities in which the ten local unions assure their friends a fine celebration.

Mine Leaders Meet

Executives of all districts of the United Mine Workers meet for a conference in New York City during the course of Appalachian contract negotiations. Pres. John L. Lewis is seated at the far end of the table.

Quash Try To Scuttle U. S. Housing

Washington, Mar. 25—Tory attempts to scuttle the U. S. housing program were set back by the overwhelming defeat of a proposed amendment to limit the over-all cost on houses to $3500 in Congress this week.

The amendment, sponsored by enemies of the New Deal and of the entire housing program, would have effectively crippled the U. S. Housing Authority if it had passed.

The CIO Committee on Housing, headed by Michael Quill, chairman, and Anthony Wyne Smith, secretary, was principally active in organizing the opposition from labor and other sources that forced the defeat of the proposal.

Newspaper Guild Wins Wilkes-Barre Strike

Lewis Helps Settle 6-Month Walkout

WILKES-BARRE, Pa.—Mar. 25.—The 26-week strike of the Wilkes-Barre Newspaper Guild against three local dailies came to an end here as strikers overwhelmingly accepted an agreement arranged by leaders of the Guild and the CIO.

President John L. Lewis of the CIO, Secretary-Treasurer Thomas Kennedy of the United Mine Workers and John Kmetz, UMW international board member from this area, assisted union leaders in the negotiations and helped arrange the settlement.

Conferences were switched to New York from Wilkes-Barre after several parleys here had proved fruitless, due to publishers' stalling. Lewis, though busy with coal contract negotiations and labor peace meetings, found time to give his services to the strike settlement discussions.

Resumption of publication of the three papers will be delayed, however, until the managements reach an agreement with the AFL printers' and pressmen's unions, whose contracts with the papers have expired.

FORTY-HOUR WEEK

The agreement covers employes in the editorial, commercial and advertising departments of the three papers. It provides for the five-day, 40-hour week to go into effect next Labor Day, severance pay running up to 20 weeks after 19 years of service, the Guild shop for all employes excepting a few relatives of the publishers, and arbitration of wage increase demands.

Previous to the final negotiations the publishers had offered what union leaders called a "substandard" contract with a "take-it-or-leave-it" attitude. When the strikers "left it" the publishers' representatives walked out of the conferences.

NO PAPERS PUBLISHED

During the entire six month period, the city was deprived of local dailies. The Guild organized its own news collecting service and broadcast items nightly.

The owner of a Sunday paper which had also been struck on October 1 signed with the Guild several weeks ago.

Clam Workers Get Raise In CIO Pact

Seattle, Wash., Mar. 25—Eighteen hundred clam workers in the Gray's Harbor area near here won 5c an hour increases as Local 7 of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers signed a new contract with employers here.

The pay lifts set new minimum rates of 45c an hour for women and 55c an hour for men. The eight-hour day and the preferential shop were other gains won in the pact.

The clam industry was set to start on March 2. No one went to work, however, until March 21, the day after the contract was signed. Refusal of the workers to start the job before negotiations were completed was one of the main factors in winning the new benefits, union leaders said.

Insurance Local Wins Election

Philadelphia, Mar. 25—The Insurance Guild, CIO union, swept to an easy 108-11 victory in a Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board election held at the Sun Life Insurance Co. here.

As a result the Guild, which forms Local 22 of the United Office and Professional Workers, won sole collective bargaining rights for the company's 123 industrial insurance agents and clerks in the Philadelphia office.

The local, organized for 18 months, has previously won substantial pay increases, improved working conditions and greater job security.

Guild Refuses Hearst Demand Of 'Surrender'

CHICAGO, Mar. 25.—Negotiations between the management of the two Hearst papers and striking members of the Chicago Newspaper Guild came to an abrupt end here when the publishers insisted upon the dropping of all Guild demands as a basis for settlement of the 16-week strike.

The publishers of the American and Herald-Examiner took the position that they would refuse to negotiate unless the Guild dropped all its demands. If the Guild agreed to this virtual surrender, the Hearst representatives said, they would then be willing to negotiate as to how many of the 600 strikers might get their jobs back.

A derisive "NO" was the union's reply.

As the Guild redoubled its efforts to push the strike to a final victory, records showed that union pressure had cut the two papers' advertising totals by 1,670,731 lines since December 1.

OTHER PAPERS GAINED

This figure, strike committee leaders said, was all the more impressive because every other Chicago paper has increased its amount of advertising space during the same period.

"If the second half of March compares favorably with the first, from our point of view, then Media Records (advertising statistical service) should be the management's 'handwriting on the wall.'

"The strike will continue to go on—till the signature of the Hearst management is on the dotted line."

THUGS BUSY AGAIN

The committee reported that Hearst thugs were back at their old tricks. C. E. Elliott, striking branch circulation manager, was knocked unconscious by two of the Hearst goons as he left his car to enter Garfield Park Hospital to visit his wife.

GUILD DEMANDS

In its negotiations with the management, the Guild had called for an end to the threat of company unionism; a Guild shop contract covering all white collar workers in the editorial and commercial departments; limitation of the firing powers of management, with consultation with the Guild before discharges; rehiring of strikers without loss of service or position and full back pay for the time lost during the strike; discharge of strikebreakers; dropping of legal action against the Guild and compliance with a National Labor Relations Board intermediate report which ordered the management to cease and desist its Guild-busting tactics.

The management showed willingness to abide only by the last two of the demands. Union negotiators replied that the Hearst office was not even negotiable.

Race-Baiters, Labor Haters Birds Of A Feather

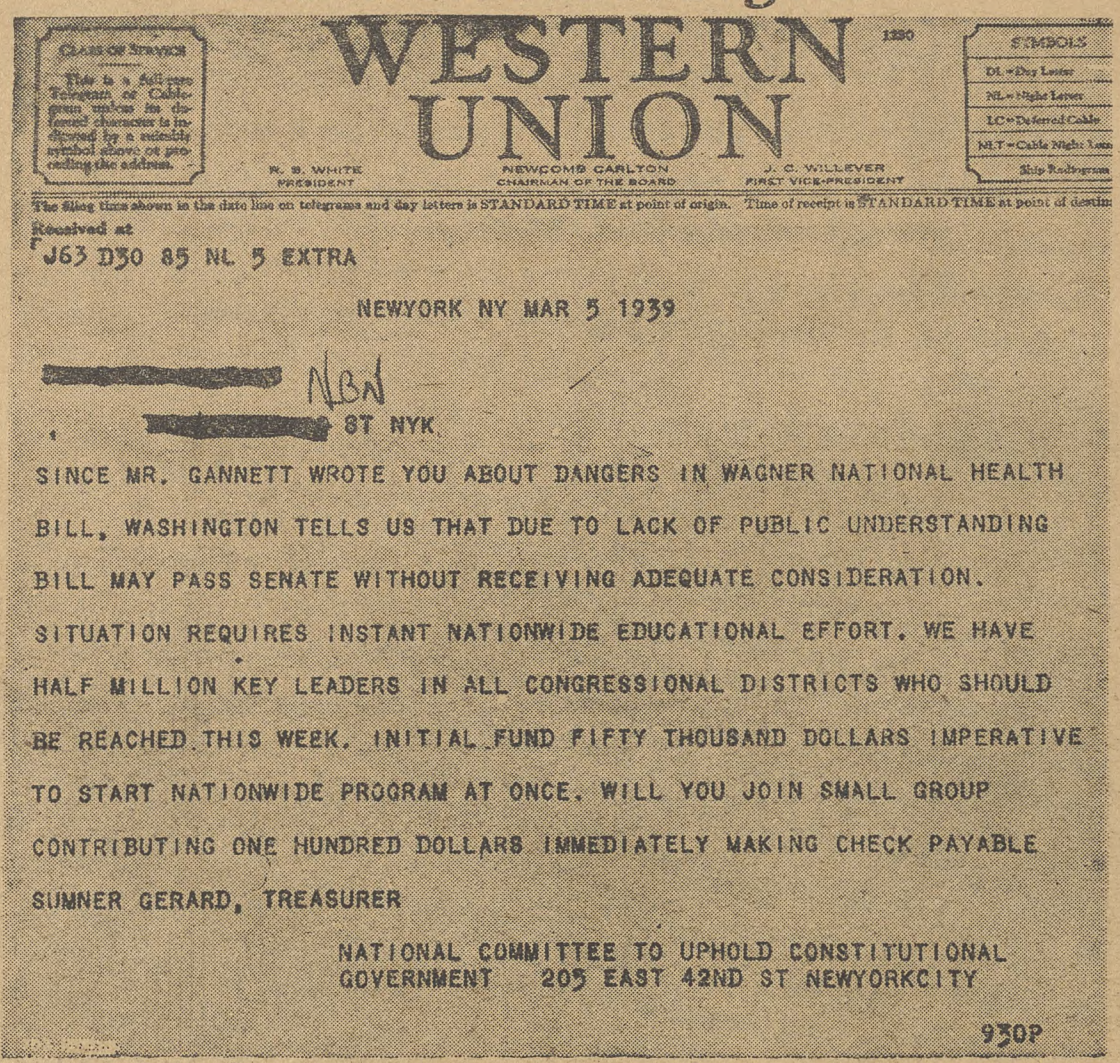
New York, Mar. 25.—Scratch a race baiter and you will find a labor hater under the skin, Gerald J. McLellan says in an article appearing in the current issue of the Transport Bulletin, official organ of the Transport Workers Union, CIO.

Preachers of the doctrine of hate against minority groups are flourishing in a score of industrial centers throughout America, McLellan declares.

"What better means to divide workers, and what better means to nullify the fruits of President Roosevelt's progressive legislation than to foment national race hatreds, using as a backdrop to the base campaign the hysteria of brutal persecution of minorities which is now sweeping middle Europe?"

Pointing out that no free labor movement, no bona fide trade unions exist in the countries where race persecution is raging, McLellan says, "it is not our ancestors they are after, but our closed shop, vacations, sick-leave, holidays, higher pay and our freedom."

Gannett At It Again



WESTERN UNION

W. B. WHITE, PRESIDENT — NEWCOMB CARLTON, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD — J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message or cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

SYMBOLS
DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

Received at

J63 D30 85 NL 5 EXTRA

NEWYORK NY MAR 5 1939

NBN

ST NYK

SINCE MR. GANNETT WROTE YOU ABOUT DANGERS IN WAGNER NATIONAL HEALTH BILL, WASHINGTON TELLS US THAT DUE TO LACK OF PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING BILL MAY PASS SENATE WITHOUT RECEIVING ADEQUATE CONSIDERATION. SITUATION REQUIRES INSTANT NATIONWIDE EDUCATIONAL EFFORT. WE HAVE HALF MILLION KEY LEADERS IN ALL CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS WHO SHOULD BE REACHED THIS WEEK. INITIAL FUND FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS IMPERATIVE TO START NATIONWIDE PROGRAM AT ONCE. WILL YOU JOIN SMALL GROUP CONTRIBUTING ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS IMMEDIATELY MAKING CHECK PAYABLE SUMNER GERARD, TREASURER

NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO UPHOLD CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT 205 EAST 42ND ST NEWYORKCITY

930P

Frank Gannett, New York state newspaper publisher and foe of New Deal policies, is on the Tory warpath again. This time he's fighting the Wagner health bill, backed by the CIO and aimed to bring medical care to millions in the low income group. Gannett wants his friends to kick in $100 apiece to help make good health a privilege of the rich alone.

Mine Union Re-Elects Officers

Washington—Results of the referendum election for officers of the United Mine Workers of America were announced by the union this week. They showed a big vote for re-election of Pres. John L. Lewis, Vice Pres. Philip Murray and Sec-Treas. Thomas Kennedy, running unopposed.

The following delegates were elected to represent the UMWA at the CIO convention: John L. Lewis, Philip Murray, Thomas Kennedy, Van A. Bittner, A. D. Lewis, P. T. Fagan, Mart. F. Brennan, Michael J. Kosik.

Name Officers For D. C. Council

Washington, Mar. 25 — The Washington, D. C. Industrial Union Council has elected William W. Rodgers, head of the local newspaper guild, as president.

Miss Kathryn Lewis, daughter of the CIO president, was re-elected third vice-president.

Court Upholds Seattle Guild

San Francisco, Mar. 25—The federal circuit court of appeals here has upheld the National Labor Relations Board order against the Hearst-owned Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

The NLRB ruling ordered the rehiring of Frank Lynch, American Newspaper Guild member dismissed in 1936, and told 5 Hearst companies to cease unfair labor practices.

Appeal For Aid

San Francisco, Mar. 25. — After carrying on a strike for 7 months against the S. H. Kress and the J. J. Newberry stores here Local 1100, Retail Department Store Employes Union, AFL, in its effort to win a settlement, is appealing to all union members throughout the country to give their moral support to the strikers, by putting Kress and Newberry stores on their unfair list.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 14 | April 3, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

AUTO UNION PLANS FORD ORGANIZING CAMPAIGN

The News In Brief

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

Coal Pact

New York.—Negotiations on a new Appalachian bituminous coal contract neared the zero hour with no agreement announced. The United Mine Workers is seeking a 50c-a-day pay raise and the 30-hour, five-day week.

Wagner Act

Washington. — The Senate Committee on Education and Labor announced that hearings on the Wagner Act will start April 11. Slated as first witness is Sen. Robert Wagner of New York, father of the act.

Civil Liberties

Washington. — Climaxing a 2½ year investigation, the Senate Civil Liberties Committee proposed enactment of an "Oppressive Labor Practices Act" which would ban the use of strikebreakers, labor spies and industrial munitions.

Inland Contract

Pittsburgh.—Possibility of a contract with Inland Steel Co., one of the Little Steel group, was being discussed by leaders of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, who said negotiations have been "very satisfactory."

Conventions

Texas Industrial Union Council, April 2.

Intl. Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union, April 3.

Natl. Assn. of Die Casting Workers, April 28.

Pennsylvania Industrial Union Council, May 2.

Sec. Ickes To Address News Guild

New York, Apr. 1—Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes will address the general membership meeting of the New York Newspaper Guild, CIO, on April 11.

Ickes, who has criticized the biased handling of news in the daily press on a number of recent occasions, "Columnitis" has been chosen as the subject of his address to the working newspapermen. His speech, to be delivered at 10:30 P. M., eastern standard time, will be carried by the Columbia Broadcasting System.

Unity Conferences Resume April 4

NEW YORK, Apr. 1.—Representatives of the AFL and the CIO will meet again at the Hotel Biltmore on Tuesday, April 4, it was announced here.

Originally scheduled for March 30, the meeting was postponed because of the death of a long-time associate and friend of Harry Bates, AFL bricklayers' union president and member of the AFL unity delegation.

The last meeting of the two committees, held in Washington, ended with no statement being given out by either side.

Canadian Labor Watching Peace Negotiations

(See Other Story, Page Two)

TORONTO, Can., Apr. 1. — Canadian labor is eagerly awaiting a successful outcome of the peace negotiations now in progress between AFL and CIO unity committees.

Scores of local unions, both AFL and CIO have addressed wires and letters to President Roosevelt, CIO President John L. Lewis and President William Green of the AFL expressing hopes that unity might be reached between the two great labor centres.

TORONTO COUNCIL

The Toronto District Labor Council, representing over 40,000 affiliated members, and the largest central labor council in the dominion, was the first to wire leaders of both groups commending them for resuming peace conferences.

Other central labor councils and unions have followed suit.

If a poll were taken a majority of Canadian international union members would be in favor of the CIO plan for uniting the CIO, AFL and the independent railroad brotherhoods into one great American Congress of Labor, observers stated.

Wants Industry 100% Union

(See Story Page Three)

CLEVELAND, Apr. 1.—Meeting here for its third convention, the International Union, United Automobile Workers of America, showed it had successfully overcome the disruptionist attempts of Homer Martin and his gang and mapped plans for complete organization of the nation's key industry into a completely-unified CIO affiliate.

More than 500 delegates, representing all but a handful of the organized auto workers in every section of the nation and Canada, were on hand for the long-awaited sessions.

Evidence that Martin's slanderous attacks on the CIO had fallen far short of their mark was seen in the thunderous applause that greeted the CIO's representatives at the convention.

The CIO spokesmen urged the delegates to cast aside the factionalism that nearly spelled ruination for their union, and to concentrate instead on the 100% organization of the industry and the betterment of working conditions.

The CIO, the delegates were told, will stand squarely behind every effort of the UAW to reach these goals.

First Southern Sugar Plant Signs With CIO

By FRED SEELIG

HOUSTON, Tex., Apr. 1.—New union history was made for the South this week with the signing of the first union contract ever to be negotiated with a sugar refinery below the Mason and Dixon line.

The Imperial Sugar Company of Sugarland, Tex., 30 miles from here, signed with the United Sugar Refinery Workers Local Industrial Union No. 917 of the Congress of Industrial Organizations. The firm manufactures Imperial Pure Cane Sugar.

The contract covers 380 employes, making the entire town of Sugarland, which is company-owned, practically a 100 per cent CIO community.

Considering the history of the town, which first came into being as a convict labor industrial center, and then a privately-owned industry with working conditions for years hardly above that of a penal colony, the CIO contract signing was a remarkable achievement.

AFL EFFORTS FAILED

Efforts have been made frequently during the past 30 years to organize the Sugarland industries. It was only three years ago that the American Federation of Labor tried, but was thwarted.

The new CIO unionists were jubilant and praised the work of Maurice Dineen, national field representative of the CIO, for handling organizational problems and negotiations which nearly broke down and almost resulted in a strike.

CIO WON POLL

Dineen arrived in Sugarland just as the employes were preparing to take a strike vote. He called a meeting and advised against hasty action. Next he conferred with the sugar refinery officials. It was then agreed that a consent election be held under the auspices of the National Labor Relations Board. The CIO won, 296 to 36.

Anthracite Leaders Meet

Heads of the three anthracite districts of the United Mine Workers meet in New York with other leaders of the union to discuss their 1939 contract. Shown left to right are: Pres. Michael Kosik of District 1; UMW Pres. John L. Lewis; UMW Sec'y-Treas. Thomas Kennedy, who hails from the hard coal mine area; Pres. Martin Brennan of District 9; and Pres. Hugh Brown of District 7.

U. S. Study Shows Strikes Down In '38, Unions Growing

WASHINGTON, Apr. 1.—The number of strikes during 1939 dropped to only half the total rolled up in 1937, while union membership rose over the 8,000,000 mark for the first time in the nation's history, the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today.

The figures provide a fitting answer for those critics of the Wagner Labor Relations Act who charge the law with inciting strikes rather than promoting industrial peace. Previous statis-

tics from the National Labor Relations Board confirm the fact that the Wagner Act has contributed greatly to the peaceful settlement of labor disputes.

"There were only half as many strikes (all strikes, including sit-downs) as in 1937, with only about one-third as many workers involved," the article, entitled "Industrial Relations in 1938," declared.

YEAR OF TRANSITION

The government bureau described 1938 as a year of transition in labor-employer relationships.

"In contrast to those firms which were continuing their belligerent opposition to any kind of collective bargaining, was an increasing number of employers who had accepted unionism and were making a sincere effort to adjust their personnel policies and methods to the new situation."

Still other employers, the article found, have followed a policy of hoping that unionism of their workers is merely a fad.

SOME HALF-HEARTED

This group has given a "semblance of meeting the demands of their employes by going through the formality of signing a union agreement, but in one way or another set up barriers to any real day-by-day collective bargaining relationship.

"Others made unusual efforts to improve plant working conditions and personnel policies with the hope that employes gradually would lose interest in trade unions."

The article concluded with praise for the manner in which the unions met their "internal and external" problems during the year.

Tory Labor Bill Hits Squalls

Lansing, Mich., April 1—Strong and united labor pressure appeared today to have killed the viciously reactionary state labor bill sponsored by the late Gov. Fitzgerald of Michigan.

The State Senate Labor Committee announced it would refuse to report out the bill with its present anti-union clauses.

"This bill will not only antagonize labor, it will foment strikes, and I am in favor of rewriting it, patterning it after the New York labor law," said Senator Harry F. Hittle, Republican chairman of the committee.

The Michigan House of Representatives had previously passed the bill by a 58-37 margin.

Gov. Dickinson—who became the state's chief executive when Fitzgerald died suddenly—asked the committee to confer with AFL and CIO leaders when they draft the new bill.

Pennsylvania CIO Convention, May 2

HARRISBURG, Pa., Apr. 1.—Delegates from CIO unions with a total membership of nearly half a million workers from the mass production and smaller industries of Pennsylvania will attend the second annual convention of the CIO state Industrial Union Council which opens in Harrisburg, May 2.

Sessions will be held in the Chestnut Street Auditorium, beginning at 10 A. M.

According to the convention call, signed by Pres. John A. Philips and Sec'y Lester Thomas, all "local unions chartered by the CIO and by international unions affiliated with the CIO, and city and county industrial union councils of locals in the state, are to be admitted into affiliation with the Council."

Metal Miners Back Labor Congress Plan

DENVER, Colo., Apr. 1.—The CIO plan for a united American Congress of Labor has the full endorsement of the Intl. Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, according to a unanimous decision of the Executive Board meeting here.

"Fundamental in unity is the recognition that the principles of industrial unionism, so dramatically carried out into practice by the CIO, be safeguarded," the Board said in a letter from Pres. Reid Robinson to Chairman Bates of the AFL unity committee.

"The principles of a program which effectively organized millions of hitherto unorganized workers in mass production industries must be continued—must be greatly expanded.

"The unity proposals of the CIO put forth concisely a comprehensive technique for the desired unity of labor, without the need for sacrificing the basic principles of craft unionism on the one hand or industrial unionism on the other."

LIST AFL ATTACKS

This decision of the Board, the letter said, was based on long experience in the AFL as well as its history as one of the founding unions of the CIO. Its right to industrial organization has been recognized by both—though more in theory than in practice by the AFL.

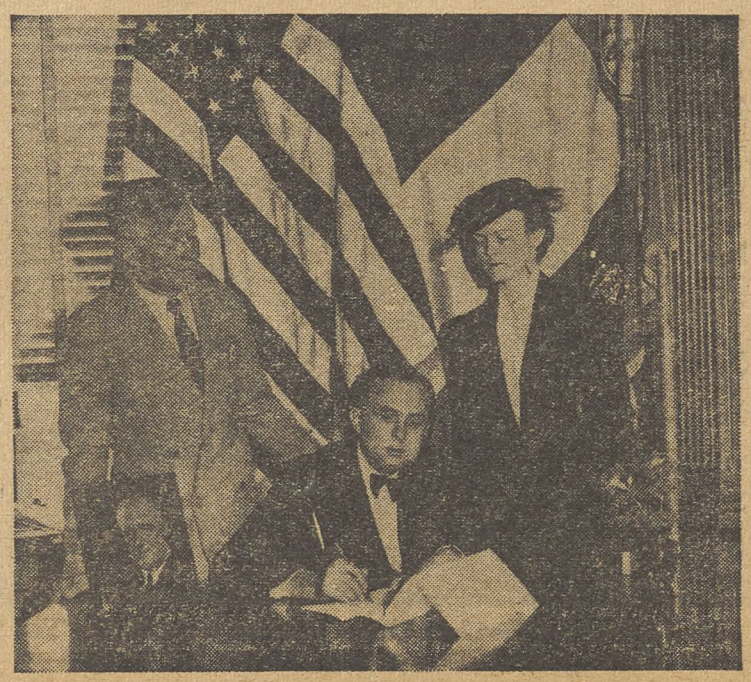
Since the union joined in with others to form the CIO, the letter points out, it has been subjected to a series of unscrupulous raids by order of the AFL.

In 1937, the AFL chartered the notorious "Blue Card" union in Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma—a gang of company unionists and gun-thugs.

Aid CIO Truckmen

Athens, Ohio.—All friends of labor are asked to patronize union trucks and to look on the windshield for the monthly sticker of United Truck Drivers Local Industrial Union No. 724 of Athens, Ohio.

It's About Time!



After a lapse of 150 years, Gov. Rivers of Georgia signs a resolution adopted by the general assembly ratifying the Bill of Rights, while two sponsors of the resolution look on.

Look For The Label

That's what Philadelphia commuters can do on their twice-daily subway rides—for this picture of charming "Miss Philadelphia," 18-year-old Kathryn Buckley, appears on scores of advertising placards. She's showing the public the label of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, CIO affiliate, which is sponsoring a big "buy union" campaign.

More Unions Hail CIO Peace Plan

WASHINGTON, Apr. 1. — More messages endorsing the CIO stand for unity in the labor movement show a steady increase in the number of local unions and central bodies of all three organizations, CIO, AFL and Brotherhoods, backing up the CIO and demanding that unity be brought about.

Evidence that the CIO plan for an American Congress of Labor has found favor with the workers is seen in the number of wires and letters specifically endorcing the proposal. The Brotherhood of Railway Carmen in Chicago, AFL, wrote: "Such a united labor movement of the AFL, CIO and Railroad Brotherhoods would greatly strengthen the entire labor movement in America and would encourage millions of still unorganized workers to join the ranks."

In Tacoma, Wash., Local 199 of the AFL Pulp and Paper Workers resolved: "The Lewis proposal for an American Congress of Labor will give the rank and file an opportunity to force and bring about this greatly needed unification," and went on record in favor of the CIO plan.

From Toronto, Canada, and Brooklyn, N. Y., the Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators (AFL), wrote its approval of the CIO efforts towards unity and fraternal wishes for success in the conferences. AFL truck drivers in Canton, Ohio, wired a similar message, as did Local B-959 of the AFL Electrical Workers.

CIO UNANIMOUS

Up to early last week 26 AFL central bodies have sent messages supporting the need for unity and close to 100 locals of 30 national and international AFL affiliates. Sixty-five church groups have written, and numerous messages have come from Railroad Brotherhoods, Labor's Non-Partisan League, and miscellaneous progressive groups.

CIO approval of the American Congress of Labor plan is overwhelming. In Butte, Mont., 5,000 metal miners of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers sent a letter warning of the dangers of labor and the renewed reactionary drive of Tory Congressmen and their anti-union bosses in big business, and describing the CIO plan as the best answer to the anti-labor offensive.

CIO Industrial Union Councils wiring or writing their approval this week include Toledo, Ohio; Iowa-Nebraska State, Snohomish County, Wash.; Trumbull County, Ohio; Sabine area and Perot Naches, Tex.

EVERY INDUSTRY

Every industry and area where the CIO is represented approves of the Congress proposal. Messages have come in from CIO textile workers in Canada, dairy workers in California, electrical workers in Minnesota, utility workers on the West Coast, packinghouse workers in Chicago, newspaper workers in Seattle, marine draftsmen in Brooklyn, N. Y., social service employes in New York, steel workers in the Mid-West, state and county government workers on the Pacific and scores of widely differing types of workers.

All are united in their demands for unification of the American labor movement along the lines laid down in the CIO plan for an American Congress of Labor.

Deadline Nears On Coal Pact Negotiations

NEW YORK, Mar. 31.—Negotiations between the United Mine Workers of America and coal mine operators for a new contract covering some 350,000 Appalachian bituminous miners moved towards their April 1 deadline with no agreement announced by either side.

The old contract expires at midnight, March 31. Early in the conferences, Pres. John L. Lewis of the UMW suggested to the operators that they agree to an extension of the terms of the 1938 agreement until a new contract is accepted by the two groups.

His offer was rejected by the employers at that time on the basis that there was plenty of time before the zero hour.

The mine union placed before the operators demands for a 50-cents-a-day wage increase, a six-hour, five-day week, a share in the benefits of technological improvements, a guaranteed 200-work day year, seniority and other gains.

Their demands brought forth a counter-proposal from the employers for a 50-cents-a-day wage decrease

PeaceParleysContinue; Plans Under Discussion

NEW YORK, Apr. 1.—Resumption of AFL-CIO unity negotiations was postponed until Tuesday, April 4, it was announced here.

Cause of the delay in the conferences, which had been scheduled to get under way again on March 30, was the death of the vice-president of the AFL bricklayers union. Harry Bates, bricklayers international president and one of the unity negotiators, left immediately for Chicago to attend the funeral services.

The negotiators met for several hours in the Department of Labor building in Washington on March 24, but had no statement to make regarding the progress of their discussions. Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins was closeted with the AFL and CIO representatives for about three hours during the day.

Both CIO and AFL headquarters have received many requests from local union groups in all sections of the nation to continue the discussions until an honorable and fair peace is attained. A large proportion of the messages have hailed CIO President John L. Lewis' original proposal for an American Congress of Labor, to include unions of the AFL, the CIO and the four independent railway brotherhoods.

Vote 95-1 For CIO

CASS LAKE, Minn., April 1—The workers of the Rathborne Hair & Ridgeway box plant voted unanimously for the Congress of Industrial Organizations to act as their sole bargaining agent. Out of 97 votes cast, 95 voted yes, one voted no, and one was a blank.

Marine Unions To Fight USMC Hiring Halls

SAN FRANCISCO — Any attempt by the U. S. Maritime Commission to open government hiring halls on the West Coast will be met with determined opposition of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific.

A letter to Admiral Emory S. Land warned that the Federation "will refuse to load or discharge any ship where the personnel is forced to seek employment through channels specifically established by the U. S. Maritime Commission."

Texas CIO Meets In San Antonio

San Antonio, Tex., Apr. 1—One of the most anti-labor cities in the South, San Antonio—scene of bloodshed during the 1938 shellers' strike—is the mecca today of hundreds of CIO delegates who are scheduled to attend the third annual convention of the Texas State Industrial Union Council. The sessions start April 1 and end April 2.

Despite the strong-arm tactics and brutality of the San Antonio police department of a year ago, the pecan shellers, numbering nearly 10,000, recently signed a closed shop contract. It was a major victory for the CIO.

It was because of the strong resistance to unionism in San Antonio that the Texas State CIO Council decided to choose that city for its convention. Also, San Antonio was one of the financial centers for the Golden Shirts, fascist revolutionary party that had planned to seize Mexico.

UNITY MARKS UAW MEET; PLAN DRIVE FOR 100% UNION

CLEVELAND, Apr. 1.—Freed from the factionalism which marked the Homer Martin regime, the United Automobile Workers of America at an enthusiastic convention laid plans to complete organization of the auto and aircraft industries.

The completeness of the union's victory over Martin's breakaway movement was shown by the credential committee's report. The 500 delegates present represented close to 200 locals and all but a tiny fraction of the organized workers in the industry.

With a present membership of 355,680, the UAW-CIO now has all but 15,000 represented in its ranks. More than 500,000 workers are covered by its union contracts.

Organization of competitive parts plants and tool and die shops was a subject to which much attention was devoted — in addition to the dominating question of organizing Ford.

The union's loyalty to the CIO was enthusiastically reaffirmed. CIO officers were thanked for their services and for their "scrupulous observance" of the union's autonomy.

The greetings of CIO President John L. Lewis were conveyed to the convention by Vice Pres. Philip Murray, who, together with Vice Pres. Sidney Hillman, addressed the delegates in executive session.

CONGRATULATIONS

Both Murray and Hillman congratulated the UAW on removing the cancer of factionalism by their rejection of Martin and his policies. They warned the delegates against dangers of division if they allowed any revival of factional strife, and urged that personal considerations be subordinated to the interests of a united union.

CIO greetings were also brought to the convention by Secretary James B. Carey and Director John Brophy.

Brophy told the delegates that "it is necessary to throw the Homer Martins out of the labor movement so far that they can never crawl back again—so far that they will never again be useful to the employers that support them in their attempts to disrupt and wreck our unions."

Warning of the spread of Fascism in other countries, he said: "This hasn't happened in America because we have a strong labor movement here that knows its enemies and knows how to deal with them."

Carey declared that the whole CIO was watching this convention and that it could "ignite a spark that will lead to another great organization campaign.

"What happens here does not affect only the UAW and the CIO," he said, "but the whole labor movement."

As president of the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, Carey challenged the UAW to compete with his union as to which will first have a completely organized industry.

E. L. Oliver of Labor's Non-Partisan League, also addressed the convention. He stressed the urgency of organizing labor's forces politically for the 1940 elections.

Few outside speakers were invited, and most of the time of the convention was devoted to amending the constitution to remove some of the causes of past troubles, to electing a united union administration, to preparing for organizing drives, and to other union business.

LOYAL TO CIO

Vigorous and outspoken in discussion, the delegates responded as one man whenever it was necessary to demonstrate their unity and their loyalty to the CIO.

Acting President R. J. Thomas reported on the first day that the union now has a higher dues-paying membership than at its last convention. He emphasized the importance of launching a great drive to organize Ford and the aircraft industry.

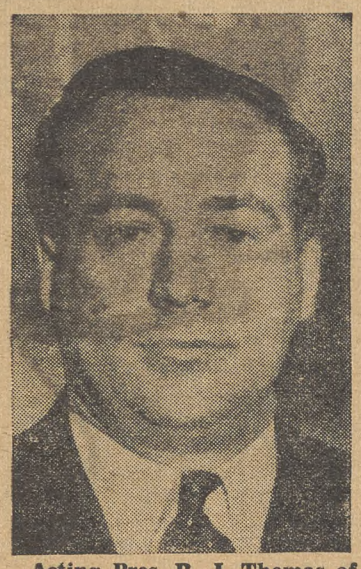
Vice Presidents Frankensteen, Welles, Mortimer, Hall and Secretary-Treasurer Addes also reported to the convention on the third day, and their reports were accepted by the delegates.

The UAW adopted an emphatic stand on defense of the Wagner Labor Relations Act and voted to inform Congress of their determined opposition to all amendments.

The LaFollette-Thomas oppressive labor practices bill was endorsed, and adequate funds for WPA were urged.

The convention was still in session when this issue of THE CIO NEWS went to press, with election of officers still on the remaining order of business.

Presides



Acting Pres. R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers, who presided at the union's convention sessions in Cleveland this week.

Tories Ask New Cut For WPA

Washington, Apr. 1—An "economy"minded House Appropriations Committee today was in the midst of a new campaign to starve the nation's jobless.

Knocking $50,000,000 from President Roosevelt's request for a WPA deficiency appropriation, the committee made known that it felt its action had none-the-less been on the "liberal" side.

Unless the committee's recommendation is overturned in the House and Senate—as it may well be—500,000 WPA jobs will be sacrificed.

MANY PROTESTS

Members of both Houses, it is known, have received hundreds of demands from labor and unemployed groups pointing out that a cut in WPA at this time would seriously retard the present slow economic recovery

Auto Union Delegates

Delegates to the convention of the United Automobile Workers in Cleveland.

Die Casters To Meet

New York, Apr. 1 — The fifth annual convention of the National Association of Die Casting Workers opens in New York, April 28, at the Hotel McAlpin, National Secretary W. R. Ramsey announced this week.

Delegates will be present from locals in New York City, Syracuse and Batavia, N. Y.; Garwood and Newark, N. J.; Pottstown, Pa.; Toledo, Ohio and Kansas City, Mo.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II April 3, 1939 No. 14

A Bill for Freedom and Peace

Industrial peace is the aim of the Oppressive Labor Practices bill just introduced in Congress by Senators LaFollette and Thomas.

It represents the most constructive proposal yet advanced to put an end to the violence and bloodshed that have so often marked American industrial struggles.

At the same time it serves the cause of peace by forbidding many practices which have driven workers to strike in defense of their rights as American citizens.

Few bills have ever had such a background of careful investigation and thorough study as has the Oppressive Labor Practices bill.

It is the fruit of two and a half years of investigation by the LaFollette-Thomas civil liberties committee, in the course of which 18,000,000 words of testimony and exhibits were collected, 98 days of public hearings held, and 485 witnesses heard.

The committee found that "the most persistent and significant violations of civil liberties occurred in the field of labor and arose principally from a labor relations policy hostile to collective bargaining and the organization of unions."

The bill is designed to prohibit the use of labor spies, strikebreakers, strikebreaking agencies, oppressive armed guards and industrial munitions.

It declares that such practices violate the right of employes to organize; cause and provoke acts of violence and destruction of property; lead to labor disputes obstructing the free flow of commerce; and obstruct the settlement of labor disputes through negotiations and the orderly procedure of collective bargaining.

The hearings of the Senate civil liberties committee produced a tremendous volume of evidence in regard to the abuses and provocations to which working people are subjected when they seek to organize.

It exposed the whole vicious system of labor espionage; the use of gangsters and gunmen to break strikes; and the arsenals of machine guns, sawed-off shotguns, gas bombs, etc., purchased by anti-labor corporations for use against their employes.

It proved conclusively that nearly all the violence in recent labor disputes was directly traceable to these practices of the employers.

The exposures of the committee have already done great good in discouraging many of these activities. But they have not done away with them. And the danger is that, once the spotlight of publicity ceases to play on them, they may be revived in even more virulent form.

The LaFollette-Thomas bill is designed to eliminate the un-American practices which the committee has exposed. It should have the support of all public-spirited citizens who want to see the workers' civil rights protected, an end put to lawless violence and a constructive step taken to preserve industrial peace.

Open Attack on the Wagner Act

The plot against the Wagner Labor Relations Act has been brought out into the open, on the eve of Senate hearings, by the publication of the demands of the Natl. Association of Manufacturers for the act's revision.

The effect of these demands would be to change the Wagner Act from an instrument for protecting labor's right to organize into an instrument for shackling and oppressing labor.

The NAM, if it had its way, would outlaw the closed shop, the check-off and even majority rule as now construed by the act. It would change the law to encourage company unionism and to place many new restrictions on the rights of bona fide labor unions.

Members of the AFL may be surprised to note that in advancing this program, the NAM quotes statements of Pres. William Green of the AFL in favor of revision of the Wagner Act.

But this should not occasion surprise. For actually the amendments embodied in the Walsh bill and endorsed by Green have played right into the hands of all enemies of the labor act.

Anti-union manufacturers have been content to let the demand for amendment of the Wagner Act appear to come from AFL sources. They have held back heretofore from announcing their full demands, hoping that the Walsh bill would open the floodgates for virtual destruction of the present act.

The Walsh bill, in fact, embodies many of the demands of anti-labor employers for freer play for company unionism. But the opposition of AFL as well as CIO members to the Walsh bill has been so great, that the NAM now evidently feels that it should come out from behind this stalking horse and apply its own direct pressure for its full demands.

The CIO has warned repeatedly that all present moves to amend the Wagner Act, on whatever pretext, constitute a grave danger to the act as an instrument for protecting labor's rights.

This danger has now become acute, and all friends of labor and of the Wagner Act need to rally their forces as never before to defend it against all amendments.

Their Game

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

A Vigorous Union

Vim, vigor and vitality are among the most noteworthy characteristics of the United Automobile Workers of America.

The Cleveland convention of the union showed how much alive and kicking is this lusty young industrial organization.

Some of the old AFL craft unions may be dying of dry rot. But the chief danger to the UAW seems rather to come from the surplus of its own vitality.

The UAW is typically American in most respects. Aggressive pioneers of unionism in modern industry, its members do not suffer from timidity, servility or other similar inhibitions.

Walt Whitman would have rejoiced in their free-and-easy democracy, even though it may tend to turbulence at times.

Misleaders Removed

The auto workers have shown their free spirit by twice overthrowing misleadership that impeded their union's progress.

At the South Bend convention in 1936, the UAW put an end to AFL misrule through Francis Dillon which had nearly strangled their organization at birth.

The year that followed this convention was one of startlingly rapid growth. Aligned with the CIO and freed from AFL restraints, the union grew from a few thousand to nearly four hundred thousand members.

The Cleveland convention marks the success of another major operation to remove misleadership. Homer Martin and his irresponsible policies, which kept the union in a perpetual turmoil of factionalism, have been decisively rejected by the auto workers.

The UAW is now free to go forward once more, devoting the tremendous energies of its membership to constructive work instead of ruinous internal fighting.

The Concern of All

Every union of the CIO has been vitally concerned with both the progress and the troubles of the UAW.

Its amazing successes centered the attention of the whole country on the auto workers' union. Every other CIO organization benefitted in prestige as a result.

But one of the penalties of such nation-wide attention was that the spotlight was turned even more glaringly on all of the UAW's internal troubles, when these developed.

Every CIO union has followed closely the auto workers' fight against factionalism. And all of them rejoice as one, now that the Cleveland convention has shown the successful outcome of this fight.

Harmony and Unity

"The CIO's behind us; we shall not be moved," was a refrain that was repeatedly sung by the convention delegates.

They recognized their responsibility toward the whole CIO, and at the same time they profited from the experienced advice of the CIO national leadership.

Factional habits are not easily overcome. They were a still-present danger at the Cleveland convention, and the press of the country was alert to even the slightest signs of friction.

But nevertheless, harmony and unity were the leading notes at the convention, and the prevailing loyalty to the CIO aided the delegates and officers in subordinating personal and factional considerations to the common interests of their great union.

The Tasks Ahead

The vigor, initiative and courage of the auto workers in organizing their industry have been an inspiration to the whole CIO.

But other unions may also profit by learning from them the lessons which the auto workers have had to learn in the school of hard knocks.

Many difficult tasks still confront the UAW.

The dwindling number of workers who have been misled into following Homer Martin have to be won back before complete unity is achieved.

The authority of the union has to be conclusively re-established in its contractual relations with the auto companies.

The huge Ford Company, last holdout of industrial feudalism, has to be organized.

But no one who observed the vitality and enthusiasm of the Cleveland convention will have any doubt that the auto workers will succeed in these tasks.

Murphy For Defense Of Civil Rights

Washington, April 1—The "democratic ideal must be applied in every part of our life—social, political and economic," Atty.-Gen. Frank Murphy declared in a radio broadcast in which he called for defense of American civil liberties.

The former Michigan governor, who has established a civil liberties division in the Department of Justice, warned that "we must be on guard against those tendencies and attitudes, in ourselves as well as in others, that open the door to one denial of liberty and then another."

Bosses Pay 15c-A-Worker For Fight On Wagner Act

SEATTLE, Apr. 1.—West coast lumber barons feel that amending the Wagner Act is worth 15c a worker.

In a letter sent out by the Committee for Amendment, National Labor Relations Act, employers are told that "we are bothered by the fact that we may be called to Washington on a minute's notice and perhaps within a few days, to appear before a Congressional Committee. We would very much like, if this occurred, having to abandon the project because money was lacking."

Included on the committee of six persons is the secretary of the powerful, anti-union West Coast Lumbermen's Association.

Manufacturers Assn. Spurs Its Drive To Kill Wagner Act

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON, Apr. 1. — The National Association of Manufacturers has come out from behind Bill Green's skirts with an open admission that it wants the Wagner Act amended out of existence.

The NAM's strategy was to let Green and other top shots in the AFL carry the ball for them, but Green has fumbled so badly in efforts to swing AFL unions into line that they have to make their own plays from now on.

Last week the NAM started piling telegrams into the office of Elbert D. Thomas, chairman of the Senate Labor Committee that will hold hearings on the proposed amendments beginning April 11.

This week they've opened out with a pamphlet seductively titled, "Who Wants the Wagner Act Amended?" The pamphlet is nicely laid out, bound in conservative gray, with no union label on it, and with the name of the NAM buried in small print on the last page.

WELL, WHO DOES?

The pamphlet goes over the old anti-labor ground about the Act being unfair, coercive, unjust to the helpless employer, and of course a crying shame for the way it maltreats the poor worker.

What's new and more interesting about the NAM's latest effort is the list of people it says want the Act changed. Who are these people that the NAM cites?

To begin with, there are eight (count 'em) reactionary politicians —described as "legislators." These include five out-and-out Republicans and three renegade Democrats. Senator Vandenberg of Michigan, arch-enemy of labor and of everything progressive in the U. S., leads the Republicans. Following him are the notorious Rep. Hoffman of Michigan, friend of the Black Legion and particular foe of the automobile workers in his state, Senator Davis of Pennsylvania, who votes against relief, Rep. Short of Missouri, who says "panic, anarchy, revolution and ruin" will result if the four-year-old Act isn't changed, and Rep. Gifford, another Republican from Pennsylvania.

TORY DEMOCRATS TOO

Senator Burke of Nebraska leads the Tory Democrats listed by the NAM. Everybody knows his record. Elected in 1934 after proclaiming himself a 200 per cent New Dealer, this champion of reaction has voted against every important New Deal measure since that time.

Following him are Sen. Logan of Kentucky, who says "the farmers are fighting to save their farms against this insidious, ruinous procedure," though the Act doesn't apply to agriculture, Rep. Cox of Georgia, who favors concentration camps for strikers, and Rep. Rankin of Mississippi.

And right after the Tories in Congress the NAM proudly lists Pres. Green of the AFL and Vice-Pres. Matthew Woll of the AFL.

But the NAM doesn't mention the scores of Congressmen and Senators who have opposed amendments to the Act. It doesn't say anything about the scores of AFL unions and central bodies and union leaders (such as Lynch of the Pattern Makers, Laudemann of the Machinists, Tobin of the Teamsters) on record in favor of the Act or opposed to meddling with it.

Wagner Act Hearings To Start April 11

WASHINGTON, Apr. 1.—Hearings on proposed amendments to the Wagner Act were ordered by the Senate Labor Committee for April 11.

The order came after a delay of almost a month, during which CIO and AFL unions and other progressive groups bombarded the Committee with requests for no amendments and for postponement of the hearings.

Last week the Natl. Manufacturers Assn. and Pres. Green of the AFL took the front pages with almost identical demands for immediate hearings and for drastic revisions designed to cripple the Act. Senator Thomas, Committee chairman, showed reporters a pile of wires received from the NAM and from Chambers of Commerce, indicating a concerted employer pressure campaign for quick hearings and sudden death to the Wagner Act.

Now that hearings are set, CIO and AFL unions opposing the plan to kill the Act will have to step up the fight to save it to a faster tempo than ever. Efforts should be made to line up progressives outside of the organized labor movement to join in the campaign.

SEND WIRES AND LETTERS

The hearings start April 11 in the Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D. C. Wires and letters should be sent to Senator Elbert D. Thomas, chairman, Senate Committee on Education and Labor, demanding that the Act be left alone. Similar messages should go to Senators and Representatives from local districts.

The fight to defend labor's Magna Charta has entered its second phase. Labor protests have delayed the Tory offensive against the Act this far. A redoubled protest will be needed to save it again.

Whitney Warns Of Tory Drive

By S. MINKIN

Washington, Apr. 1—"In the face of the reactionary offensive in Congress which directly threatens the entire American labor movement, we must bend our every effort to preserve the right of collective bargaining by opposing efforts to amend the Wagner Act out of existence," A. F. Whitney, president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, told an overflow meeting at the CIO Federal Workers School here this week.

Whitney traced the growth of collective bargaining in the railroad industry and hit hard at the Tories in Congress who are plotting to destroy the social gains labor has won in the last six years, adding:

'VIEW WITH ALARM'

"I hope you are 'viewing with alarm' the actions of certain Tory Senators and Representatives, whose faces are turned away from the entreating pleas of the millions of unemployed and of those on relief; these hypocritical legislators who are bent on 'appeasing' big business.

"There are plenty of Edward Burke's in Washington and in every state capital scheming to curb social security measures, to break up the trade unions by making a mockery of collective bargaining procedure, and to shackle the civil liberties of our people."

GIRDLER, FORD DEFY LAW

Pointing to the uphill struggle the American workers have had to establish the right of collective bargaining, Whitney said: "The legality of trade unions was definitely established in 1842, but Tom Girdler and Henry Ford, and their friends in Congress and in our state legislatures, are not willing to accept this fact. That is why we need a National Labor Relations Act."

Des Moines CIO Raps Green, Hails Act

DES MOINES, Ia., Apr. 1.—Six hundred delegates at a mass conference called by the Des Moines CIO Council met here this week to take action on outstanding labor and legislative problems and to lay plans for organizing on labor and political fronts in Iowa and Nebraska.

First on the agenda was the defense of the Wagner Act, and the delegates went on record unanimously opposing any changes in the act, and particularly opposing the attempts of Pres. Green of the AFL and the National Manuafcturers Association to force crippling amendments through this session of Congress.

"The National Labor Relations Act has been instrumental in establishing better relations between employers and employes, which has resulted in higher wages, shorter hours, and improved working conditions for millions of workers in the U. S.," the resolution said in part.

CONDEMN GREEN

"International unions of the AFL representing 936,000 members have either opposed amendments to the Act or approved the Act as it now is,

"Therefore be it resolved that this mass meeting go on record condemning William Green and accusing him of promoting legislation sponsored by enemies of organized labor."

Other resolutions unanimously demanded the full appropriation for WPA asked by Pres. Roosevelt, urged a liberalization of Iowa unemployment benefits, and demanded a state housing law, to enable Iowa to participate fully in the U. S. Housing program.

DEFENDS WPA

Speaking on the WPA appropriation, Don Harris, national director of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, warned, "Let no one believe that fascism is far away. By putting these WPA workers out of work, we are providing a fertile field for fascism."

All Iowa CIO locals were represented at the conference, which included delegates from Nebraska and from the Des Moines Workers Alliance and the state Farmer Labor Party.

BACK BILL

New York—(FP)—Labor organizations affiliated with the American Labor Party will throw their full support behind an AFL bill introduced into the State Legislature which would set up a state wage-hour administration.

AFL Painters Local Raps Act Changes

San Francisco, Apr. 1—"Leave the Wagner Act unchanged" is the advice sent to AFL Pres. Green and California's Congressional delegation by Local 1158, Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers, AFL affiliate.

"The Wagner Labor Relations Act," the local's resolution said, "was enacted for the benefit of all labor and has proven itself of material value by raising the standards of wages and working conditions.

"This law is being attached by the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers, the U. S. Chamber of Commerce and certain executives of organized labor to the detriment of labor."

LawMagazine Defends Labor Board

New York, Apr. 1—The Columbia Law Review, one of the nation's most prominent legal magazines, charged critics of the Wagner Labor Relations Act with using distorted arguments in their fight against labor's magna charta.

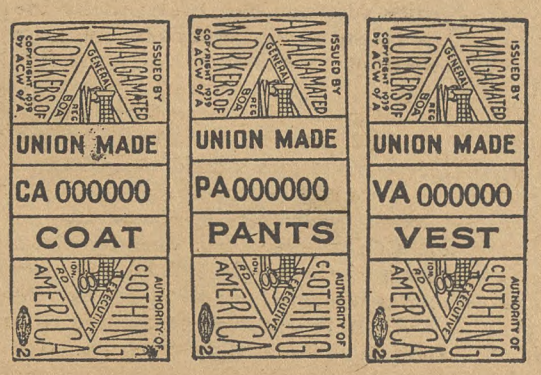
The authors of the article, Profs. Walter Gellhorn and Seymour Linfield, declared in the Columbia University periodical that the board has fully preserved "the basic values of traditional judicial processes."

The article takes issue with those who charge that the National Labor Relations Board has fostered strikes.

BE ON GUARD!

Look for the union label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America when buying men's and boys' clothing, overalls, shirts, undergarments, neckties, lumber jackets, gloves, and all other kinds of men's wearing apparel.

The Amalgamated Label is your guarantee that the articles you buy are of the best workmanship and produced under one hundred percent union conditions by members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.



By insisting on the Amalgamated Label you will help to guard against a return of sweatshop conditions to the industry. By helping the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America you help the labor movement generally.

Ask for the Amalgamated label on each part of the suit, coat, pants and vest. There are different Amalgamated labels for coats, pants, vests, shirts and undergarments, work clothes, neckwear and gloves.

File Bill To End Strikebreaking

LaFollette Plan Would Curb Practices

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, Apr. 1.—The Senate Civil Liberties Committee today fired a mighty broadside at the entire strikebreaking industry.

The "Oppressive Labor Practices Act of 1939," filed in the upper house by Senators Robert LaFollette and Elbert Thomas, calls for outlawing the use of industrial munitions, labor spy agents, strikebreakers and private police forces against organized labor.

In addition, it would bar government contracts of more than $10,000, federal loans or ship-operating subsidies to firms which refuse to pledge observance of the Act. Heavy penalties are provided for those who break the law.

Significant is the fact that civil rights of workers are not only protected by the Committee's proposal, but that violators face heavy penalties for violations. If the act is passed, it will be to the economic interest of employers to help preserve civil liberties.

LONG OVER-DUE

"This bill is several decades over-due," the two Senators declared in a joint statement as they filed their proposals. "On complaints made, and on the finding of past governmental investigations in the last 40 years, such a bill should have been introduced long ago."

The use of strikebreaking devices violates the right of workers to organize, helps to incite violence, leads to strikes and prevents the speedy settlement of labor disputes, the bill declares. As a result, interstate commerce is directly affected, and the oppressive labor acts become a matter of concern to the federal government, it points out.

ILLEGAL PRACTICES

Oppressive labor practices defined as illegal by the LaFollette-Thomas bill include:

1. Employment or utilization of labor spies, strikebreakers or strikebreaking agencies.

2. The payment or the agreement to pay any person who with the consent of his employer acts as a "private guard or peace officer while armed and while absent from the premises or place of business of his employer." Definite exceptions are made, however, for the protection from theft of money or goods in transit.

3. The hiring as a guard or peace officer during periods of labor disputes of any person who has a criminal record of homicide or felonious assault.

4. The ownership or use about a place of employment of industrial munitions or the use of industrial munitions "in connection with any labor dispute."

VIOLATION OF LAW

Under the terms of the statute it becomes a violation of the law to engage in an oppressive labor practice in or about any place of employment or to furnish any person with supplies or services for engaging in these oppressive practices.

At the same time the new bill bars the use of the mails or the channels of commerce to the entire business of strikebreaking.

Thus, it becomes unlawful to furnish or offer to furnish supplies or services for an oppressive labor practice.

HITS PRODUCTS

Even more important, products manufactured in plants where oppressive labor practices existed, may not be transported, shipped delivered or sold.

Penalties for violating the act may be a $10,000 fine or six months imprisonment or both. Jurisdiction over the act is placed in the hands of the federal district courts, while the Secretary of Labor is given the right to seek injunctions against persons violating the act or about to violate it.

Offer Bill

SEN. ROBERT LaFOLLETTE

Who, with Sen. Elbert Thomas of Utah, sponsored the new anti-strikebreaking bill.

Recommendations Based on Long Investigation

WASHINGTON, Apr. 1.—The "Oppressive Labor Practices Act," sponsored by Senators LaFollette and Thomas, is based on two and a half years of investigation, 18 million words of testimony and exhibits, 98 days of hearings and 485 witnesses.

Testimony before the committee covered 40 industries, employers' associations and communities, as well as 116 strikes occurring between 1930 and 1937.

Commenting on the proposals which resulted from these lengthy investigations, the two senators—who head the Civil Liberties Committe—declared:

"No bill could more directly aid industrial peace.

"In no way does the bill deprive the employer of the fullest protection of property. It does not touch his legitimate private protective equipment nor limit policing activities on his own premises. It does strike at aggressive private armies by whomsoever employed."

The senators noted that it is "significant . . . that while this committee had to overcome every sort of obstruction in unearthing facts, it could elicit no reasoned justification of the oppressive labor practices exposed, although witnesses were time and time again asked to justify their action."

The committee, they said, received from erring employers "professions of reform rather than justification of the practices exposed.

"The nearest to defense of espionage and strikebreaking was the warning of an officer of an employers' association that regulation might result in 'bootleg' outfits getting the business and driving dastardly practices further underground."

MANY HAVE CHANGED

As a result of the committee's activities, the statement pointed out, "some industrialists have been persuaded to abandon certain oppressive practices, thereby saving themselves hundreds of thousands of dollars.

"As the bill moves on to legislative consideration," they continued, "we doubt that any person will undertake to justify labor espionage or commercialized strikebreaking, the use of private police for these purposes, and the use of or possession of industrial munitions during or in anticipation of labor disputes.

"While the investigation has apparently corrected some ills, the committee emphasizes that investigation alone has long been proved insufficient.

"Legislation is needed to end the evils. The bill contains nothing that will cause concern to the great majority of businessmen, most of whom now conform to present enacted national policies.

"The committee, during the course of its investigations, found that the most persistent and significant violations of civil liberties occurred in the field of labor and arose principally from a labor relations policy hostile to collective bargaining and the organization of unions. . . .

"'Oppressive labor practices' is the characterization given these activities by the bill. The aim of the bill is to prevent employers and others from engaging in them."

Committee Paid for Itself

WASHINGTON, Apr. 1—The Senate Civil Liberties Committee has more than paid for itself, it was revealed here today.

The Bureau of Internal Revenue was able to collect in taxes and penalties $232,000 as a result of evidence unearthed by the committee. This amount is more than one and a half times the money appropriated for the committee.

A Gas Station Attendant Talks

By Benjamin Appel (League of American Writers)

Service with a smile—that's us, the guys who fill up your car with gas. We get fifteen to eighteen bucks a week, six days a week, twelve hours a day. The smaller the town, the smaller the pay. And people call Rockefeller a financier when he's got millions to play around with! What we grease monkeys can do with a pay check—that's real finance!

And don't forget you have to be full of charm besides. It's smile, smile, smile, and then smile some more. If you're born a sour-puss, the company school straightens you out. In three weeks you learn that you and the company both belong to one big happy smiling family; and that if it's prosperity for the company, you'll get your share.

You practice your lessons on the instructor. "I'm a customer in a car," he says. "Sell me." You learn how to unload oil, grease jobs, special sales, and sometimes waffle irons. Big chains like Sobol Brothers will have Waffle Iron Weeks. And you got to sell your quota of waffle irons, besides your gas and oil quotas, if you want to stay in that particular happy family.

SMILE! SMILE!!

At last you graduate from the school with not even a balogney for a diploma. You report to some gasoline station and don't forget your smile You've learned that you must hang around the gas pumps unless you're busy scouring the toilets, another job you got, or maybe you're chasing around with a gasoline-soaked rag cleaning up grease spots. The station has to be kept spotless as a drug store. But when the station manager yells "front" you drop whatever you're doing and run lickety-split to the customer, and don't forget you first run to the driver's side. You say: "Fill 'er up?" And by all means you're smiling and showing your good teeth, plus the one with the cavity.

After the customer orders you must run to the back of the car and put in the gas. Then you wipe the rear window—that's more routine—and run down the other side of the car to wipe the front window. The customer's usually in a hurrry but you got to hypnotize him anyway with still another smile as you lift up the hood and say: "Check the oil?"

You try to sell him the finest oil in the station regardless of the car's make or age. Then you try to sell him a new fan belt or new spark plugs. If you get him on the pit for a grease job, you try to sell him new bulbs. It's sell, sell, sell!

NOT MANY TIPS

All day long the cars roll in, and you give each and every one the old smile. Maybe, a popular priced car will tip you a nickel or a dime. What you get from the Packard is a drunk making a beeline for the toilets. And like a hospital orderly, you have to clean up each and every drunk or slob. The customer is always right.

There are other nuisances. The weather crank thinks it will rain if it's snowing, and snow if it's raining. The bargain hunter wants every squeak taken out even if he owns a tin can on wheels. And the one-gallon pain-in-the-neck always drives into the station in the middle of a rainstorm. "Fill 'er up?" you ask. The pain-in-the-neck holds up one finger and answers: "Fill 'er up." It's the standard joke in the industry. At a big station, you can hear it thirty times a day.

CREDIT VS. QUOTA

Then there's the customer who wants credit. The company doesn't take any chances. But a grease monkey with a gas quota finds himself laying out his own good money and keeping a notebook like a bookkeeper. Sometimes you get stuck and your pay checks take it on the chin.

You take it on the chin and in the solar plexus, too, with the shortage evil. The computor pumps figure out the price and the amount of gas sold. But there's always a difference between the money you take in and what the computor pumps read, and the more business the more shortage. The company's efficiency rats don't bother with shortage. They're too busy scheming how to fire men. Anyway, it's not the company's worry as long as grease monkeys get pay checks. And people call Rockefeller a financier!

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

But what can we do? Quit the chain and work for an independent where the boss'll tell you all his troubles but keep his successes to himself? You hear all about his debts and why he can't afford more help. You worry when the rent and gas payment comes due. You become his pal and end up by working fourteen and fifteen hours a day for the same pay. Working for a chain, the hours are regular anyway.

There's no future in the industry. A natural-born salesman might be recommended by the supervisior for a station manager's job. But most likely the supervisor's wondering whether he shouldn't fire you!

The company's policy don't help a decent supervisor stay decent. The supervisor's in the same spot as the traffic cop who must bring in a certain number of summons every day or get in trouble himself. It's some job all right. The routine and speed-up get you down. At the end of the day you're too tired to breathe. You end up with a new disease. Call it Frozen Smilitis.

There's one real answer and that's the Oil Workers' International Union. Their contract with a chain like City Service provides for a closed shop, eight hours a day and twenty to twenty-two dollar minimum wage. Unionize the whole industry, chains and independents! That's the answer. That'll be something to smile about.

NEW HOMES FOR OLD

A department dealing with the need for better housing and how to obtain it, conducted by the CIO Committee on Housing.

Politics At Its Worst

By THOMAS HUMPHRIES

Recent attempts to sabotage the New Deal's low-rent housing program afford a graphic example of underhanded politics at its worst.

Public, low-rent housing and slum clearance is too popular nowadays for anyone, even the most rabid reactionary, to openly oppose it. The only thing left for the Congressional enemies of better housing is to pretend that there is nothing closer to their hearts than the problem of doing away with the slums, and at the same time try to hamstring the housing program by deceptive amendments.

ANTI-HOUSING TRICKERY

A few weeks ago Senator Millard Tydings of Maryland launched an attack upon the United States Housing Authority—all in the name of trying to "improve" the housing program now being carried on throughout the country with the USHA's technical and financial aid.

His attack was based upon a gross misrepresentation of the construction costs of USHA-aided projects. Although the average net construction cost per dwelling on these projects is less than $3500 (and in all cases less than the cost of similar construction by private industry), Tydings resorted to mathematical trickery. Like a magician pulling a rabbit out of a hat, he pulled out the astounding figure of $12,000 and brandished it before the face of the Senate!

Two days later Representative White of Ohio echoed Tydings' mouthings in the House. Only he went Tydings one better He added another $5000 to Tydings' figure and without batting an eyelash tried to prove that each home built under the USHA program would cost $17,000!

TO WRECK PROGRAM

Then, when the House considered the appropriation for the USHA's administrative expenses, White introduced an amendment which provided for a cost limitation that would have almost wrecked the entire housing program. He asked that total costs (that is, not only construction costs but the costs of land, non-dwelling facilities such as recreation space and social halls, slum dwellings that are torn down, land for future use, etc.) be limited to $3500 per dwelling. In most cities this would have been impossible.

Taking advantage of a moment when very few Democrats were in the House, a small clique of reactionaries had this amendment put to a vote. It passed by a small margin.

FRIENDS ALERT

Luckily, the friends of housing were not asleep.

In the Senate, Senator Wagner blasted Tydings' charges and presented accurate data showing how low costs and rents are under the USHA program. The CIO Committee on Housing, and the AFL Housing Committee as well, leaped to the defense of the USHA and insisted that the crippling restriction be removed.

On March 20 the matter was brought to a re-vote in the House. With a large number of Representatives present and with the true facts about the USHA program having been brought to their attention, the $3500 amendment was voted down by the resounding majority of 290 to 77.

Truly, this overwhelming vote in favor of the housing program as it is now being administered by the USHA should be an ominous warning to those who think they can sabotage low-rent public housing and slum clearance.

The story of this attack upon the USHA illustrates not only the devious methods used by the enemies of housing, but the broad popularity of public housing with both Congressmen and the people they represent.

Council Fights Race Hatred

PHILADELPHIA, Apr. 1—(FP)—A resolution introduced into the state legislature which would make it illegal for anyone to distribute literature intended to incite racial hatred is receiving the support of the CIO Industrial Union Council here.

The council adopted a resolution, which has been sent to all its affiliated unions, urging all CIO unions to petition their representaives to back the measure.

Worth Their Salt

By MIKE RYAN

Halifax, N. S., Apr. 1—Application for a conciliation board to settle a wage dispute with the Malagash Salt Co., Ltd., has been made by the Salt Workers CIO Union to Hon. Norman Rogers, Canadian Minister of Labor. The board would be set up under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act.

This action was taken by the Salt Workers following a breakdown in negotiations for a higher wage scale in Halifax between a delegation representing the union, officials of the company and provincial Deputy Minister of Labor R. H. MacKay.

$2.60 A DAY

Many salt workers receive only $2.60 for a 10-hour day and the union insisted on an upward revision.

The breakdown in the Halifax conference resulted from the refusal of the company to supply the union with a financial statement. Although the company contended it was unable to raise wages, it refused detailed information as to its finances.

Special significance was attached by the Salt Workers to the flat refusal of the company to reveal how much money was paid in salaries and how much in wages. A detailed financial report would reveal this information, and according to the union men, the company's claim it was unable to increase wages would be discredited.

Unfair Oil Firm Feels CIO Power

Tulsa, Okla., Apr. 1—Mid-Continent Oil, whose workers have been on strike here for four months now, is feeling the pinch of the unfair list circulated throughout the country by the Oil Workers Intl. Union, CIO.

Oil Workers Officers report that results have been shown from the 8,000 letters sent to unions describing the strike at Mid-Continent, and that the company has lost hundreds of thousands of gallons in sales.

Maine Shoe Firm Fined In Wage-Hour Case

PORTLAND, Me., Apr. 1.—The federal wage-hour administration added one more to its string of court victories in its fight to enforce the fair labor standards act when a Lewiston shoe firm pleaded guilty to criminal charges of violation.

Max and Maurice Mersky, principal executives in the Bay Shoe Co., reversed their original plea of innocence and admitted that they were guilty of fourteen counts of violating the law. They paid a fine of $1,000 against the company and fine of $250 against each of them personally.

District Court Judge John A. Peters suspended an additional fine of $1,000 against the firm on promises that three women who had been paid less than the prescribed 25c an hour will receive back wages due them.

Hearst Ad Sales Skid; Strike In 17th Week

Chicago, April 1—Legal skirmishes with the Chicago Newspaper Guild and rapidly skidding advertising lineage added to the woes of Publisher William Randolph Hearst as the strike of 600 employes of his American and Herald-Examiner moved into its seventeenth solid week.

In the first twenty days of March, statistics show, the two Hearst papers dropped 487,943 lines of advertising space compared with the same period in 1938, while all other Chicago daily papers increased their advertising revenue.

SEEKS OTHER COURT

Ben Meyers, attorney for the Guild, announced that he will seek a change of venue on hearings for a temporary injunction sought by Hearst against the Guild. He charged that Judge Niemeyer, who granted the writ, is prejudiced against the Guild.

Meanwhile, the Guild charged that the Walgreen chain of drug stores, which has been a strong financial supporter of Hearst during the four-month strike, has "come out in the open as a strike-breaker."

The accusation was based on the action of the Walgreen management in seeking court permission to become a party to the Hearst court fight against the Guild.

ADMIT PICKETING HURTS

Admitting that the strikers' picketing of advertisers in the scab papers has caused "irreparable damage" to the drug chain, Walgreen asked the court to forbid the Guild to distribute handbills which show Walgreen's continued support of the struck publications.

Two Guild sound trucks are being used to carry the union's message to Chicago citizens, and 100,000 copies of the second edition of the strikers' paper are being distributed.

All clergymen in the 40-mile area around the city have been sent copies of the Churchmen's Fact Finding Report. Some 20 Protestant, Catholic and Jewish clergymen and laymen probed the issues involved and found that the "Guild strike was justified" as the only method of saving the union from the attacks of the Hearst management.

Hunger Strike Effective, Wins Gains

New York, Apr. 1—A hunger strike of employes of the Beth David Hospital here ended far this side of starvation when the management reached an agreement with their union during the fourth day of the spectacular demonstration.

Pres. Harry Wenning of Local 129, State, County & Municipal Workers, CIO, said the agreement provides for recognition of a union grievance committee, a week's vacation with pay, a week sick leave with pay for all employes on the job six months or more and hearings before discharge.

$35 A MONTH

Miss Bessie Hanan, representative of the local, said that strikers had agreed to end their demonstration as a result of the promise of the hospital authorities to bargain in good faith.

"We feel that the Beth David workers, who are earning the miserable wage of $35 a month, are making a tremendous sacrifice by agreeing to continue conferences on wage increases," she added.

Don't Tread On Us . . . Hearst Told

San Francisco, Apr. 1—If William Randolph Hearst wants a newspaper Guild strike on his hands in this city as well as in Chicago, he's welcome to continue provoking the union—but he'd better not try.

This was the warning given the failing old dean of yellow journalism by the San Francisco Newspaper Guild on the eve of contract negotiations here.

WARNING HEEDED

The SFNG statement apparently was heeded by the local management, for statements soon appeared on the bulletin board at the Examiner advising employes that they are free to join any union of their own choosing. Previously the management had tried to intimidate classified advertising department employes with warnings that Guild membership would result in immediate discharge.

Tad Irving, Guild secretary here, said that "it looks as though the Hearst management here may be feeling its way toward trying to oust the disruptive tactics which contributed to the present Guild strike against the two Chicago Hearst newspapers.

"If the Hearst management wants to repeat these tactics in San Francisco we can promise that the Guild here, and the entire labor movement, is ready for them."

Maritime Pact Confabs

Members of the tankers negotiating committee of the National Maritime Union (left) meet with representatives of ship owners in New York City. The present contract, covering 15,000 workers, expires April 15.

Predict Inland Steel To Sign Pact

Negotiations Called "Very Satisfactory"

By HOWARD J. McCARTNEY

PITTSBURGH, Apr. 2.—Indications are that Inland Steel Company is on the verge of signing a contract with the CIO's Steel Workers Organizing Committee. This is the belief of steel union leaders in the Midwest, based on recent developments. Joint meetings between company officials, SWOC lodge committees and national representatives of the union have already been held. At the conclusion of the last joint meeting—union representatives declared that the discussions were "very satisfactory."

The management "in as many words admitted that the SWOC represents a vast majority of the Inland employes, and that the steel union is a responsible and bona fide organization." When steel union members—bulwarked by civic groups — issued demands that the company meet and negotiate with the SWOC, an appeal for joint conferences was issued by Governor M. Clifford Townsend, through the Indiana Commissioner of Labor.

CONFER WITH MANAGEMENT

As a result, negotiating committes were formed in SWOC lodges, and at the first meeting 16 lodge representatives, along with Van A. Bittner, Midwest SWOC director; Nicholas Fontecchio, district director, and James Robb, State CIO director, met with top officials of Inland Steel.

Inland Steel Company was allied with other companies in the "Little Steel" group during the strike of 1937. The controversy over whether Inland should sign a contract with the SWOC has been under way since then. The matter has been slowly coming to a head, culminating in a resolution adopted by the lodge which demanded that the company sign a contract, as ordered to do so by the National Labor Relations Board.

It was the alarm created by demands of the employes that led to the joint conferences.

Another company associated with the "Little Steel" alliance during the 1937 steel strike—Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company — is the target of charges filed with the Labor Board by the SWOC. While the charges were submitted to the Board, more than six months ago, efforts have been made to settle the case without formal action before the Labor Board.

The case involves some 268 Sheet and Tube employes, who, it has been alleged, were discriminated against by the company following the strike. In "peace" conferences in Youngstown and Cleveland over the past six months the union succeeded in bringing about the reinstatement of some 80 workmen. But the company, even in those cases, refused to settle the question of back pay, or to do anything about the remaining 150 or more who had been fired or demoted.

It is estimated that if the SWOC wins all the cases, the company will be forced to return approximately $250,000 in back pay.

In the charges now before the Board, the SWOC declares it represented a majority of the firm's workers in three plants—at South Chicago, Ill.; Indiana Harbor, Ind., and Youngstown, O. — and that it should be certified as exclusive bargaining agency for all workers.

The Labor Board will be asked to order dissolution of various company unions in the Sheet & Tube plants.

Meanwhile, in Huntington, W. Va., the SWOC won a major victory at International Nickel Company, when, in a government-supervised election, a majority of the employes voted in favor of the CIO union, thereby assuring a contract guaranteeing sole bargaining rights to the steel union.

Negotiations are expected to get under way in the near future. International Nickel Co. is one of the most profitable firms in the world. It produces 80% of the world's nickel. In 1937 the company's profits were over 70 million dollars. It is a wholly-owned subsidiary of International Nickel Company of Canada, where the SWOC is conducting a vigorous drive at the present time.

Laud Transit Union Safety Campaign

New York, April 1—The Transport Workers Union's campaign for greater safety and courtesy in the handling of an expected 100,000 new riders daily on New York's transportation system as a result of the World's Fair today won high praise from city and state officials.

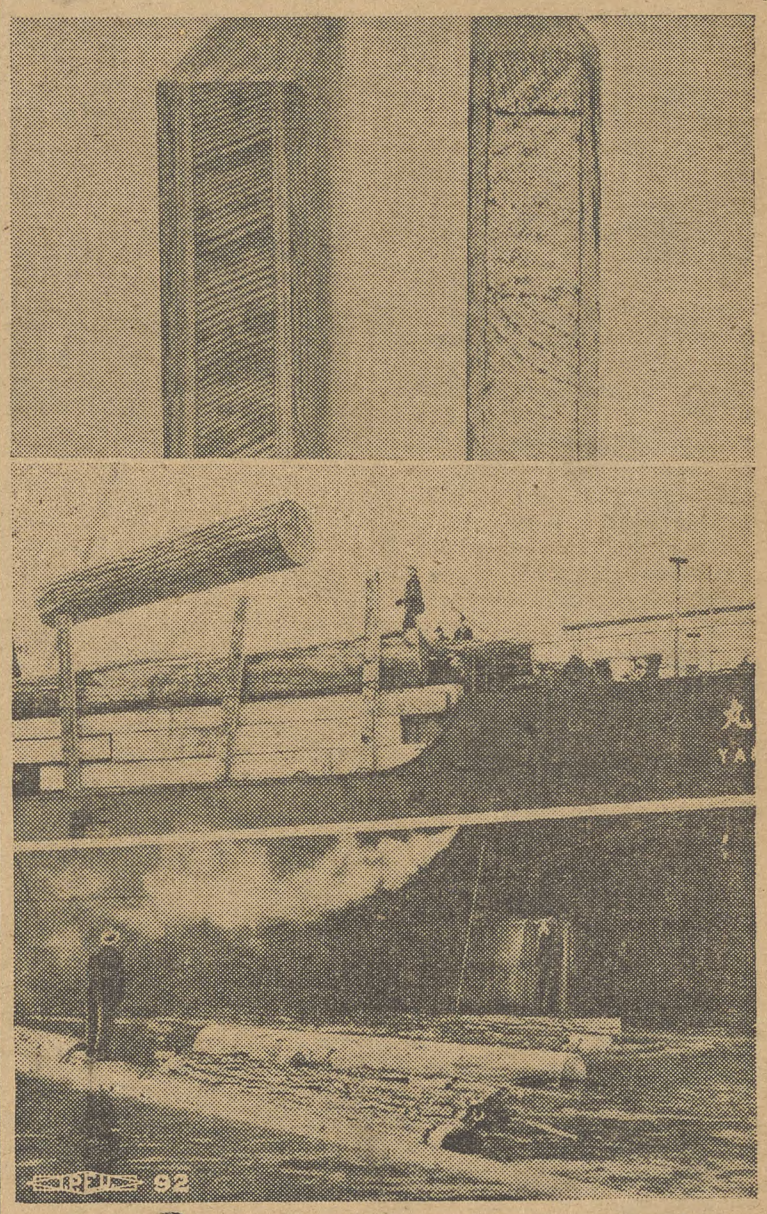
"I am sure that the campaign will meet with very general approval both by the people of New York and our many millions of visitors," said Gov. Herbert Lehman.

FINE EXAMPLE

Lieut.-Gov. Charles Polettti described the TWU campaign as "a fine example of the efforts of organized labor to render a real service to the community." Chairman Fullen of the Transit Commission stated that the "purpose of the union is a laudable one and deserves the official commendation it has received."

The Transport Workers Union of Greater New York has some 55,000 members employed on all major subway, elevated, trolley, bus and taxi systems in the city.

CIO Woodworkers Campaign to Save U. S. Lumber



To protect our natural wealth by banning export of giant Douglas fir trees which have taken hundreds of years to grow, is the aim of a new campaign of the Intl. Woodworkers of America, CIO affiliate. Lower picture shows huge logs cut from the irreplaceable forest giants being loaded on a Japanese freighter. Upper photo shows cross-cut sections of plywood made from American (left) and foreign grown lumber of this type, and indicates the vast superiority of the home-grown wood.

SEATTLE, Apr. 1.—The whole force of the International Woodworkers of America, CIO, will be thrown into a drive to save American resources of choice Douglas fir logs, according to an announcement by Harold J. Pritchett, president.

Together with other labor organizations and conservation groups in the northwest, the IWA will demand a ban on export of these logs now being shipped in huge quantities to the fascist countries, Germany, Japan and Italy.

"We are glad to join with all progressive conservationists in this fight for the very life of the forest industries in the Pacific northwest," Pritchett said. "The export of our priceless high quality Douglas fir logs affects American plywood workers, members of our union.

$1,000,000 LOSS

"There is a payroll of more than one million dollars a year lost to our plywood labor alone since Germany, Japan, and Italy have started to import our raw logs, making their own plywood, and placing it on the world markets. Through this aggression of the totalitarian states, American labor has suffered.

"No wonder these countries can compete with us when they get our raw products and deny their people the right to think, let alone speak in favor of labor organization and collective bargaining. Japan, especially, has an advantage in the production of plywood wherein the workers receive 3c an hour while our American plywood workers, under contract to his employer, averages 78c an hour."

Pritchett points out that while there are nearly 6,000 men employed in the plywood industry, many more are laid off on account of the shrinkage through unfair competition in the plywood trade.

SAVE RESOURCES

"The proposed legislation now before the United States Congress will, if it accomplishes its purpose, reserve our choice timber for the American people and eventually restore to the American mills the foreign markets previously held but lost through the furnishing of logs, because nowhere else in the world are such logs available for export, and stabilize the domestic forest industries through the development of this export trade. "Therefore, the International Woodworkers of America gives this Bill its wholehearted and unconditional support."

Pritchett asked all CIO unions to join with the IWA and the conservation groups in this fight to save an irreplaceable resource for America.

Don't Tell Chi. Coke Workers That Wagner Act Needs Changes

Chicago, Apr. 1 — If anyone talks about amending the Wagner Act around the Crawford Avenue coke plants here, he gets a queer look from employes of the Peoples Gas Light and Coke Co.

The National Labor Relations Board, when it finally won a decision from the United States Supreme Court in the Consolidated Edison case, was given jurisdiction over huge gas utilities, declared to be engaged in interstate commerce. Before that famous decision, the gas workers were unprotected by the law. Company unionism and outright discrimination flourished in the Chicago plant.

CAN ANSWER NAM

The Peoples Gas Light Workers can tell you that the talk of the National Association of Manufacturers about the necessity of making the Wagner Act considerate of both the employer and employe is only a fancy brand of hot air. The employers don't want the Wagner Act in any form and all their efforts to "improve" it are only attempts to weaken and destroy it.

Witness the way the Peoples Gas Light and Coke acted when it was thought that gas utilities were outside the Labor Board's supervision. Did management try to bargain equally with the union members? Did they respect the right to organize? No!

LAID OFF 100

When the coke workers began to organize, one hundred workers were laid off. It was strange that an economy measure could be so selective. It "just happened" that the company laid off six CIO men to every one non-union man.

District Fifty of the United Mine Workers of America immediately filed a complaint against these anti-union tactics of the company with the NLRB. The Supreme Court had not then decided the Consolidated Edison case and the Labor Board wanted to wait until the issue had been settled.

Peoples Gas Light and Coke solemnly averred that it was not engaged in interstate commerce, in spite of the fact that it services some of the largest industrial plants in the nation. In addition, thousands of tons of coal are imported from West Virginia and Kentucky and millions of cubic feet of natural gas per day are piped 980 miles from Texas to Chicago.

BRIGHT IDEA

The Labor Board was unable to act until its jurisdiction was clearly established and so the company felt it was justified in flouting the law. Immediately after the Consolidated Edison decision, the Peoples Gas Light Company had a brilliant new idea.

The AFL conveniently appeared and was recognized for the next five years. But the workers are encouraged. The Labor Board can and will protect them and they are demanding an election to prove that they want the CIO.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 15 — 20 — April 10, 1939 — Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 — $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

LABOR TO BACK WAGNER ACT AT U. S. HEARINGS

The News In Brief

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

Auto

Cleveland.—The United Automobile Workers convention here ended with the election of R. J. Thomas as president and the re-election of Sec-Treas. George Addes. Many changes were made in the union's constitution.

Coal

New York.—With 320,000 easter bituminous coal miners idle pending agreement on a new contract, Vice-Pres. Philip Murray of the United Mine Workers charged "outside influences" had been at work to prevent signing of a new contract. All the union's proposals have been turned down, he said.

Unity

New York.—Unity negotiations between the CIO and AFL have been indefinitely postponed on account of the Wagner Act hearings and the coal mine contract negotiations.

LaFollette

Washington.—The National Metal Trades Assn. hides its opposition to all collective bargaining behind a slogan of fighting the closed shop, the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee said in a report exposing NMTA spy and strikebreaking activities.

Conventions

National Maritime Union, New Orleans, July 3. Minnesota Industrial Union Council, Duluth, May 12.

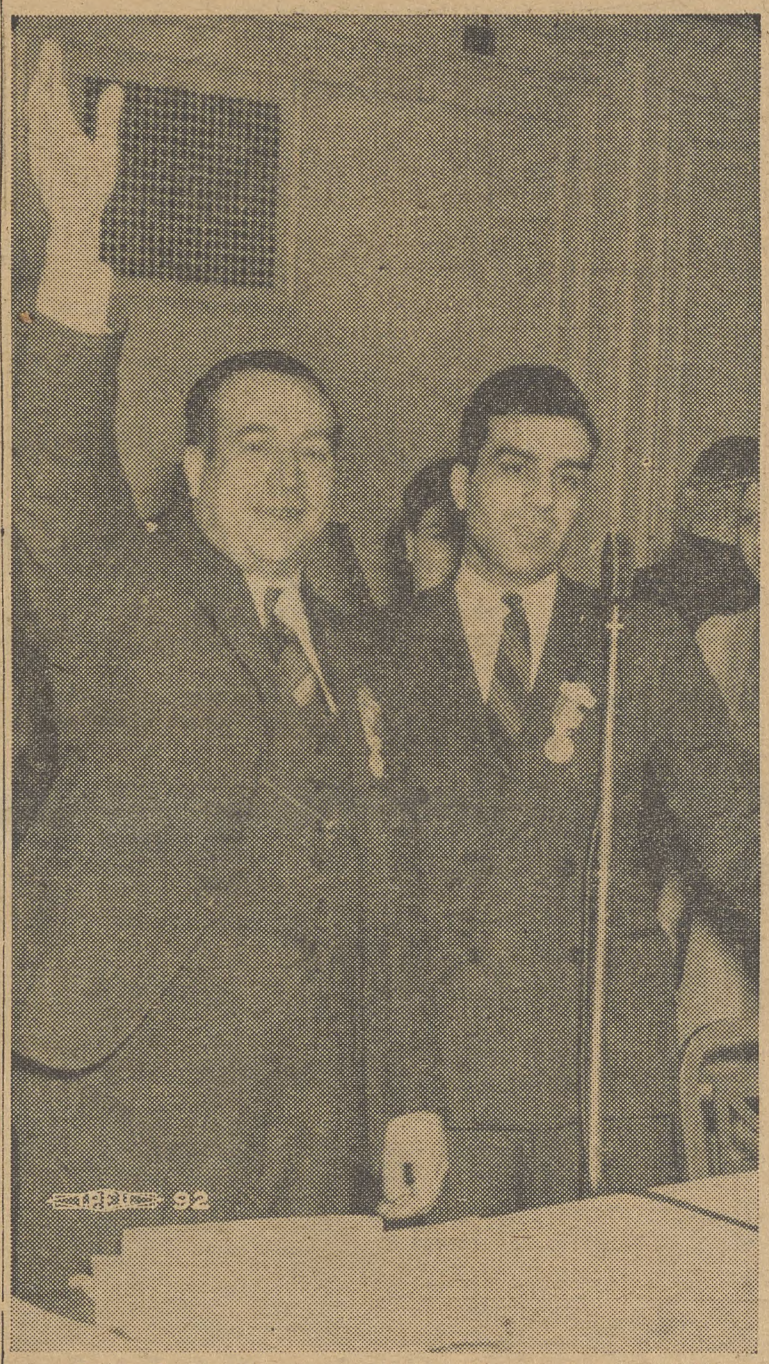
Support 300 Negro Strikers

New York, Apr. 8.—Five thousand union members and a delegation of labor leaders demonstrated outside the Long Island City plant of the Spring Products Corp., where the strike of Local 91, United Furniture Workers, has been in effect for eight months.

The dispute involves 300 Negro workers, and resulted from the management's refusal to renew a previous contract on grounds that "Negroes cannot be responsible union members."

Invited to attend the demonstration were Pres. Muster of the UFW; Pres. Allan Haywood, of the New York Industrial Union Council; and Sec. James B. Carey, of the CIO.

Head Auto Union



Pres. R. J. Thomas and Sec.-Treas. George Addes receive cheers of delegates to the union's Cleveland convention following their election to office. Offices of the five vice-presidents were removed by convention changes in the constitution.

The WPA Record

WASHINGTON, Apr. 9.—WPA has built an average of six public buildings for each county in the United States, and built or improved highways which in aggregate would cross the country 100 times, Administrator F. C. Harrington announced today.

His report covers WPA activities on 200,000 projects during three years, and provides an answer for critics of the government work program.

It listed among WPA's contributions:

1. 17,600 new public buildings for cities, counties and states; repairs and improvements to 46,300 and additions to 1,700.

2. 280,000 miles of highways, roads and streets constructed or repaired; 29,100 new bridges and 23,500 repaired or improved.

3. 26,700 new dams for conservation purposes; 4,100 new storage dams.

4. 6,100 miles of new water mains, aqueducts and distribution lines; 8,900 miles of new storm and sanitary sewers.

5. 1,800 new athletic fields, 1,500 improved; 1,100 new parks, 4,200 improved or enlarged; 1,600 new playgrounds, 5,000 improved.

6. 8,700 miles of new and 5,000 miles of improved ditches for mosquito control; 11,500 miles of other types of ditches excavated or improved, exclusive of roadside drainage in connection with road projects.

Senate Group Will Hear From Unions

(See Stories Page Five)

WASHINGTON, Apr. 10.—The hearings on amendments to the Wagner Labor Relations Act will start tomorrow, April 11.

Sen. Robert Wagner of New York, father of the bill which has been termed labor's "magna charta" is expected to be the first witness before the committee.

The hearings, which will extend over a period of several weeks, will hear testimony from such enemies of the Act as Sen. Walsh of Massachusetts, Pres. William Green of the American Federation of Labor, and representatives of anti-union businessmen's organizations.

Spokesmen for CIO unions, for the National Labor Relations Board and numerous progressive organizations will defend the Act as it now stands on the books.

Members of all unions—CIO and AFL affiliates and railroad brotherhoods—have been asked to flood the committee with telegrams and letters to show that the rank and file of American labor is solidly united in opposition to the big-business attempt to nullify the benefits of the Act.

Guild Asks Injunction Against Hearst Tactics

CHICAGO, Apr. 8.—Taking a leaf from the Hearst's legal notebook, striking members of the American Newspaper Guild on the Herald-Examiner and Evening American today sought an injunction against the management of the two papers.

Through Ben Meyers and A. J. Isserman, attorneys for the Guild, the strikers are seeking to gain a decree which will halt Hearst law-breaking and force an end to end the publishers' gangster tactics.

It demands that Hearst be restrained from committing unfair labor practices, from attempting to smash the Guild as a collective bargaining agency or from seeking to halt the distribution of the union's strike handbills.

Meanwhile the strikers announced that they have been able to pull about 2,000,000 lines of advertising from the columns of the two papers. This is equivalent to 7,143 columns or 893 standard pages of advertising space.

Emperor Dethroned

New York, Apr. 8 — William Randolph Hearst has lost control of the chain of newspapers which provided him with a fortune based on a formula of smut, sensationalism and red-baiting.

American Newspapers Inc., top-dog in a maize of holding companies, announced that the presidency has slipped from the hands of Hearst to those of John St. Claire Brooks, Jr.

Brookes, it is revealed, is a director of a number of Mellon-controlled corporations, and was former secretary and general counsel for Koppers Co., one of the largest of the Mellon subsidiaries.

He is also a member of the board of Tom Girdler's Republic Steel Corp.

Metal Union Plans Drive in Gold Mines

SOUTH PORCUPINE, Ont., Apr. 8.—The Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union, CIO, has launched an organizing drive in this gold mining camp with the object of enrolling all employes of the Buffalo Ankerite Gold Mines Limited in the union by the end of April.

Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union headquarters in Timmins have begun a campaign in the area for better safety conditions and are demanding a voice in the methods of mining and application of safety regulations.

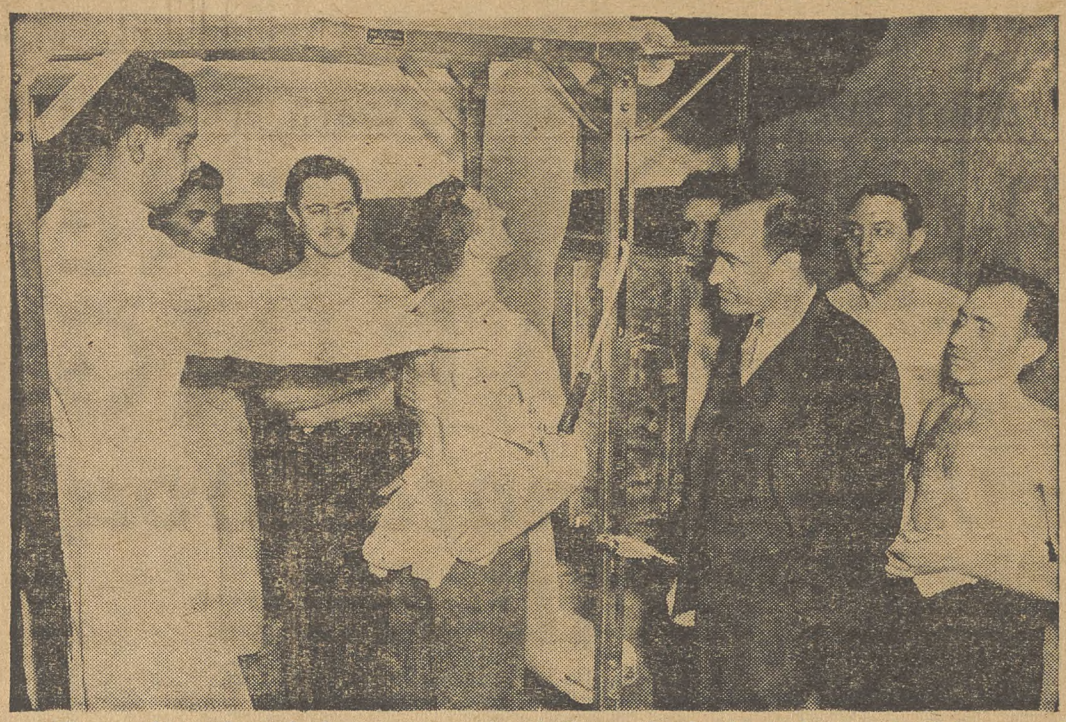
HIGH DEATH RATE

According to survey of accidents during 1938, 2.13 miners per 1,000 were killed in Ontario mines last year. A total of 61 men were killed in gold and metal mines, this being an increase of 9 over 1937.

"How can accidents be reduced?" the MM&SU asks.

"By elected safety committees of experienced miners, recognized by the companies and supported by a strong union," it replies.

For Workers' Health



To combat tuberculosis, an occupational disease in the fur industry, the joint council of the Intl. Fur Workers, CIO, opened a health clinic in New York. Irving Potash, union manager, looks on as Technician Ed Gilligan places Sam Wolkow at the x-ray machine.

Fur Workers Union Starts Drive Against Tuberculosis

NEW YORK, Apr. 8.—For the first time in the history of of American labor, the entire membership of a trade union group is to be given an examination for tuberculosis, dreaded plague which yearly lays low thousands of industrial workers in this country.

Some 15,000 New York fur workers, members of the International Fur Workers, CIO union, will be x-rayed under a joint program of the city Board of Health and the WPA tuberculosis project, with the cooperation of the union. Tuberculosis heads the list of occupational diseases in the fur industry.

In announcing the examinations Irving Potash, manager of the Furriers' Joint Council of New York said, "the 15,000 members of the Furriers Joint Council welcome this opportunity for free medical examination. Thousands of fur workers are eagerly awaiting the reports on the condition of their health.

"This tuberculosis survey is a beginning towards wiping out this dreaded disease in our industry."

MAYOR'S ENDORSEMENT

Mayor LaGuardia who endorsed the project through the Board of Health, has proposed that all persons on relief in the city be x-rayed.

The medical survey was called a "step in the program for complete control of tuberculosis in New York City" by Dr. Herbert R. Edwards, director of the Board's Bureau of Tuberculosis. He called attention to the fact that the New York survey is in line with the proposed health program set forth in the Wagner health bill.

Potash pointed out in his statement that the Furriers Council has also initiated a health insurance plan for its membership. The plan provides for the payment of $8 a week to a member for ten weeks during illness and a payment of $150 when sanitorium treatment is necessary.

In addition to the x-ray examination of the lungs, fur workers are also being examined by the Industrial Hygiene Department of the State Department of Labor, which is conducting a complete health survey in the fur industry.

Dockmen Meet On West Coast

San Francisco, Apr. 8 — Delegates from more than 90 locals of the Intl. Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union, CIO, from southern California to Alaska are attending the annual convention which has been in session here since April 2.

Renewal or modification of the ILWU contract on Sept. 30 was one of the outstanding problems taken up by the 150 delegates present. Pres. Harry Bridges recommended that a referendum be held on reopening the contract in September.

The convention went on record in favor of an appropriation of further funds to continue the La-Follette Committee investigation on the West Coast, defense of the Wagner Act and passage of the Walgreen amendments to the Merchant Marine Act to compel the U. S. Maritime Commission to use union hiring halls.

CIO to Push Rhode Island Campaign

Providence, R. I., Apr. 8 — A state-wide drive to organize the mass production industries in Rhode Island was launched last week at a banquet held in Pawtucket, sponsored by the CIO state council. Some 200 representatives from CIO unions throughout the state attended the affair.

Joseph Mayo, Rhode Island CIO director presided. Speakers included Frank J. Benti, vice-president of the Dyers' Federation and newly apointed state director of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee; Horace A. Riviere, TWOC national representative; Michael F. Widman, New England CIO director, and Adelard Gingras, president of the R. I. Council.

CIO Peace Plan Wins More Praise

WASHINGTON, Apr. 8.—Automobile workers, government employes, metal miners, fishermen, shoe workers, papermakers — all the industries where labor has organized approve the CIO plan for an American Congress of Labor to bring the CIO, the AFL and the Railroad Brotherhoods into one united body of American workers.

This week's round-up of letters and wires approving the Congress proposal, coming from both CIO and AFL, is led by the resolution unanimously passed at the United Automobile Workers convention in Cleveland.

"We call upon our great CIO president, John L. Lewis, the Executive Board of the CIO, the Executive Council of the AFL and its President, Wm. Green, and the independent Railroad Brotherhoods to use all their forces at their command to bring into being a united and consolidated labor movement in our country," the resolution said.

5,000 MINERS

Five thousand metal miners in Montana, members of Local 1 of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, also voted unanimous approval of the CIO proposal at their regular March meeting. This followed a letter sent previously approving the plan.

In Longview, Wash., Local 153 of the AFL Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers (1,000 members) resolved; "The Lewis proposal for a Congress of American Labor will give the rank and file an oportunity to force and bring about this great need of unification," and went on record favoring the Congress idea.

The second annual convention of Hamilton County's Labor's Non-Partisan League in Cincinnati, attended by CIO, AFL and Railroad Brotherhood delegates, resolved that "unless unity is achieved before the 1940 election, there is grave danger that all of the social and economic advances of the past seven years will be wiped out," and urged the negotiating committees to achieve "an honorable and lasting settlement."

CIO Councils in Nashville, Tenn., and Fort Wayne Co., Mich., added their approval to the scores of CIO delegate bodies already on record.

REM-RAND EMPLOYES

AFL workers at the Remington-Rand plant in Middletown, Conn., who have experienced just about everything an anti-union boss has to offer in strikebreaking technique, wrote to Pres. Green demanding that he do everything in his power to effect at least a truce in "the disagreement between you and the CIO."

"We regret to see that this state of affairs exists and feel that you are entirely on the wrong track in your stand and wish to state here, that we are very much opposed to your actions concerning this matter."

250 Attend Texas CIO Convention

By FRED SEELIG

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Apr. 8.—Highlighted by militant and far-reaching progressive plans and measures, the third annual convention of the Texas State Industrial Union Council held a two-day parley here which was attended by approximately 250 delegates and staunch friends of the CIO.

In coming to San Antonio for its annual session, the Texas CIO body invaded a city that a year ago was cursed for its police brutality and un-American suppression of labor and civil rights. The CIO today is solidly entrenched here.

An organizational program, far-reaching in scope, was mapped out. A survey of the industrial areas from which requests have come from the unorganized workers for CIO organizers was authorized. The survey will be made by local unions and will be compiled into a report by the State office.

An appeal to all Texas organized labor, presented by John Crossland of Pasadena, Tex., of Oil Workers International Union, 367, was adopted as a declaration of the State Convention.

ASK UNITED ACTION

It carried a warning that the working people of Texas are faced with a menace to continuation of existing liberties and standards of living by the present state government administration. It called attention to Governor O'Daniel's taxation program which will be a heavy burden on working people, and his encouragement of company unionism.

Resolutions passed by the convention pledged support to Newspaper Guild strikers on the Chicago Hearst papers, backed a proposed investigation of the nation's telegraph industry and voicing confidence in the labor peace proposals of the CIO.

Another resolution called for opposition to amending the Wagner Act, while the Texas legislature was urged to pass a baby Wagner Act for the state.

Strikes of the Oil Workers Int. Union, whose membership in the Lone Star State is very sizeable, against the Mid-Continent Oil Co. and the Crown Central Oil Co. won pledges of aid from the council.

WIRE FROM LEWIS

President John L. Lewis, of the CIO telegraphed greetings to the convention. It read, in part, "I have the greatest confidence that your deliberations will prove an inspiration and a guide not only to the workers of Texas but to the entire nation." John Brophy and Walter Smethurst of the national CIO offices also sent congratulatory telegrams.

Roy Sessions of Houston, Oil Workers International Union, 227, was elected president of the Texas State Industrial Union Council.

Corpus Christi was chosen for the fourth annual convention meeting place in 1940.

Minnesota CIO Meets May 12

Minneapolis, Minn., Apr. 8. — Further advancement of the cause of industrial unionism in Minnesota will be mapped out at the second convention of the state Industrial Union Council to be held at the Spaulding Hotel, Duluth, May 12-14.

Delegates from local industrial unions and councils and other CIO affiliates throughout the state with a total membership of more than 50,000 will attend the convention which will lay down the program and policy for the coming year and elect officers.

Present officers are Joe Van Nordstrand, president and Gordon Roth, secretary. Information concerning the convention may be obtained from these officers by writing them at 342 Lumber Exchange Bldg., Minneapolis, Minn.

Elected

Alice Smith, who has just been elected to the General Executive Board of the United Office and Professional Workers. Miss Smith came into the labor movement and the CIO via the YWCA in southern Indiana, where she was a leader in business and professional girls' organizations.

Don't Like Garner

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Apr. 8 — The Texas CIO doesn't want the Democratic party to consider Vice-Pres. John Nance Garner as its 1940 presidential candidate.

A resolution passed by the state's industrial union council accused Garner, a native of Texas, of attempting to undermine the progressive program undertaken by Pres. Roosevelt. It declared its opposition to any attempt to set Garner up as the 1940 Democratic candidate for the presidency.

Coal Shutdown Blamed on Mine Operators

NEW YORK, Apr. 8.—While more than 300,000 bituminous coal miners throughout the Appalachian area remained idle, leaders of the United Mine Workers, headed by Pres. John L. Lewis, renewed their efforts to bring to a satisfactory conclusion negotiations with coal mine operators which have been in progress for three weeks here.

With Lewis at his side, Vice-President Philip Murray of the UMW told a full session of the 300 workers' and employers' representatives that the union has discarded, one by one, its various demands in order to reach an understanding.

The UMW, he said, is now ready to sign a two-year renewal of the old contract, provided the clauses which provide for a penalty of $1 or $2 a day for each miner who strikes in violation of the contract, is removed.

DON'T FOOL PUBLIC

"Don't try to tell the public that the issue which caused this breakdown was the union shop," the veteran UMW leader warned the operators. "We'll accept two-year extension of the old contract, plus the abolition of the penalty clauses."

In the absence of the union shop, he continued, the UMW is unwilling to be penalized for idleness due to the activities of dual unions which might enter "foul conspiracies" to destroy the UMW.

"Some eight per cent of the workers in the soft coal industry might very well be classified as craftsmen, some 40,000 of them subject to raids by organizations which were seeking assumption of jurisdiction.

34 UNIONS

"In the event they succeeded, the industry would be confronted with 34 collective bargaining agencies instead of one. Jurisdictional disputes would ensue and a few key men in a revolting organization could close down a mine property. If that happened, our union men would be made idle, and we don't want to be fined for that."

During the course of his speech, Murray charged that "outside influences" had been attempting to sabotage the negotiations in the hope of weakening the union. It was believed that Murray was referring to large financial interests and powerful industrial corporations which are heavy purchasers of coal.

Macy Dept. Store Signs Pact, Lifts Pay

By SAUL MILLS

NEW YORK, Apr. 8.—A closed shop contract calling for wage increases totalling $175,000 annually, shorter hours, time-and-a-half overtime pay, paid vacations, legal holidays off with pay and other improved working conditions was signed last week between the R. H. Macy Company, largest retail department store in the world, and Local 1 of the Department Store Employes Organizing Committee of the CIO.

The contract, signed for Macy's by Jack I. Straus, vice-president, for the union by Samuel Wolchok, head of the organizing committee and Michael J. Quill, TWU president and city councilman who acted as personal representative of John L. Lewis in the negotiations, averted a threatened walkout by the Macy employes.

The contract, which also contains clauses on strict seniority observance and grievance machinery for the handling of dismissals or transfers, was hailed throughout New York as the best labor union agreement in the retail store field.

Speaking in behalf of President Lewis, Quill praised Mr. Straus for his "industrial statesmanship" and prophesized the inauguration of contractual relations between the company and the union would forever be known as "the beginning of greater cooperation between management and employes" in the huge department store and throughout the retail selling industry.

Ready To Strengthen Union

A group of delegates to the United Automobile Workers convention give their lungs some exercise following the election of union officers. Now they're ready to make the auto industry 100 per cent union.

Auto Union Elects Thomas, Addes; Convention Maps Future Campaigns

By ROBERT DALE

CLEVELAND, Apr. 8.—Writing a new chapter in union democracy and solidarity, the United Automobile Workers of America, CIO affiliate, wound up its special convention here with adoption of a more democratic constitution and constructive plans for organization of the auto, parts and airplane industries.

The nearly 500 delegates, representing 355,000 UAW members, left definitely behind them the things that have impeded their progress in the past year. Factionalism was banished, dual unionists were read out of the union. Economic conditions in the auto industry, with production now at above normal rates, gave added promise for the future.

Elections, which were the final order of business, chose R. J. Thomas, a former vice-president and head of Chrysler Local 7, as International President, and George F. Addes of Toledo, as International Secretary-Treasurer. Both Thomas and Addes are pioneers in the UAW and have long been recognized for their militant and responsible leadership.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

The convention ordered election of international executive board members from each region by the delegates of that region by roll-call vote. The following were elected to the board:

Michigan—Walter P. Reuther, Richard T. Frankensteen, Richard Leonard, Leo LaMotte, Detroit; Up-state, Arthur Case, Flint; William McCauley, Pontiac; Reuben Peters, Bay City.

Ohio—Paul Miley, Richard Reisinger, Ellsworth Kramer; Indiana—Leroy Roberts; Wisconsin—William Cody; Missouri — Delmond Garst; West Coast—L. H. Michener; Canada — George Burst; South—Lawrence Smith.

Commenting on the election results, Pres. Thomas declared: "The UAW executive board elected today is a progressive, aggressive and business-like group of men in whose hands the UAW may expect to go forward in further service to the automobile workers."

The CIO, through Vice-Presidents Sidney Hillman and Philip Murray, counseled the UAW officers and delegates in their deliberations. Both spoke at an executive session and Hillman spoke later before an open session, which gave him an ovation. Murray was called to New York by coal negotiations, but Hillman remained most of the week and met with countless rank-and-file delegations.

UNANIMOUS VOTE

The action of the convention in abolishing the offices of vice-presidents was by unanimous vote after it had been approved on the floor by all elements among the delegates, including previous holders of those offices.

Continuation of the CIO-UAW coordinating committee was also requested by unanimous vote. The resolution names the president and secretary-treasurer as UAW representatives on the committee and requests Vice-Presidents Murray and Hillman to continue as CIO representatives. The committee will have only advisory powers, as in the past, and all recommendations must be approved by the International Executive Board.

BITTER EXPERIENCE

The new constitution is the fruit

Continued on page five

Labor Peace Confabs Are Postponed

New York, Apr. 8. — Further peace conferences between the committees of the Congress of Industrial Organizations and the American Federation of Labor have been postponed until some "mutually satisfactory date in the future," on account of the Senate hearings on the Wagner Labor Relations Act and the continuance of coal contract negotiations.

The two committees met for the seventh conference on Tuesday at the Biltmore Hotel in New York, and adjourned without making any announcement as to progress made.

The following day President John L. Lewis of the CIO announced that Matthew Woll, on behalf of the AFL committee, had "easily agreed" with him on postponing the next conference because of the Wagner act hearings and the negotiations.

The Senate committee on education and labor had held off hearings on the Wagner act for several weeks, so that the controversy started by attempts to amend the act might not interfere with peace conferences between CIO and AFL. But last week it decided to start hearings on April 11.

Blame Freight Differential

Fort Smith, Ark., Apr. 8. — Differential freight rates between northern and southern states contribute greatly to making the South the nation's No. 1 economic problem, the Arkansas CIO Industrial Union Council declared in a resolution endorsing Governor Carl E. Bailey's efforts for equalization.

The Council asked that all affiliated unions in the state ask their representatives in Congress to vote for legislation to remedy the evil.

Recommend 40c Wage For Hosiery Workers

WASHINGTON, Apr. 8.—A 40c hourly minimum wage for full fashioned hosiery workers was recommended to the Wage-Hour Administrator Elmer F. Andrews today by the hosiery industry committee.

The committee, which was the third set up under the provisions of the wage-hour law, is the first to have recommended 40c, the highest figure permitted by the statute.

At the same time the committee suggested a rate of 32½c an hour for workers in the seamless branch of the industry. The vote on both recommendations was unanimous.

If the proposed rates are finally established, some 16,000 full-fashioned workers and about 30,000 seamless workers, will receive substantial wage increases, the committee estimated.

The committee was headed by Prof. George W. Taylor, of the Univesity of Pennsylvania, veteran labor arbitrator. Its labor delegation, entirely made up of members of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, CIO affiliate, included Pres. Emil Rieve, Alfred Hoffmann, William Leader, Thomas Lehmann, and W. Cedric Stallings.

Liberals Fight Plan To Slash WPA Funds

WASHINGTON, Apr. 8.—One hundred thousand people will be removed from the WPA rolls each month unless Congress restores the $50,000,000 slash in Pres. Roosevelt's $150,000,000 WPA deficiency appropriation bill.

This was the warning sent to Congress by the President himself, now resting at Warm Springs, Ga. WPA headquarters have already sent out instructions to fire 230,000 workers in case the full appropriation fails.

The tory economy bloc in the Senate has threatened to seek an even more drastic slash in the funds if New Dealers bring the fight for the full $150,000,000 appropriation out on the floor of the Senate. The bill has been in a Senate committee for several days.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II April 10, 1939 No. 15

Act Now To Defend Your Rights

The Senate hearings which open April 11 will produce a smokescreen of propaganda against the Wagner Labor Relations Act—a law which has done more good for labor and the country than almost any other legislation on the books.

Behind this smokescreen, preparations are being made for the real offensive of reaction, which is directed against all effective labor organization and designed to break down the wages and better conditions which the unions have won.

The drive to amend the Wagner Act is intended to deprive workers of the right to organize in unions of their own choosing, so that they may be unprotected against coming attacks on their wages and working conditions.

It therefore becomes urgent for labor and all friends of labor to mobilize their resistence without delay.

Wagner Act Defense Committees have already been set up in many industrial centers, through which CIO, AFL and other unions join hands with progressive organizations of all kinds for the campaign. But active committees of this kind are now needed in every center of population.

Mass meetings should be called without delay to impress on all Senators and Congressmen that the people back home are aroused by the present attacks on the Wagner Act.

Resolutions should be adopted, petitions circulated, delegations organized and everything else possible done to let Congress know, while the hearings are being held, that labor and all progressives are insistent that the present act be defended against all amendments.

Labor Spies Paid With Government Money

The employment of stoolpigeons to spy on workers is an infringement of the civil rights of American citizens which the government is sworn to uphold.

Yet the latest report of the LaFollette-Thomas civil liberties committee reveals that the government itself has been encouraging this loathsome un-American practice.

It tells of 32 companies enjoying fat contracts from the U. S. War, Navy and Treasury Departments while they used the services of labor spies of the Natl. Metal Trades Assn.

"It cannot be claimed that these firms need labor spies in order to meet their obligations to the government," the report comments. "They exhibit the anomalous situation where beneficiaries of government contracts willfully violate the spirit of national labor policy."

The Oppressive Labor Practices bill sponsored by the committee would end such scandalous inconsistencies in government policies by barring corporations which employ labor spies from receiving federal contracts.

The CIO has long been campaigning for legislation to stop government contracts from going to concerns which violate the Wagner Labor Relations Act.

It is high time that an end be put to the government condoning breaches of the labor laws which the government should be the first to enforce.

Whittling Away WPA

The country has been treated to a sorry spectacle in the resistence of Congress to voting adequate funds for WPA.

The unemployed have been made the victims of politicians who have not the courage to come out openly against WPA work for the jobless, but who have been working to that end by underhand means.

The surest way to destroy any government program is to deprive it of funds. And that is what the reactionaries have been doing in Congress by constantly whittling away at every administration request for even the most limited appropriation.

It is to be hoped that the memories of the unemployed who are thrown off WPA will be long enough to remember the members of Congress who vote against them until the next elections.

Not only they, but all other workers and public-spirited citizens, should also have long memories for the politicians who have carried on this underhanded campaign to starve the jobless, to undermine labor standards and to deprive business of the stimulus that comes from WPA wages.

Taking Aim

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

How Jitters Are Caused

THE present war jitters in Europe have a parallel in the United States. Nervousness, irritability, uncertainty about the future are beginning to make themselves felt in industrial and political life.

The causes of America's internal jitters are similar to the causes of Europe's case of nerves.

Both are deliberately provoked by aggressors who think they will profit from disorder and confusion, and who are so concerned about their own special interests that they are reckless of the general disaster that may follow their policies.

The attack on the Wagner labor relations act is a case in point.

This attack has been opened in the Senate by anti-labor industrialists and other elements who seek to promote their narrow selfish interests at the general expense.

Industrial peace, stable labor relations and unity of the trade union movement receive a lot of lip service these days as factors necessary for recovery.

Yet the people who have insisted on going through with the attack on the Wagner act at this time, have done so with the knowledge that they would thereby be upsetting the apple-cart in regard to all these matters.

Sudeten Tactics

One conservative Senator was asked if he would be willing to accept responsibility for the adverse effects on the labor movement which would result from his insistence on immediate hearings on the Wagner act.

"Most certainly," he replied. "Our first duty is to business and industry."

But actually this Senator and his kind are not doing their duty to business and industry. Rather they are trying to serve their own political interests and those of a minority of employers who have refused to obey the Wagner act, at the expense of all the rest who have adjusted themselves to collective bargaining as required by the law.

Such reactionaries hop to produce a New Deal defeat in 1940 by keeping labor divided, by playing on the imagined grievances of anti-union employers and by creating general industrial confusion.

They are copying the tactics whereby Hitler seized control of Czechoslovakia. By building up and playing upon the supposed grievances of the Sudeten German minority, and by provoking internal disorder, the Nazis provided themselves with a convenient excuse for every subsequent act of aggression.

Creating Minorities

Similar Sudeten tactics are being used wherever possible to disrupt the American labor movement.

Where strong unions are organized which have the confidence of the great majority of the workers, anti-union employers and those who play their game instigate some form of breakaway or minority movement which will contest the union's claim to represent the workers.

They use such movements as an excuse to avoid collective bargaining; and if the Labor Board rules against these phony outfits, the Wagner act is unfair and should be amended.

The insincerity of Hitler's professed concern for minorities under foreign rule, is shown by the way he has imposed Nazi rule on the Czech and Slovak peoples.

And there is no more reason to believe that the anti-union employers who seek revision of the Wagner act are backing the claims of company unions, breakaway minorities and some craft leaders except as a means of breaking down the whole system of collective bargaining which the act provides.

Democracy at Stake

The present Wagner act is a democratic instrument for determining what kind of union representation the workers themselves desire, and for reducing industrial friction through collective bargaining between the freely chosen representatives of both workers and employers.

It is not unfair to employers, since it merely grants to workers the same rights of selecting representatives as their employers have already enjoyed.

Nor is it unfair to any section of labor, since it allows the workers themselves to say whether they want craft, industrial or any other form of organization.

But those who would amend the Wagner act are little more concerned with democracy than is Hitler. They would change it in such a way as to deny workers the right to choose industrial organization, and to allow employers to interfere in many ways with their employes' freedom of choice.

By their aggressions, these foes of the Wagner act and of free collective bargaining are helping to create the jitters, uncertainty and lack of confidence of which we hear so much.

It is high time for all who are concerned for democracy and recovery to build a solid front against them and in defense of the present Wagner act.

Maritime Convention In July

NEW YORK, Apr. 8. — The second general convention of the National Maritime Union will be held in New Orleans the first week in July, according to "The Pilot", official organ of the NMU.

The first convention was held in New York in August, 1937. Since then the membership has increased until at the present time it numbers more than 67,000.

What Hurts Labor Hurts Business

CIO Issues New Leaflet in Defense Of Wagner Act

WASHINGTON, Apr. 8.—The CIO moved this week to carry the fight to save the Wagner Act to the great majority of fair employers and businessmen, with the publication of a new leaflet entitled, "What Hurts Labor Hurts Business."

The leaflet is in the form of an open letter to employers outlining the benefits of the Act to business as it now stands, and pointing out the dangers in the proposed amendments.

Citing U. S. Labor Dept. figures to show the decline in strikes since the Act was declared constitutional, the leaflet says: "The Wagner Act has demonstrated in practice that it aids the entire nation by reducing labor disputes and thus reducing time lost because of strikes and lockouts. This is the best test we can apply to any law designed to improve labor conditions."

QUOTES MAGAZINE

The leaflet quotes from Fortune Magazine, which ran a lengthy article on the Act and the Labor Board some months ago.

"It is necessary to point out," Fortune said, "from the standpoint of the sponsor of collective bargaining, that almost all amendments so far proposed from whatever motives would have the effect of impeding, or slowing down, or in some way complicating the process of collective bargaining. . ."

GE OFFICIAL

It also quotes from Vice-President Burrows of the General Electric Co., who said in defending the Act from attempts to amend it;

"We have had no trouble with the Wagner Act. It was designed to take the part of the employe who can't take care of himself. My suggestion would be to let the Wagner law ride and let some of the employers who haven't tried it, give it a try."

Copies of the leaflet can be secured from the CIO National Office, 1106 Connecticut Ave., Washington, D. C., at 40c per 100, $3.75 per 1,000.

Labor's Eyes On Wagner Act Hearings April 11

WASHINGTON, Apr. 10—Hearings start tomorrow, April 11, on the proposed amendments to the Wagner Act. They will be held by the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, Sen. Elbert D. Thomas of Utah, chairman.

Proposed amendments up are those in Sen. Walsh's bill, S. 1000, backed by Wm. Green of the AFL and supported by the National Manufacturers Assn., the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, and other anti-labor forces.

WOULD DESTROY ACT

The amendments, if they go through, would destroy the Act by breaking down protections against company unions, dividing workers in industrial plants into small craft units, would turn the Act over to anti-labor courts, and give employers many other privileges they could use against unions.

The CIO and a large and increasing number of AFL and honest independent unions are opposed to these amendments. Progressive church groups and other liberal organizations have gone on record against changes.

CIO and AFL affiliates and all friends of labor and fair play must mobilize every resource to prevent these amendments going through. The Wagner Act and with it our unions and our wages are in danger.

To Preside

Sen. Elbert Thomas, head of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, who will preside at hearings on the Wagner Act, starting Tuesday, April 11, at the Senate Office Building in Washington.

These are the members of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor who will hear witnesses on amending the Wagner Act:

Elbert D. Thomas, Utah
David I. Walsh, Massachusetts
James F. Murray, Montana
Vic Donahey, Ohio
Rush D. Holt, West Virginia
Claude Pepper, Florida
Allen J. Ellender, Louisiana
Josh Lee, Oklahoma
Lister Hill, Alabama
William E. Borah, Idaho
Robert M. LaFollette, Wisconsin
James J. Davis, Pennsylvania
Robert A. Taft, Ohio

Every local union in the country should send wires, letters and petitions to these senators, reminding them that American labor wants the Wagner Act left unchanged.

Communications should be addressed to the committee members at the Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

Remember—a blow at the Wagner Act will be a blow at you and your job.

Molders Fry Frey

Washington, Apr. 8 — The AFL Molders local here has the number of John P. (Colonel) Frey, president of the AFL Metal Trades Dept. and self-appointed denouncer of "Reds," "Communists" and other "alien influences" in the CIO and the progressive movement of this country.

They've just written him an open letter advising him to "go back to sleep and let the CIO and the AFL get together and settle this difference," rather than breaking out into a rash of headlines denouncing the CIO proposal to bring all workers together in an American Congress of Labor.

SHOULD THANK LEWIS

"John, my boy," they wrote, "you and your friends in power should thank John L. Lewis for showing you how to go out and organize labor and bring capital and labor together. And to you, John, and your friends go the credit of labor's defeats in the past years.

"We as members of the Molders Union sincerely trust that this disruption in labor's ranks will be settled now and for all time and may we find more men like John L. Lewis and fewer men like John Frey and Bill Green."

Rem-Rand AFL Local Hails Act

Middletown, Conn., Apr. 8—AFL Typewriter Workers, members of Lodge 851 of the International Machinists, and employed by Remington-Rand here, are emphatically on record against the proposed amendments to the Wagner Act backed by AFL Pres. Green and introduced by Sen. Walsh of Massachusetts.

They have written a sharp letter to Green saying, "this local goes on record very much opposed to the changes or amendments you are proposing on the Wagner Labor Relations Act.

"The Labor Board has done its duty and has stood firmly behind this local and all of its members by compelling Remington-Rand to reinstate all of our members who were out on strike."

"If one was to start scratching the surface one would surely come to the conclusion that you are sponsoring a bill or amendments which would benefit company-dominated unions more so than legitimate trade unions," the local said.

AFL Paper Workers Intl. Union Backs Wagner Act

ST. PAUL, Minn., Apr. 8. — Forty-five thousand AFL paper workers, organized in the Intl. Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers, went on record at their recent convention here as opposed to any or all amendments to the Wagner Labor Relations Act.

In passing the resolution, which went through unanimously, the Brotherhood joined an increasing number of AFL internationals, locals and delegate bodies that have opposed the attempts of Pres. Green to line up the AFL with the Manufacturers Assn. and tory politicians in the drive to destroy the Act.

WARN OF TORY DRIVE

Pres. Burke of the Brotherhood spoke in support of the resolution, pointing out that the drive of AFL top leaders to emasculate the Act played directly into the hands of reactionary and fascist elements in this country. The Brotherhood should be careful, he declared, to avoid giving any aid or comfort to these enemies of labor by supporting their offensive against labor laws.

HELPED BY WAGNER ACT

The Brotherhood has shown great gains since the Act became effective, Pres. Burke reported, citing an increase to 45,000 members in the past two years. Other speakers from the Minnesota and Wisconsin State Federations of Labor also warned the delegates to resist all attempts to deprive labor of the legislative gains of the past few years.

The convention also went on record as unanimously favoring unity of the great labor organizations of the country, pointing out that unity was essential at this time, and that efforts should not be stopped until present differences have been settled.

CIO Outline Advises Unions How to Press Fight to Defend Wagner Act

WASHINGTON, Apr. 8.—Plans and suggestions for local union and progressive groups to defend the Wagner Act are outlined in a bulletin sent to all CIO affiliates by the national office this week.

The bulletin briefly describes the dangers contained in the proposed amendments, and suggests steps to take in rallying community protests against the tory attempt to destroy the Act.

These suggestions are based on three main steps, resolutions and statements in local unions, both CIO and AFL, publicity, particularly in local papers and on the radio, distribution of literature, and formation of Wagner Act defense committees.

WIDE CAMPAIGN NEEDED

The bulletin emphasizes the need for the widest possible campaign if the Act is to be saved for the welfare of labor and all sections of the people. It urges unions to get in touch with church and civic organizations and leaders, to secure prominent individuals (not necessarily labor men) as leading sponsors, to set up speakers bureaus, arrange letter writing campaigns, etc.

Copies of the bulletin can be obtained free from the Publicity Dept. of the CIO, 1106 Connecticut Ave., Washington, D. C.

Auto Union Elects Thomas

Continued from page three

of the bitter experience of the past 18 months when irresponsible leadership ran rampant. The loopholes for arbitrary action have been closed and the machinery for insuring democratic leadership has been modernized.

Among the constitutional changes are these:

(1) No member may be suspended or expelled from membership except by regular procedure within his own local union.

(2) No International Officer or board member may be suspended by the president. All he can do is to recall him from his assignment and then bring charges. Democratic procedure for trial by a jury of 12 union members, none of them board members or international representatives, was set up.

(3) No international officer or representative may conduct any negotiations alone with the management. He must be accompanied by the local or plant committee.

(4) No contracts go into effect unless ratified by vote of the members that have to work under them.

The foremost convention decision was to concentrate on organizing the Ford Motor Co. Unlike the Milwaukee convention, the Cleveland convention approved a detailed organizing plan for the board to put in practice.

Organizing emphasis was placed also on the tool and die division, the competitive shops, the aircraft industry, and the garage division. It took a firm stand for unity within the entire labor movement, not only between the CIO and AFL but also with the railroad brotherhoods and other unaffiliated bona fide unions, as proposed by the CIO.

DEFEND WAGNER ACT

It opposed all amendments of the Wagner Labor Relations Act and endorsed legislation in all industrial states on a similar basis.

The delegates affirmed their opposition to fascism in all its forms.

Two resolutions approving the charges, trial and sentence on the former international president, and approving all acts of the board beginning with the January 10 meeting were unanimously passed.

SHOE STRIKE

New York — (FP)—Three thousand members of Local 129, United Shoe Workers, CIO, have struck against 10 manufacturers of children's shoes after the collapse of negotiations with the Stitched-Down Manufacturers Assn.

Metal Trades Assn. Spy System Under Attack

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, Apr. 8.—The U. S. War, Navy and Treasury Departments are awarding large government contracts to firms which employ strikebreakers and labor spies in an effort to sidestep the Wagner Labor Relations Act, the Senate Civil Liberties Committee charged today in a report exposing the activities of the reactionary National Metal Trades Assn.

The committee, headed by Senators Robert LaFollette and Elbert Thomas, asserted that the NMTA masquerades its outright opposition to all forms of collective bargaining behind a slogan of resistance to the "closed shop."

Early in 1937, when the association was studied by the committee, its membership numbered 952 manufacturers of machines and tools, about half of them small producers.

SPIES AND STRIKEBREAKERS

"In order to effectuate the open shop policy" with this group of employers, the "association obligates itself to render certain services to its members which are defined among the objects as 'investigation and adjustment of questions arising between members and their employes,'" the committee found.

"In sum and substance, these investigations and adjustments involve labor espionage services to members in time of peace, and strikebreaking services in time of industrial disputes."

For those member companies which received government contracts, the federal expenditures amounted to a practical subsidy for espionage and strikebreaking.

ARMY, NAVY CONTRACTS

"Thirty-two companies used the services of labor spies of the National Metal Trades Association, while they were enjoying U. S. Government contracts during the years 1933-1936, in the amount of $12,090,579.69," the senators pointed out. Of this amount, about 11 milions dollars worth of contracts had been let out by the two military agencies, while the treasury department accounted for another million.

"It cannot be claimed that these firms need labor spies in order to meet their obligations to the government," the report continued. "They exhibit the anomalous situation where beneficiaries of government contracts willfully violate the spirit of national labor policy."

WOULD OUTLAW PRACTICES

Passage of the Oppressive Labor Practices Act of 1939, sponsored by the committee, would bar these spy-employing corporations from receiving federal government contracts of more than $10,000.

The association, the report showed, has collected almost four million dollars in dues from employers since 1917, and at the end of 1936 had a reserve fund of $214,928 on hand with which to fight organized labor. As a result of the LaFollette committee probe, the NMTA was forced for the first time to pay U. S. taxes on this "war chest."

The National Labor Relations Act brought forth strong opposition from the association, and its members were counseled to disregard the law. A high official of the organization was quoted as saying he would be seriously "disturbed" if any of the member firms signed a union contract.

The fact that Pres. Gerard Swope of the General Electric Co. and an official of the Philadelphia Storage Battery Co. publicly advocated collective bargaining under the act caused the NMTA high command even more anguish.

Labor espionage was the first line of attack against the growing clamor of workers to organize. In a 40-month period ending July 31, 1936, the association had employed 103 spies at a cost of $171,000 for work among 69 companies, two of them non-members of the association.

LIFTS ORDER

Lumberton, N. C. — Judge John Burrey has removed a restraining order against a Textile Workers Organizing Committee local here, which was originally obtained by four disgruntled employes.

Do Workers On WPA Turn Down Jobs?

WASHINGTON, Apr. 8.—Another myth has been exploded. It's the tale about all those jobs WPA workers are rejecting.

More than 5,000 complaints, citing cases of alleged job refusals since 1935, have been investigated by Federal researchers. Just exactly 42 of these refusals—less than one per cent—were found to be unjustifiable refusals of actual jobs. Most of the other 4,958 job offers vanished upon inquiry— nobody had a real job to offer; and the rest were for seasonal work at sub-standard pay, or else required skill the workers involved did not have.

The investigation covered large cities with diversified industrial employment, smaller cities possessing a single industry, and agricultural areas of varied types.

In the instances where jobs actually had been offered and rejected, the workers' reasons for refusing to take the jobs were carefully checked. In all but 42 cases the reasons for refusing jobs were legitimate reasons.

UNREASONABLE COMPLAINTS

Many of the employers who made complaints were offering seasonal employment at substandard wages, or unreasonable working hours, or both. Sometimes the "job offers" involved the transportation of the worker many miles from his home—at his own expense. The individual workers, when interviewed, said they would be willing to accept any employment under reasonable conditions.

The fact that the employment offered was seasonal would not in itself be a legitimate reason for refusing it. WPA regulations permit a man to go off the rolls for seasonal employment and then return to project work.

Ted F. Silvey, secretary-treasurer of the Ohio Industrial Union Council, who has been directing a vigorous campaign to fight WPA cuts.

In agricultural areas, moreover, WPA projects are often suspended to release available labor during the crop season. Hundreds of WPA workers leave the rolls each week, the payroll reveals, for periodic or permanent employment. Many of their names reappear months later.

NEVER RECEIVED OFFERS

Thirty-eight per cent of the workers of whom critics complained as having refused jobs, were found never to have received the offers while on the WPA. The employment bureau's notification caught up with them after they had found their own way back to private jobs. Change of address had caused others not to receive the notices at all.

Three complaints in the 5,000 investigated are typical of most of them. One correspondent complained to the President that there was an acute labor shortage in Delaware and Maryland—caused by work relief. Pressed for details, the informant mentioned 21 canneries short of labor.

NO BASIS FOR COMPLAINT

The facts? Half of the canneries were not operating and only ONE was looking for workers: this plant wanted a few women to clean strawberries. Shortages did exist in field labor in two areas, but in neither would the jobs have lasted over two weeks. Employers interviewed admitted that the effect of relief employment was negligible. These labor shortages occur annually—WPA or no WPA.

A Kansas farmer declared he had driven hundreds of miles in search of farm hands but found them all on WPA projects. The unemployment Census of that county showed 518 men registered as out of jobs and wanting work. Only 189 workers were employed on WPA projects at the time.

When interviewed, the farmer had no jobs to offer. He said he might need one helper some months hence.

Official records reveal that over 1,000,000 workers have left WPA rolls to take private jobs since 1935 and that as many more who left probably took private jobs although they did not state the reason for leaving.

The nation's jobless workers are helping prevent their going "rusty" by working on WPA—and at the same time improving the nation's physical plant. Upper picture shows WPA workers on a farm-to-market road that will help farmers sell their products. Lower scene shows WPA workers constructing a badly-needed bridge in West Virginia.

YOUR WPA JOB

By Ralph Hetzel, Jr.

Secretary, Committee on Unemployment

The CIO Councils At Work

The CIO-affiliated unions and councils, in their work on behalf of their unemployed members, have had no precedents to follow and no rules to guide them.

Before the CIO it had not been customary for American trade unions to provide service for their members when they became unemployed. The CIO has had to devise new methods and to explore unknown fields.

The pioneering work that has been done by many of the unemployment committees and welfare departments has been notable. We will describe from time to time some of the jobs that have been done.

OHIO COUNCIL

The Ohio Industrial Union Council, under the leadership of Pres. John Owens and Secretary-Treasurer Ted F. Silvey, has attacked the problem from all sides and sought to present a completely rounded and inclusive program.

The work done in connection with the WPA appropriations is an excellent example of the energetic action of this council.

The Ohio Council has been most tireless in pounding away at the Ohio Congressmen and Senators to support the President in his attempt to gain an adequate deficiency appropriation for the WPA for the rest of this fiscal year. In January, 1939, after the House had arbitrarily lopped off $150,000,000 from the $875,000,000 requested by the President, Silvey wired the Ohio Senators and Representatives and urged them to restore the full amount.

He also wired the most active CIO leaders in 30 Ohio counties, advising of the situation and suggesting they communicate their attitude to Senator Taft, who voted for the cut in the Appropriations Committee, and impress upon him the need of his constituents in Ohio for the larger amount. He suggested that they get as many local people, such as the Mayor, Relief Director, and so on, to do likewise. The telegram sent by the Ohio Industrial Union Council to Senator Taft received wide publicity over a news broadcast in Ohio.

WARNED CONGRESSMEN

In March, when the President's request for the $150,000,000 was being considered by Congress, Silvey sent a letter to Senator Taft and all Ohio Congressmen who had voted for the cut. He forcefully brought to their attention the tragic consequences to the businessmen of Ohio, as well as to the WPA workers, that would follow failure to pass the additional appropriation.

The Ohio Council has tried particularly hard to provide service to WPA and unemployed workers, in many cases non-CIO members, in those regions where there are no county councils and few CIO unions.

In June, 1938, a conference of CIO officials of six central Ohio counties was called. WPA problems were considered and experiences were exchanged. This has proved very helpful in making the work throughout Ohio uniformly successful and effective.

Labor and the Law

By Lee Pressman

CIO General Counsel

The Apex Hosiery Decision

In a previous column, we have spoken of the way in which the courts nullified the protection which Congress gave to organized labor under the federal anti-trust law.

The law states that "The labor of a human being is not a commodity nor an article of commerce" and that neither labor unions nor their members shall "be held or construed to be illegal combinations or conspiracies in restraint of trade under the anti-trust laws".

Notwithstanding this specific declaration by Congress, a federal court has recently allowed damages in the sum of over $700,000 to be imposed against Branch One of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers. This huge sum is imposed upon the union as a result of a sitdown strike in the plant of the Apex Hosiery Mills in Philadelphia in 1937.

SITDOWN NOT THE ISSUE

The legality or illegality of the sitdown strike has nothing to do with the question of whether the Federal court had jurisdiction to impose these damages. This jurisdiction of the federal court depended upon a ruling by Judge Kirkpatrick, in the face of the plain language of the law, that the anti-trust law applies to labor unions.

Not only has the court applied the anti-trust law to a labor union when the statute says it should not, but it has applied the law against labor much more harshly than it is applied against business monopolies. In case after case, the federal courts have held that big corporations do not violate the law where they control even as much as 60 or 70 per cent of the business in a particular industry.

3% OF BUSINESS

In the Apex case, it was shown that the Apex Company only had about 3 per cent of the total hosiery business in the United States. Yet because the sitdown strike caused a suspension of the operations in this fractional part of the hosiery industry, it was held to be an unlawful restraint of trade.

England has been held up to the American public as having model labor laws. But in England, as a result of the reactionary tendency on the part of the courts to mulct the union treasuries of huge sums by damage claims, Parliament passed a law to protect unions. This law provides that a labor union cannot be sued for damages arising out of its activities during the course of a labor dispute, no matter how unlawful those activities may have been.

The least that can be done to remedy the situation presented by the Apex case is to take it to the Supreme Court, and have the anti-trust law interpreted to mean what it says.

Steel Union Renews Three Contracts

Indianapolis, Ind., Apr. 8 — Renewal of a Steel Workers Organizing Committee contract with three Continental Steel Corp. plants. added to the long string of recent CIO victories in the Hoosier State.

The pact, announced by SWOC District Director James Robb, covers 3,800 workers at the plants in Kokomo, Indianapolis, and Canton, O. The Indianapolis plant is practically 100 per cent organized and dues paying. Twelve hundred union members pay dues in the Kokomo mill.

GAINS WON

Gains won in the contract include recognition of the union as sole bargaining agency for all employes, recognition of Dues Stewards who are permitted to collect dues on company time in the shops, same termination clause as in the U. S. Steel contract and changing pay days to every other Friday instead of twice a month.

Shoe Union Elects McGrath

Washington, Apr. 8—The United Shoe Workers of America, CIO, announced today the election of Frank McGrath of New York as General Organizer, the highest post in the union.

McGrath is former secretary-treasurer of the New York City joint council.

James J. Mitchell, general secretary-treasurer, was re-elected without opposition. Thomas Giordano of Philadelphia and Thomas Grimn of St. Louis were elected to the general executive board, while Joseph Gilbert of Lewiston, Maine, was re-elected to the board in the only other contest.

The board voted unanimously to request the CIO to retain Powers Hapgood as national director of the union. Hapgood, who was not eligible to run for office in the USWA, was appointed to the position when the union was first formed as a CIO affiliate. The office of General Organizer has heretofore been vacant.

Sinclair Oil Signs New Agreement

New York, Apr. 8 — Unlicensed seamen on ten vessels of the Sinclair Oil Company are covered by a new closed shop contract, won by the National Maritime Union. A $5 a month wage increase for all hands is included in the agreement which replaces one that expired at midnight, March 31.

The pay raise provision brings the wage scale up to that of the "standard tanker agreement" which has been in effect with the other tanker companies for a year, the NMU stated.

STRIKE AT STANDARD?

Meanwhile a strike on vessels of the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey is being threatened by NMU seamen following the breakdown of negotiations for a new contract to replace the one which expired March 31.

NMU officials said that the company which operates 78 tankers employing some 2,800 unlicensed seamen, had refused to meet the union's fundamental demands.

The Big Morgue-

That's What Steel Workers Call New Automatic Strip Mills

Some 85,000 jobs in the steel industry are going to be eliminated in the next few years. Already thousands of families in Pennsylvania and Ohio are seeing their occupations snatched away by new technological developments.

In this article, Harold Ruttenberg, Research Director of the CIO Steel Workers Organizing Committee, states the problem, and tells why a government investigation to suggest a remedy is needed—quickly.

By HAROLD J. RUTTENBERG

As we approached Steelville* from the other side of the river, we could see the graceful silvery mill stretching more than half a mile behind the town, at the foot of one of the hills that form the rich industrial Ohio River Valley. The late afternoon sun reflecting from the galvanized roof cast an orange light across the milltown houses and the abandoned, rusty, mill by the river.

Entering at the north end of the vast structure, the endless ceiling drew my eyes until I had the feeling of infinity that one gets staring down a railroad track. We emerged two hours later from the southern end fascinated, exhausted, bewildered.

THE CASE OF MIKE MICHAELS

Just before leaving the mill I met Mike Michaels*, an officer of the local union, sweeping up paper, bale tie ends, and dusting the shipping room. Mike came to America from Wales in 1904 at the age of fifteen.

Mike had worked in the mill for over thirty years until it was closed last year. For 20 years he was a roller, an "aristocrat of labor," earning twelve to fifteen dollars a day. Now he was doing a laborer's job, at 63c-an-hour. Less than 200 of the 1,500 displaced sheet mill workers in Steelville found jobs in the strip mill. "What do you think of her?" Mike asked.

RUNS LIKE A SWISS WATCH

"It's impressive," a friend with me replied, "impressive — all that big automatic machinery running virtually without manpower, like the works of a delicate Swiss watch!"

Mike pointed to the endless ceiling with the massive machinery under it. "Look at her!" he said. "You know what we call her?—'The Big Morgue.' The few of us old hand-mill men that got something to do here ain't so bad off as the 1,300 or more fellows that are out starving on relief or struggling on WPA. When we meet on the street and get to talking we call this 'The Big Morgue,' the place where all out of jobs are buried."

85,000 LOSING THEIR JOBS

Eighty-five thousand hand-mill workers are less fortunate than Mike Michaels. They are permanently displaced and cannot even get a laboring job in the strip mills. Their plight as individuals is tragic.

In New Castle there is still hope, because the idle mill has not been dismantled. All such hopes, however, are gone in Clarksburg and Morgantown, West Virginia, and Scottdale, Pennsylvania. The companies decided to dismantle their hand-mills there, but finding it was cheaper to give them away, the mills were turned over to the Chamber of Commerce or "a group of citizens" to attract new industries, provided, of course, that steel products were not manufactured in them.

The twelve hundred New Castle men, however, banded themselves together into a permanent unemployed-WPA workers organization. At first they concentrated on getting their unemployment compensation checks, and then WPA jobs and relief with a minimum of delay.

During the primary elections they carried their town and county for the CIO gubernatorial candidate by a wide margin. Since then they have been pushing a local housing program and laying plans to publicize their plight and the plight of their community. They intend to make the nation, especially Congress, aware that New Castle is fast becoming an industrially stranded community, and that it requires special legislative aid.

Private industry having failed to make any provisions for them, the displaced workers look to the Government for assistance. A few find their way back into private industry usually at much lower-paying jobs.

THOUSANDS ON RELIEF

But thousands of the strip-mill victims can be found desperate on relief or WPA or hopelessly walking the streets. You can see them in Ohio—Cambridge, Yorkville, Portsmouth, Martins Ferry, Youngstown, Canton—or in the Keystone state—New Castle, Aliquippa, McKeesport, Monessen, Scottdale—and in other states where once prosperous industrial milltowns look upon the country's 27 strip mills as "Grim Reapers." The older workers are outcasts of private industry, while the younger ones are on industry's waiting list, drafted into the army of the unemployed.

Whatever the final employment results of the strip mills—probably the greatest technological advance of the past decade—the present plight of the 85,000 workers displaced or about to be displaced, is tragic. Nor is there any present encouragement in the possibilities of new jobs through the development of new industries utilizing the strip mill output.

TWO HERE, A DOZEN THERE

Most of the recent labor-saving advances have been small mechanical improvements eliminating two men here, a dozen there. In Johnstown, Pennsylvania, a handful of "scarfers' replaced several dozen chippers.

The scarfers, with their acetylene torches, can burn the bad seams out of billets five times as fast as chippers can cut them out with their air pressure chisels. A steel roll mill recently installed two new small electric furnaces which can be charged automatically in twenty minutes. It took two and one-half hours to charge the old furnaces by hand. Four men were eliminated from the furnace crews.

All this is "small stuff" which has been going on in the industry for years, though when all these lost jobs are added up the total is startling. But far more ominous, from the standpoint of employment, are pending technological advances in steel manufacturing.

WOULD HIT MANY DEPARTMENTS

The present method requires eight operations from the open hearth furnace to the rolling mill, and the steel has to be transported four times. When the process of rolling molten steel has been perfected—and enough progress has been made to indicate that the process will be commercially feasible within the next decade—only three operations will be necessary, and the steel need be transported but once.

Entire departments, including the soaking pits, blooming mills, chipping yards, and so on, will be abolished or reduced to mere skeletons. Roughly, one out of every six steel workers will be eliminated by the process.

Neither the industry nor the Steel Workers Organizing Committee has a solution at hand for the problem of the displaced workers.

The strip mills are a pre-union development, more than eighty-five per cent of them in operation before the SWOC was established. The steel workers therefore cannot expect to receive benefits from the union for a period when they were unorganized. The men lacked union leadership to control and plan the introduction of the strip mills, and many of them were scarcely aware of the new development.

SWOC EDUCATION WORK

The SWOC favors technological improvements and carries on a continual progress of education among its members, as to the futility of opposing progress. But unless provisions are made to care for displaced workers, the speed with which the industry is introducing labor-saving devices may be checked by the revolt of the men involved. SWOC has proposed a practical plan to govern the introduction of labor-saving devices in a pamphlet, "Production Problems," which has been widely circulated throughout industry.

NEED FOR 30-HOUR WEEK

All developments indicate to the union the inevitability of the thirty-hour week at existing, or more likely higher wages.

An investigation under impartial public auspices and a plan based on it are long overdue. The survey should include special studies of such stranded communities as New Castle, Pennsylvania, in the hope of helping them before they become incurably blighted areas.

The swift, steady displacement of workers by machines in the steel industry is no doubt an example—if an extreme one—of what is happening in many areas throughout industry. Here is one of the grave problems of the machine age, one that cannot be solved except through the common effort of industry, labor and government.

* All names used are fictitious.

Union Appeals Huge Damage Award

PHILADELPHIA, Apr. 8.—Counsel for Branch One of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, CIO affiliate, today took action to appeal the staggering $711,932 damage verdict against the union won by the Apex Hosiery Co. under the Sherman anti-trust law. The attorney for the union local for its president, William Leader, said he was prepared to carry the case up to the U. S. Supreme Court.

If no reversal of the federal district court jury's decision is obtained, the attorney said, "the natural, logical and inevitable result will be that every strike in any industry or even in any single factory will be within the Sherman Act, and subject to federal jurisdiction, provided any appreciable amount of its product enters into interstate commerce."

'DANGEROUS DOCTRINE'

He added that "an effort is being made to establish a novel and dangerous doctrine in labor law. It cannot and will not stand. Of this we are firmly convinced and we propose to take all necessary measures to have it declared so judicially."

The damages average about $41 per member of the union. However, a stipulation worked out between the attorneys for the two sides in the dispute provides that the individual members are not responsible for the damages. Thus, the company will not be able to seize the members' personal property to help pay for the judgment.

Branch One, which has won contracts with practically every Philadelphia hosiery firm in the last few years, has a treasury of about $50,000 and an office building valued at approximately $10,000.

BIG PROBLEM

How the money will be collected—provided the verdict is upheld in the higher courts—provides many knotty problems, observers here believe.

Assessments can be voted only by the union membership, which might be expected to show some reluctance to raise funds directly for the company. The company could probably seize the dues receipts of the union as they are paid in each month, but such a process might soon defeat its own ends by driving the union out of business.

The union, which had organized practically every hosiery mill in the area, came into conflict with the wealthy Apex firm in May, 1937. At that time a sit-down strike resulted in closing the plant for more than six months, and eventually won a contract.

The company held that its machinery had been damaged to the extent of several hundred thousand dollars, and claimed that the union leaders had authorized the sit-down.

USED SHERMAN ACT

The company sued the union under the Sherman anti-trust law, basing its claim that the union had conspired to restrain interstate commerce.

"The verdict," said the union attorney, "in effect repeals the Sherman anti-trust act, as far as industry is concerned, and puts it into effect against labor."

Smelter Union Wins Strike, Gets Pact

IRVINGTON, N. J., Apr. 8—One month's negotiations and a strike by Local 462 of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, CIO, won a closed shop contract with the Phoenix Brass Fittings Corp. here this week.

The contract was won after almost a month's strike and an overwhelming victory in a Labor Board election. It includes seniority, division of work in slack times, double time for holidays, and a retroactive wage increase.

Justice Dept. Probe Reveals Activities Of Nazi Bund

WASHINGTON, Apr. 8.—Nazi heils, Hitler salutes, anti-Semitic filth, especially for children, military drill and oaths of loyalty to Germany—are happening here in America, according to the report on the German Nazi Bund just released by the U. S. Dept. of Justice.

They're happening in seven Nazi camps in this country, where members of 50 organizations under the leadership of Bundesfuehrer Fritz Kuhn (currently on trial for evading taxes in New York) "consecrate" themselves on "a little piece of German soil in America, as a symbol of our motto 'obligated to America, tied to Germany.'"

NAZI ROUTINE

Only German is allowed to be spoken in the camps. The Swastika flag is hoisted and saluted daily. Children and adults are drilled in military formation. They sing the German Nazi anthem. They hear speakers telling them over and over again that the Jew is the enemy of mankind, responsible for Bolshevism, trade unionism, internationalism, capitalism, Catholicism, everything.

According to little Fuehrer Kuhn, the Bund is divided into three departments — Eastern, Middle-Western, and Western, with 8,299 members. Most of these, the Justice Dept. report says, are in the East, where 5,324 are concentrated. Five of the camps are in the east, three of them in New York state and one each in Connecticut and New Jersey.

IT'S A BUSINESS

But the German-American Nazis don't preach hatred of the Jews and the Catholics and trade unionists just for the fun of it. There's a very solid profit motive behind their activities in this country. Kuhn's Nazis are in business for what they can get out of it besides just the satisfaction of being traitors to American democracy.

They publish four newspapers—all with the title "Deutsche Weckruf and Boebachter" (Hitler's personal paper in Germany is also called "Beobachter") which are owned by the A. V. Publishing Corp.—Fritz Kuhn, president.

They have the Deutscher Konsum Verband (DVK), whose purpose is, according to the G Men, to "Promote an anti-Jewish boycott" and persuade people to buy from stores owned by members of the group. Fritz Kuhn is president of that, too. Much of its activity consists of putting anti-Semitic stickers on Jewish owned stores—always done in the dead of night when the courageous Nazis are less likely to run into Americans.

STORM TROOPERS

Of course they have storm troopers, who wear uniforms sold by Nazi business men who belong to the DVK. These thugs are organized in the Ordnungsdienst (OD) or "Order Service." Their function is to beat up hecklers at meetings, intimidate Jews and other American citizens.

These things are happening here, in free and democratic America — as they happened in what was once free and democratic Germany.

Settle Toledo Hotel Dispute

Toledo, Ohio, Apr. 8 — Settlement of a grievance at the Commodore Perry Hotel here was announced this week by Kenneth Cole, secretary of the Toledo Industrial Union Council. Members of the United Restaurant & Hotel Workers, CIO local industrial union 64, voted two-to-one to accept the settlement which guarantees no further "letting out" of work to outside contractors or displacement of union members.

All hotel employes must be or become members of the union in good standing.

Liberals Win In Los Angeles, Chicago Polls

LOS ANGELES, Apr. 8. — The campaign of reform of Mayor Fletcher Bowron to purge the Los Angeles City Council of reactionary members seemed at least a partial success today following early return on the city's primary elections.

Strongly backed by labor and liberal groups in the city, Bowron had called for the defeat of five councilmen, charging them with serving reactionary selfish interests and with being closely allied to the underworld.

James Hyde, an ardent foe of government housing and one of those accused by Bowron, was defeated by a progressive businessman.

RUN-OFF CONTESTS

The other four, it seemed certain, would be forced into run-off contests May 2 to retain their seats.

The councilman had vigorous support from the conservative Los Angeles Times, which made efforts to paint the liberal mayor as a dictator.

In a radio speech delivered just before the polls closed, Bowron charged that the campaign "has been largely financed by selfish interests, underworld leaders and those who have enjoyed special privileges."

CHICAGO, Apr. 8.—Backed by a strong coalition of labor and progressive forces, Mayor Edward F. Kelly won an easy re-election contest here, piling up a 180,000 plurality over his Republican opponent, Dwight Green.

Chicago labor groups hailed the results as a boost for the New Deal throughout the middle West.

In recent months Kelly has been extremely friendly to labor, and has reiterated his belief in the New Deal's policies and methods. Members of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, the Packinghouse Workers and the Farm Equipment Workers, as well as other CIO and AFL unions in the city, rallied to his cause.

Labor's Non-Partisan League played an active part in helping the mayor gain another term in office.

During his campaign Kelly called for maintaining WPA expenditures, urged extension of the U. S. housing and slum clearance programs and pledged his support to labor. Only recently he helped the packinghouse workers win a signed contract with the Union Stockyards Transit Co., which for 62 years had resisted unionization.

Army, Navy Union Favors Wire Probe

Washington, Apr. 8—The Army and Navy Union, whose 600,000 members are veterans of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps, has gone on record in favor of the Wheeler resolution to investigate the telegraph industry, and opposed to any merger of the telegraph companies which would throw thousands out of jobs.

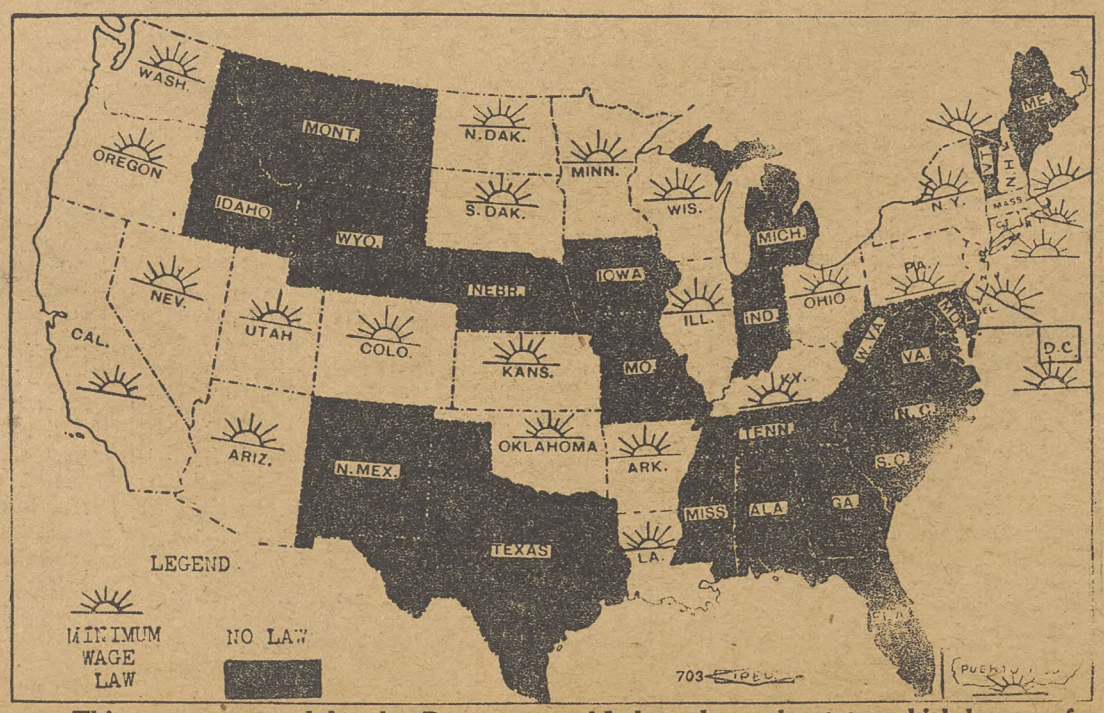
A letter to Sec. of Commerce Harry Hopkins from the Legistative Chairman of the Union explains the belief that "an Administration concerned with the welfare of labor should take steps to ensure the continuance of the jobs of the thousands of workers in the telegraph industry which are today endangered by the rapidly worsening conditions of the industry."

Sign Two-Year CIO Contract At Van Camp

Indianapolis, Ind., Apr. 8 — A two-year union contract covering 800 employes at plants of Van Camp's Inc. in Indianapolis and Martinsville, Ind. was announced this week by James Robb, CIO regional director.

The agreement which continues the check-off of dues, liberalizes the vacation plan to include all employes who have been with the company 100 days. Joint meetings to adjust wages in September of this year and in March, 1940 are also provided in the contract.

How About Your State?



This map, prepared by the Department of Labor, shows the states which have so far passed minimum wage laws for women workers. Most of the state minimum rates exceed the 25c-minimum of the federal wage-hour law.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 16 | April 17, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

WAGNER'S SPEECH CHEERS FRIENDS OF LABOR ACT

The News In Brief

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

Coal

New York.—As the nation's supply of coal dwindled, Pres. John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers accused "outside interests" of using the coal mine operators as a catspaw in their efforts to smash labor. He called the present situation a "lockout".

WPA

Washington. — Widespread suffering is expected as a result of the victory of the Senate economy bloc in forcing a $50,000,000 cut in the WPA deficiency appropriation.

NLRB Charges

Washington.—Citing refusal of the Westinghouse Electric Co. to bargain collectively, the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers filed Labor Board charges against the company, second largest electrical goods manufacturer in the country.

Warning

Chicago. — Negotiate for a union contract with the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee by May 10 or expect trouble — this was the warning given Armour & Co. by a conference of union leaders meeting here.

Wage Law

Washington.—The CIO will oppose changes in the Fair Labor Standards Act aimed to loosen, rather than tighten, its enforcement, Lee Pressman, general counsel, announced.

Conventions

Montana Industrial Union Council, Great Falls, April 30.

Intl. Fur Workers Union, Atlantic City, N. J., May 7.

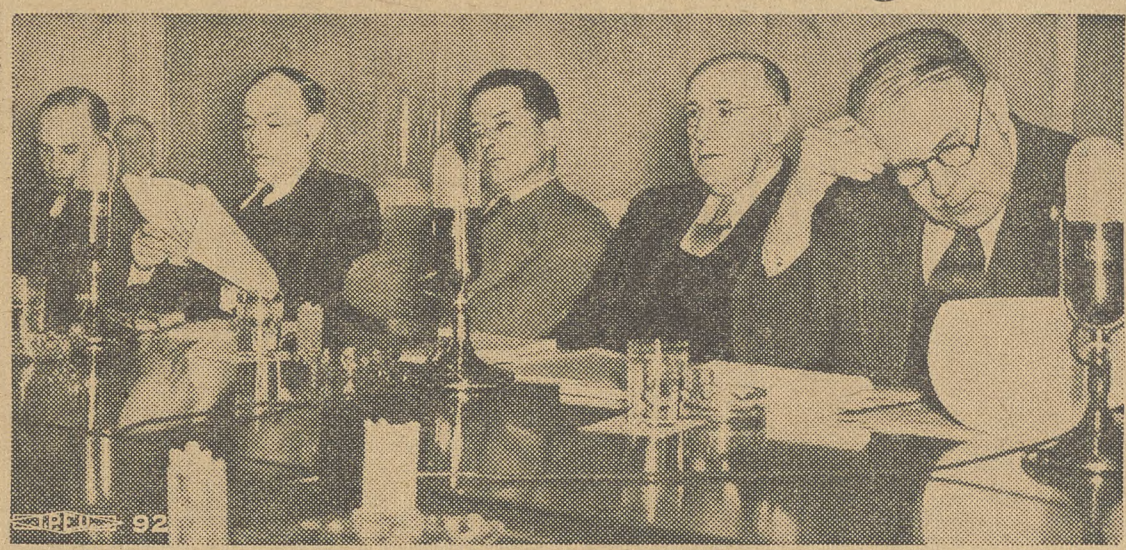
To Accuse Telephone Company

Norwalk, Ohio., Apr. 15.—Formal charges of unfair labor practices against the Northern Ohio Telephone Co. will be filed with the National Labor Relations Board by the CIO Utility Workers Organizing Committee.

Thomas Evans, UWOC field representative, said the move to file the charges was speeded by an affidavit showing the Northern Ohio Telephone Employes Association had been sponsored directly by the company.

Company employes recently received a UWOC charter.

Preside At Hearing



Members of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor as they listened to Sen. Robert Wagner defend the Natl. Labor Relations Act at the first day's hearings on amendments to the law. Left to right, Sen. Lister Hill of Alabama, Sen. Robert Taft of Ohio, Sen. A. J. Ellender of Louisiana, Sen. Elbert Thomas, chairman of the committee, and Sen. David Walsh of Massachusetts.

New York State's 'Baby' Wagner Act Upheld In Court

ALBANY, N. Y., Apr. 15.—New York State's "baby Wagner Act" has received the o. k. of the Court of Appeals, highest tribunal in the Empire State.

By a 4-3 decision, the judges threw out a number of arguments raised by the billion-dollar Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. and ordered the financial colossus to bargain collectively with Local 30 of the United Office & Professional Workers, CIO affiliate.

In making known its findings, the high state court ruled that the act had not created a new state department in violation of the state constitution. It ruled, too, that the industrial insurance agents are definitely employes of the insurance companies, a point contested by Metropolitan.

SEES BIG VICTORY

Pres. Lewis Merrill of the UOPWA described the decision as a "significant victory" not only for the union but "for white collar workers everywhere."

Adding that it places the stamp of illegality on attempts to withhold collective bargaining rights from office and professional workers, Merrill saw the court verdict as furnishing "a sound basis for outlawing all efforts at legislative discrimination to which white collar workers have long been subject.

VINDICATES POLICY

"The stand of the UOPWA for the right of self-organization among the employes of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. has been vindicated," he declared.

"The policy of the company, in refusing to meet with representatives of their employes for the peaceful negotiation of differences, has been discredited.

"We hope that Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. will now abide by the court's decision and meet with representatives of the union duly designated by its employes one year ago."

WON ELECTION

It was just one day short of a year before the decision that the UOPWA won a State Labor Relations Board poll among the Metropolitan agents and was subsequently certified as their sole collective bargaining agency.

Ho! Hum!—Girdler Wants Act Changed

NEW YORK, Apr. 15—Add reasons why workers must defend the Wagner Act:

Tom Girdler, head of Republic Steel Corp., told an audience of 400 here that business leaders will rush to the support of the Act—provided it is so amended as to be a "good law' in the eyes of the industrialists.

"If you have to make a bad law into a good law by 'emasculating' it, then you'd better 'emasculate' it," the beagle-eyed industrialist opined.

Girdler's references to emasculation of the statute were in an answer to a hope expressed by Sen. Robert Wagner that the Act would escape such a fate.

Senator Defends Statute

(See Stories, Pages 5, 6)

WASHINGTON, Apr. 15—Foes of the Wagner Labor Relations Act were on the defensive today as the result of the testimony of Sen. Robert Wagner of New York, father of the law, at the opening session on amendments before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor.

Reading a 26-page statement which bore evidence of weeks of careful preparation, the veteran liberal answered in deliberate tones the hysterical arguments which have been offered against the Act and the National Labor Relations Board in recent months.

He challenged long-time foes of labor to drop their mask of seeking amendments to "protect labor" and to admit their real motive is to nullify the workings of the law.

Wagner denied that the law is any more one-sided than dozens of other pieces of legislation which have been accepted by the nation, mentioning the Reconstruction Finance Corp., the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Securities & Exchange Commissions as administrative bodies whose problems are much like those of the NLRB.

NLRB Stand

WASHINGTON, Apr. 15. — The National Labor Relations Board is opposed to amending the Wagner Act at this time, a special report issued by the Board declared. See Story Page Five.

Typo Union Locals Knock AFL Policies

WASHINGTON, Apr. 15.—A resolution proposing that the International Typographical Union stop paying all per capita taxes to the AFL in protest against its "arbitrary and destructive" policies and its hostility to the CIO, is receiving favorable action in many ITU locals, it has been learned here.

A referendum of all ITU members on the proposals must be held if 150 locals pass the resolution.

It charges the AFL leadership with encouraging jurisdictional disputes and forcing union workers to scab on their union brothers in an attempt to "humble" the CIO.

Efforts to defeat political candidates with "unblemished labor records" and an alliance "with employers and reactionary groups in an effort to sabotage the Wagner Labor Relations Act" are also described as part of the AFL leaders' private war on the CIO.

Suspension of dues payments to the AFL is suggested until the AFL:

1. Agrees to stop trying to control the internal policies of the typographical union.
2. Composes its differences with the CIO.
3. Provides for a more democratic election of AFL officials.

Amendments Not Needed—Garrison

New York, Apr. 15.—The Wagner Act needs no amendments.

This is the sentiment expressed by Lloyd K. Garrison, one-time member of the National Labor Relations Board and at present dean of the University of Wisconsin Law School, in a lengthy letter to the editor of the New York Times.

'REMARKABLE JOB'

"Nor do I suggest that the (Labor) Board has not made mistakes. But considering the novelty of the law, the flood of cases since it was upheld, the determined resistance to it in many quarters, and the emotions engendered by labor's internal feud, I think that the board has done a remarkable job."

Receiving Homage

"Button, button, who's got the button?" is a question easily answered by eight-year-old Eugene Morasco (right) who spent his time at the United Automobile Workers convention making a collection of the union insignia. Pres. R. J. Thomas and Sec-Treas. George Addes of the UAW congratulate the youngster for lining his entire suit with the buttons.

Harlan Coal Mine Must Rehire 116

WASHINGTON, Apr. 15.—Fired two years ago for refusing to work on Labor Day, more than 100 Harlan county miners were ordered reinstated with back pay last week.

In a ruling handed down by the National Labor Relations Board, the Good Coal Company of Lisle, Harlan county, Kentucky, was told to bargain collectively with District 15, United Mine Workers as sole union representative, and to take back 116 employes with reimbursement for wages lost since their discharge.

The Board also ordered the firm to abolish the company-dominated Wallins Creek Employes Association and to stop discouraging membership in the UMW.

FIRED IN 1937

All but nine of the miners ordered reinstated were fired September 6, 1937, after they stayed away from work the previous day in celebration of Labor Day.

The Board's investigation disclosed that the Employes Association was formed at the suggestion of the company's vice-president, who circulated a "loyalty" petition among the workers and told them that if they wanted a union he would help them organize, get a charter and pick their committee.

OFFICIALS FOUGHT UNION

Evidence before the Board showed also that company officials expressed open opposition to outside unions, warning the miners that they must "not get tied up with the union that was floating around the country."

In connection with the reinstatement of the miners, the Board held that since failure of the men to work on Labor Day was a consequence of the current labor dispute, and since the company had not rehired other men at the time they were not allowed to return, the refusal constituted a discrimination against them within the meaning of Section 8 of the Wagner Labor Act.

Labor Wins In Baltimore Voting

Baltimore, Md., Apr. 15—Labor and New Deal forces in Maryland staged a come-back victory when Mayor Howard Jackson won the renomination in the Democratic city primary.

Complete returns showed Jackson ran ahead of the anti-New Deal candidate by 35,000 votes. His opponent, Charles Buck—"the businessmen's candidate"—had the support of the reactionary machine headed by Howard Bruce, millionaire industrialist, and U. S. Sen. Millard Tydings, one of the most outspoken foes of Pres. Roosevelt in the upper house.

Their machine had managed to defeat Jackson when he sought the nomination for governor of the state in last autumn's primary contests.

ELECT CIO COUNSEL

Labor scored another victory when Jack Edelman, attorney for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers in the city, was nominated to the city council from the fourth ward. Edelman was 6,000 votes ahead of his nearest opponent.

A Labor Committee for Jackson functioned effectively throughout the campaign. Headed by Charles Mitzel of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, it brought together representatives of CIO, AFL and railway brotherhood locals.

The Vote On WPA

Washington, Apr. 15 — Here is the record of how Senators voted on Pres. Roosevelt's $150,000,000 WPA appropriation. Keep this list for your political scrap book.

The 28 senators who voted for the full appropriation:

Democrats: Andrews, Fla.; Bone, Wash.; Clark, Idaho; Downey, Calif.; Green, R. I.; Guffey, Pa.; Huges, Del.; Johnson, Col.; Lee, Okla.; Maloney, Conn.; Mead, N. Y.; Minton, Ind.; Murray, Mont.; Neely, W. Va.; Pepper, Fla.; Pittman, Nev.; Schwartz, Wyo.; Schwellenbach, Wash.; Smathers, N. J.; Thomas, Okla.; Thomas, Utah; Wagner, N. Y.; Walsh, Mass.; Wheeler, Mont.

Republicans: Danaher, Conn. **Farmer-Labor:** Lundeen, Minn. **Progressive:** LaFollette, Wisc. **Independent:** Norris, Nebr.

THE VOTE AGAINST

These 49 Senators voted to slash WPA funds:

Democrats: Adams, Col.; Ashurst, Ariz.; Bailery, N. C.; Bankhead, Ala.; Barkley, Ky.; Brown, Mich.; Bulow, S. D.; Burke, Nebr.; Byrd, Va.; Byrnes, S. C.; Clark, Mo.; Connally, Tex.; George, Ga.; Gerry, R. I.; Gillette, Iowa; Harrison, Miss.; Hatch, N. M.; Herring, Iowa; Holt, W. Va.; King, Utah; Lucas, Ill.; McCarran, Nev.; McKellar, Tenn.; Overton, La.; Radcliffe, Md.; Reynolds, N. C.; Russell, Ga.; Smith, S. C.; Stewart, Tenn.; Truman, Mo.

Republicans: Austin, Vt.; Barbour, N. J.; Bridges, N. H.; Capper, Kans.; Davis, Pa.; Gibson, Vt.; Gurney, S. D.; Holman, Oreg.; Johnson, Calif.; Lodge, Mass.; McNary, Oreg.; Neye, N. D.; Reed, Kans.; Taft, Ohio; Townsend, Del.; Vandenberg, Mich.; White, Me.; **Farmer-Labor:** Shipstead, Minn.

Pairs: Ellender, La., for, and Tydings, Md., against; Frazier, N. D., for, and Hale, Me., against; Hill, Ala., for, and Van Nuys, Ind., against; Donahey, Ohio, for, and Tobey, N. H., against; Bilbo, Miss., for, and Wiley, Wisc., against.

Steel Union Wins Poll In Houston

Houston, Tex., Apr. 15. — The Steel Workers Organizing Committee rolled up another Labor Board election victory in its drive to win complete organization of the plants of the American Can Co.

The vote in Houston was 94-27 for the SWOC, and gave the CIO union sole collective bargaining rights. Negotiations with the company for a contract will start immediately, H. A. Rausmussen, union director in the Texas-Oklahoma district, announced.

Montana CIO Meeting Planned

GREAT FALLS, Mont., Apr. 15.—The second annual convention of the Montana Industrial Union Council, CIO, will be held here starting Apr. 30.

A large attendance is expected, since CIO unions throughout the state have experienced considerable growth in the past 12 months.

It's Your Fight

Chicago, Apr. 15 — "We are fighting Hearst's million with our pennies. It is your fight too!", the Hearst Strike Committee reminds trade union members and friends of organized labor in an appeal for dollars, dimes and quarters.

"The Guild strikers on the Herald and Examiner and the Chicago American are fighting the fight of all workers against Hearst, labor's enemy No. 1" the appeal says. Send funds to the Hearst Strike Committee at 188 West Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Toronto AFL Aids Hearst Strikers, Angers Green

TORONTO, Ont., Apr. 15. — Denunciation by AFL Pres. William Green of the Toronto District Labor Council's endorsement of the Chicago Newspaper Guild's strike against the Hearst Evening American and Herald-Examiner was strongly protested by delegates to the central body at its last meeting.

Asserting that certain federation unions had contractual relations with Hearst, Green denounced the council as "pro-CIO" and as being neither "fair or just" to the federation.

Delegates approved Secretary J. W. Buckley's reply in which he refuted the assertion, declaring the council has always been active in an effort to heal the breach between the CIO and AFL.

In the debate, Harvey McCool, president of the Toronto Allied Printing Trades Council, promised full support to the Newspaper Guild in its activity.

BERATES COUNCIL

Green wrote in part: "In characteristic fashion your central body took the side of the CIO as against the AFL, notwithstanding the fact that your central body is a chartered AFL organization and that you pretend to operate under the name and auspices of the AFL.

"This deceptive action on the part of your central body is pretty well understood because your central body has always shown itself to be pro-CIO and when there is an issue between the CIO and the AFL you can always count on your central body being for the CIO."

SECRETARY REPLIES

Secretary Buckley in reply said the council does not desire to enter jurisdictional disputes and would not have endorsed the strike if there were such a dispute as Green claimed.

"As to your charge that we are pro-CIO as against the AFL this is not true. While it is true that our trades council has done and is doing all that it can to heal the breach, surely you can give honesty of purpose to those who may differ from you, as it has been given to no man or set of men to claim infallibility," he added.

Urge Dock Men Build Strength

San Francisco, Apr. 15 — Shipowners have fostered and taken advantage of jurisdictional friction between waterfront unions to shave down working conditions, Harry Bridges, president of the Int'l Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union, said in his report to the delegates attending the national convention in session here.

Bridges emphasized the need of strengthening the union's position to regain lost ground and to win improvements in wages and working conditions.

NEED FOR UNITY

Stressing the need of cooperating with other maritime unions in accordance with the policy of the longshoremen since 1934, Bridges urged that all moves to improve terms of the agreement be made in conjunction with these other unions, many of which are also considering re-opening their contracts and making new demands.

"We are not going to work on a policy of going on strike in September regardless of circumstances," he said, "but the best way to get our demands if the convention and membership decide to make them, is to be in a strong position."

To this end he recommended that all locals institute monthly assessments to build a strike fund to have ready if necessary.

Bridges recommended that a referendum be held on the question of reopening the agreement for improvements this year.

The whole matter of the Maritime Commission and the threat of separate hiring halls was dealt with in a special report to the convention.

LOTS OF WOMEN

New York—Some 800,000 women now belong to U. S. labor unions, according to Labor Research Assn.

He 'Beat' the Wage Law; Fine—$3,000

NEW YORK, Apr. 13.—A New York glove manufacturer today had paid a $3,000 fine for violating the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act—increasing evidence that the government is sharpening its enforcement teeth and will demand compliance with the law passed last year.

Nathaniel Breath, vice-president of the Picardy Mills, one of the largest units in the glove industry, pleaded guilty to five charges filed against him by the wage-hour division of the Dept. of Justice.

The fine was collected on only one count, with an additional $12,000 suspended for three months with the understanding that Breath will pay his employes some $1,500 due them as a result of his past chiselling.

Breath was found to have paid three girls less than the 25c-an-hour minimum required by the statute, falsifying records and failing to keep others, and with having forced his workers to punch the time clocks long after they came to work, and considerably before they left at the end of the day.

"A fine ought to be paid so that other industries seeking to evade the law from a business point of view would find it an unprofitable affair," commented Judge Robert Inch, who presided at the trial.

Wage-hour Administrator Elmer F. Andrews indicated in a recent speech that "the honeymoon is over" and that non-compliance with the law will result in court action by the government

Coal Lockout Aims To Smash Union---Lewis

NEW YORK, Apr. 15. — With 320,000 bituminous coal miners still idle and the nation's coal supply rapidly dwindling, Pres. John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers charged today that mine operators and "outside interests" are attempting to destroy the country's most important union.

Subcommittees representing both the UMW and the Appalachian coal operators have been unable to break the deadlock on terms of a new contract to replace the agreement which expired on midnight, March 31.

LISTS OUTSIDERS

Lewis, speaking to the press at the conclusion of one of the sessions with the operators, listed the outside interests as "independent steel firms, utilities, railroad corporations, large consumers of coal and employers who fear collective bargaining extension."

He bluntly described the present situation as a lockout forced by the mine owners.

The miners, he pointed out, have given up every one of their demands except the one calling for the removal of $1 and $2 penalties per man per day for each strike in violation of the contract. The UMW has taken the position that with the AFL-affiliated Progressive Miners of America seeking to make deals with certain operators in order to carry on the AFL's war against the CIO, the 20-year-old strike penalty clause should be removed.

100,000 MORE

Lewis said that if an agreement is not soon reached, another 100,000 miners in other districts, who have been working under terms of their old pact pending conclusion of the Appalachian agreement, would halt operations.

"This is a bad time for the operators to undertake to destroy the United Mine Workers, in this year of 1939, to please labor-hating interests in the country who oppose collective bargaining," Lewis declared.

"We assert that it cannot be done and we say that the coal industry should not permit itself to be used as a catspaw in this situation."

READY TO FIGHT

He added that if the operators feel that "nothing will satisfy them except the blood of the union, the mine workers will be compelled to consider the broadening of the base of this struggle and possible cancellation by 15 days' notice of all agreements existing in fields outside the Appalachian fields.

"It may also be recalled that the anthracite wage agreement expires on April 30.

26 CONCESSIONS

"If the bituminous operators through their stupid policy will be satisfied with nothing less than war in the industry, the United Mine Workers will be able to accommodate them and protect themselves."

The UMW chieftain pointed to the fact that the union has made 26 concessions during the negotiations, while the operators have remained adamant, as evidence that the "operators are blindly determined upon a lockout, which is now in effect."

Postpone Anthracite Parleys

NEW YORK, Apr. 15.—Negotiations between the United Mine Workers and the anthracite operators for a new contract to replace the agreement expiring April 30, have been postponed until April 18.

Scheduled originally for April 10, they have been delayed by the prolonged negotiations with the bituminous operators for a national contract to continue the agreement which expired March 31.

Workers Assail Senate Tories' Slashing Of WPA Funds

WASHINGTON, Apr. 15.—Defying united protests from organized labor, the Senate "hatchet gang" composed of conservative Democrats and Republicans—augmented by a group of middle-of-the-road Senators—today was rejoicing in a $50,000,000 slash in WPA funds.

By a 49-28 vote the upper house threw out an amendment by Senator Claude Pepper to keep the work relief deficiency appropriation at the $150,000,000 figure offered by Pres. Roosevelt.

Meanwhile, it was revealed that the President will shortly send a message to Congress asking for a regular appropriation of a billion and a half dollars WPA allottment for the fiscal year 1940.

THOUSANDS AFFECTED

Shortly before the appropriation slash rode through the Senate to the cheers of the Tories, Ralph Hetzel, CIO Unemployment Director, warned that a cut of 767,000 jobs may result from the Senate's action.

Hetzel charged that "the enemies of the WPA do not dare to attack in the open."

Instead, he said, "they employ backroom, secret conferences and hidden parliamentary maneuvers to break down WPA. This is a completely undemocratic process. The voters have no chance to know who is responsible and no chance to make known their convictions . . . The CIO is urging the Senators to dismiss backroom bargains and to join the gallant fight to appropriate what is really needed."

ROOSEVELT'S LETTER

The band of loyal New Dealers who supported the full appropriation on the Senate floor read into the record a letter from Pres. Roosevelt calling the WPA problem a matter of "arithmetic."

"If $100,000,000 is voted, between three and four hundred thousand fewer people can be given work if $150,000,0000 is voted — and in addition, practically none of the seven or eight hundred thousand people on the waiting list can be given employment," the President's letter asserted.

"It seems to me that that is the long and short of it."

YOUR WPA JOB

By Ralph Hetzel, Jr.

Secretary, Committee on Unemployment

The reactionaries in Congress have once more been playing political football with the unemployed.

First, these reactionary groups tried to wear down the opposition by ignoring for almost two months the President's request for an additional appropriation for the WPA of $150,000,000 and until the WPA had already sent out orders laying off over 200,000 people. The House Appriations Committee waited until the President was forced to send another message, asking for this additional appropriation and pointing out its urgent necessity.

The Appropriations Committee pulled out the same parliamentary trick which had worked so well with the President's original request for $875,000,000. The debate in the House was manoevered in such a manner that the Representatives could vote for a cut of $50,000,000 (one-third the President's request) without putting their votes on record.

'SQUEEZE PLAY'

The "economy bloc" in the Senate caught the ball from the House reactionaries. Before anyone knew what had been happening the Senate Appropriations Committee emerged from a closed hearing with an agreement to put through the $50,000,000 cut without any debate in the Senate.

The well-known "squeeze play" had been worked on some Administration leaders. They were told that unless an agreement was put through to pass the $100,000,000 a terrific fight would be put on to cut the appropriation even further. Some of the Administration supporters caved in.

In spite of every proof that the $100,000,000 was not enough, the majority of the Senators voted against the President's requested amount.

FIGHT NOT OVER

But the fight is not over. There are two immediate and very important things to do.

There is no reason why the WPA should be cut to such a great extent if a sufficiently intensive fight is put on throughout the country. Every attempt must be made to make sure that no person in need is laid off. If the money runs out before the end of the year, the WPA can still come to Congress in June and ask for more money. Several Senators suggested that course during the debate.

1940 APPROPRIATION

Second, and even more important, is the 1940 appropriation for unemployment relief. There does not seem to be any doubt that the reactionaries on the Hill will fight to the last ditch to cut it down to the bone.

Signs of the Times — A Warning to Reaction

These two lines of men ought to serve as reminders to "economy"-minded legislators that their months of balance the budget talk haven't diminished the need for WPA jobs. At left, jobless men parade down New York's Fifth Ave. at the height of the Easter Sunday fashion parade to protest layoffs. At right, 7,000 men stand in line outside the Charlestown Navy Yard at Boston, Mass., in the hope of getting 25 available jobs. Who says the unemployed won't work if they have the chance?

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol II April 17, 1939 No. 16

Strange Triplets

When horse and jackass are mated, the offspring is called a mule.

When anti-labor employers and faithless labor leaders get together, the result is a program to amend the Wagner labor act.

Such at least appears to be the mixed parentage of some strange triplets that were recently born.

The programs of the National Association of Manufacturers, William Green of the AFL, and the Chamber of Commerce of the United States to amend the Wagner act, are as similar in many respects as three peas from the same pod.

In almost the same language, for instance, the NAM spokesmen, Green and the C. of C. call for "free speech" for employers (even where this interferes with their employes' freedom of choic of representatives); for court review of Labor Board decisions; and for the right of employers to call for elections.

Green and the standard-bearer of the NAM, Senator Burke, also find themselves in agreement on amendments for compulsory craft division of the workers.

Green goes still further in the employers' direction with the Walsh amendments which he sponsors, by asking protection for contracts which an employer signs in collusion with a union of his rather than the workers' choice; by calling for disqualification of trial examiners whom the bosses may not like; and by advancing a number of other proposed changes which will break down the barriers against company unions.

The triple program of the NAM, Green and the C. of C. is not born of any holy matrimony between capital and labor, however. Rather it is the illegitimate fruit of an intrigue between selfish minority interests which truly represent neither capital nor labor.

The NAM and the Chamber of Commerce do not represent the interests of the majority of fair employers who have accepted the Wagner act and adjusted themselves to collective bargaining. Their amendments would confuse and upset labor relations generally, for the benefit of a minority of employers who have defied the law.

Similarly Green speaks only for a minority of craft leaders who are willing to make a deal with anti-labor employers which will endanger all union rights, for the sake of winning some special favors for themselves.

He certainly does not speak for the majority of the workers, in the AFL as well as in the CIO, who are determined to defend the rights and benefits won under the present Wagner act by opposing all amendments.

The Lockout of the Miners

The lockout which has crippled bituminous coal production and rendered hundreds of thousands of miners idle is the result of a stubborn policy of negation on the part of the coal operators.

From the time negotiations started the representatives of the United Mine Workers of America repeatedly did everything possible to insure continuance of production until an agreement should finally be reached on the new contract.

On March 15, President John L. Lewis reports, the union offered "to keep the mines in operation under the old wage scale and conditions, pending conclusion of an agreement. That offer was rejected by the operators.

"Later," he says, "the Mine Workers offered an extension of the existing contract from April 1, pending the working out of a basic scale in the meantime. That offer was rejected by the operators.

"Later the Mine Workers offered to continue operation of the mines subject to 30 days' formal notice of cancellation by either side. That offer was rejected by the operators.

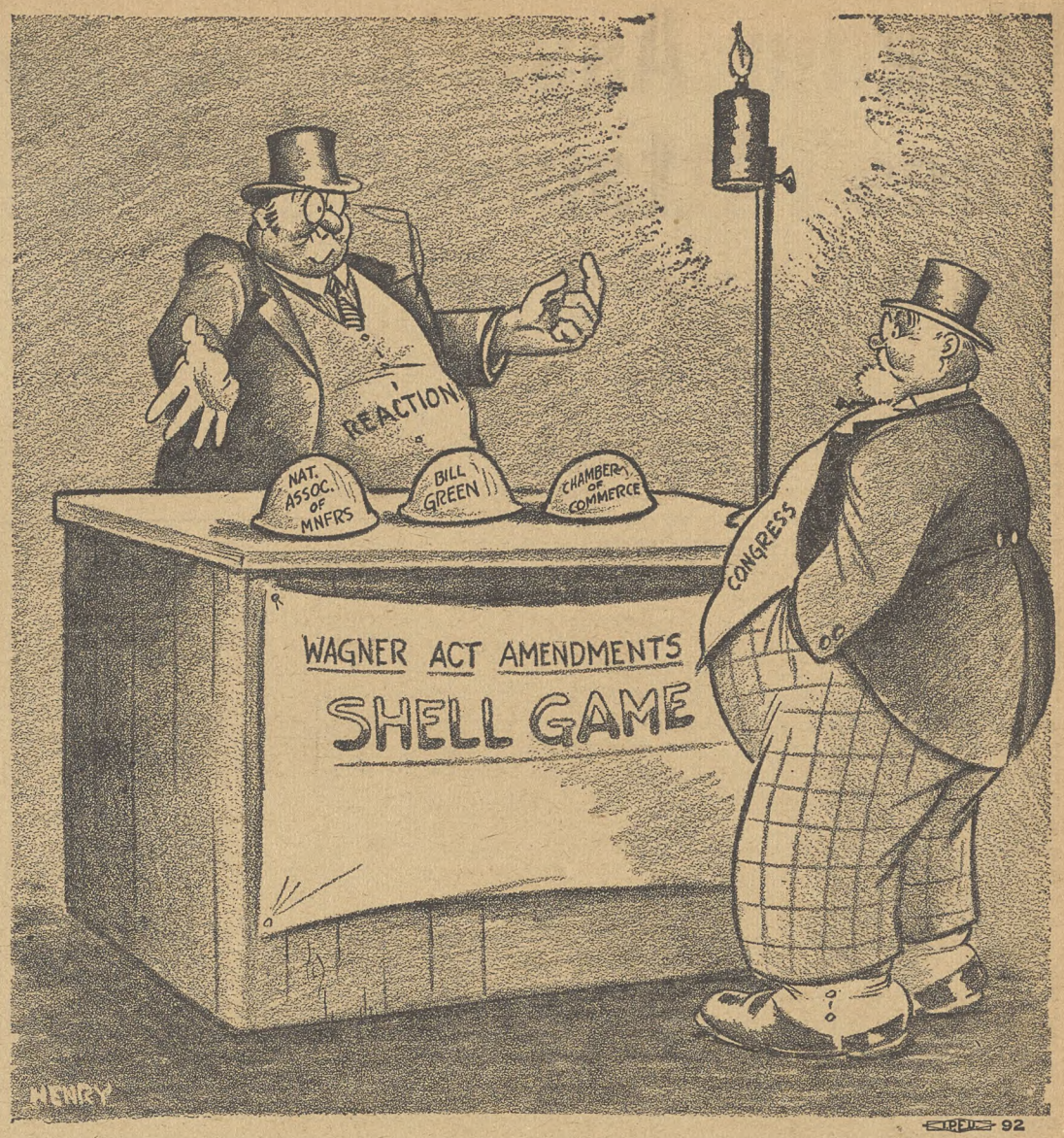
"Later the Mine Workers offered a two-year contract under existing wages and conditions, with the clarification of a clause in the contract granting a union shop in the industry. That offer was rejected.

"Later the Mine Workers offered a two-year contract with the penalty clause eliminated. That offer was rejected by the operators."

This record shows that the union made every possible effort to keep the mines in operation, but that the operators insisted on the lockout.

By following this course of action, which is no more in the interests of the industry than of the miners, the operators are letting themselves be used, Lewis says, as a catspaw of outside anti-labor interests which are bent on checking the spread of collective bargaining.

It is fortunate for the industry and the public, as well as for the workers, that the miners have the most powerful labor organization in the world, which is fully capable of protecting them and defeating this anti-union plot.



Take Your Choice

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

"Unfair"

"Unfair" has long been a word favored by labor. There are "unfair lists" of non-union employers. Pickets carry signs that the company concerned is "unfair to labor." And in many other ways the word is used to call attention to injustices which workers suffer.

Lately anti-union employers have tried to appropriate the word and to turn it against labor. They have sought the same kind of public sympathy that labor seeks, by claiming that the Wagner labor relations act is "unfair" to employers.

Senator Wagner has been quick to expose the absurdity of this claim.

"In addition to a legal system weighted heavily in his favor, the employer has at his disposal superior economic staying power, more money, better legal counsel, and better access to the instruments of public opinion," Wagner told the Senate committee on education and labor.

"Against all this, the Labor Act gives the worker nothing but the right to institute a lengthy legal proceeding to protect his right to organize and bargain collectively, a right theoretically recognized by our law for a hundred years."

Wagner pointed out that the rights which the act gives labor freely to select its spokesmen for collective bargaining, have been enjoyed by employers for a century or more.

The proposed amendments purporting to make the act less "one-sided," he said, "are designed to destroy the equality of bargaining power which the Labor Act strives to make possible, and to restore the gross inequality of bargaining power that existed before the act was passed — the inequality that existed when the isolated worker stacked his pitiful weakness against the gigantic strength of consolidated capital."

Fairness and Equality?

The spokesmen of organized wealth are most ill-advised to raise the issue of "fairness" and "equality of treatment" when discussing relations between capital and labor.

Let anyone study the miserable conditions under which millions of American working people have to live and bring up their families. Let him consider the additional sufferings of these people, ill-housed, ill-clothed and ill-fed at the best of times — when they have to strike to better or protect their conditions.

Let him compare with this the security and luxury of the employers and owners of industry, and see how little they suffer personally when they close their plants to whip their workers into submission.

Then let him, if he dare, say that a law is "unfair" to employers which does no more than protect the right of workers to bargain as a group, instead of as helpless individuals, with the giant power of corporate wealth.

Unequal Treatment

If employers think that the Wagner act is "unfair" to them, what in the name of all that is reasonable do they think labor is entitled to call all the other conditions it confronts in its struggles to better its lot?

Is there fairness and equality when poverty bargain against wealth?

Does the press of the country give as fair and equal treatment to the claims of the workers as it gives to the claims of the wealthy interests which own and control it?

Is there equal treatment on the air for corporations, which can spend millions of dollars to buy radio time, and for labor unions which, even when they can scrape together a few dollars for this purpose, often find their programs barred as "controversial"?

Is there fairness in the courts when property rights are so often given precedence over human rights?

Is it fair and democratic that a wealthy few should be able to mobilize on their side all the "public opinion" and all the instruments of economic and political power which money can command; while the laboring many, ever on the verge of hunger and want, have little more on their side than their ability to stick together and the knowledge that their cause is just?

A Boomerang

The spokesmen of wealth and reaction are using a word that will boomerang back in their faces, when they speak of the Wagner Act being "unfair."

This act does not establish equality of bargaining power between capital and labor. It does not establish a fair relationship between the laboring many and the wealthy few.

All it does is to remedy to some degree that grossest of inequality which exists when employers, free to organize themselves, deny to workers the similar right to organize and select freely their own representatives for collective bargaining.

Even with the Wagner Act, the word "unfair" still remains labor's word.

RESPECT PICKETS

Johnstown, Pa. — (FP) — Often three or four hours elapse without a single housewife crossing the picket line established by the United Retail & Wholesale Employes, CIO, in front of American Chain Grocery Stores in central Pennsylvania.

Wagner Assails Foes' Attacks On Labor Act

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON, Apr. 15.—Firm opposition to the attempts of the National Association of Manufacturers, the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, and their agents in Congress to destroy the Labor Relations Act was voiced by Senator Robert F. Wagner, father of the act, in his testimony at the opening hearings on proposed amendments before the Senate Labor Committee here.

Senator Wagner's long and careful analysis of the proposed changes, prefaced by a detailed survey of the conditions that led to the passage of the act, concluded that most of the amendments are aimed at destruction of the act rather than, as their sponsors pretend, at its improvement.

The outcry against the act heard from every reactionary side should not be allowed to stampede Congress into changing it, he declared. Every piece of social legislation ever passed has had the same outcry raised against it, precisely by those most opposed to giving labor a fair legislative break.

ANSWERS CHARGES

Wagner's testimony fully answered the hostile charge that the act is "unfair," that it is "biased" in favor of the workers, that employers and the public "suffer" from its operations.

The employer has plenty of protection now, he pointed out, and all the Labor Act does is to redress this unbalanced situation by guaranteeing the worker the right to organize and bargain collectively.

"In addition to a legal system weighted heavily in his favor, the employer has at his disposal superior economic staying power, more money, better legal counsel, and better access to the instruments of public opinion," he said.

"Against all this, the Labor Act gives the worker nothing but the right to institute a lengthy legal proceeding to protect his right to organize and bargain collectively, a right theoretically recognized by our law for 100 years. To call this act 'unfair' is to my mind to evince a case of economic astigmatism."

CRITICIZES WALSH

In addition to criticizing Senator Burke's amendments, Wagner struck out particularly at two of the proposed amendments of Senator Walsh which are sponsored by Pres. Green of the AFL.

He objected to the Walsh proposal to remove the present provision that employers shall not "interfere" with the self-organization of their workers, saying that this would remove a form of protection afforded not only under the Wagner Act, but under the Railway Labor Act and a number of other federal and state laws.

"The amendment allowing 'interference,'" Wagner said, "would therefore have serious consequences not only under the Natl. Labor Relations Act, but might well serve as a dangerous precedent for amendments to other statutes won by labor only after hard-fought battles in state and nation."

Wagner also objected to another of Walsh's amendments which "would authorize the District Courts to issue proper writs at any time to compel the Board to perform its functions and duties.

'COURT SHUFFLE'

"This," he said, "would enable a party to shuffle every point in a case back and forth continually between District Court and Labor Board, to the eternal delay of the workers seeking to vindicate their rights."

Such amendments would result in abandoning or seriously impairing accepted principles of administrative law, which work in the people's interest, Wagner explained.

"In a very vital sense," he said, "these administrative agencies have come to be regarded as the people's instruments of government, created to effectuate a particular policy more expertly, more sympathetically and more efficiently than was possible under the rigid formalism of court procedure.

"Above all these agencies give the worker a fairer chance, because he cannot afford to plunge into the costly arena of Federal court litigation."

BASIC RIGHTS

Senator Wagner's defense of the act against its enemies, which required almost two hours to deliver, was based on the issue of fundamental workers' rights and their recognition by the U. S. government, with resultant gains in industrial peace and democracy.

He pointed out that government fact-finding commissions have again and again found that "the denial of labor's right to be heard in the councils of industry" was the root cause of industrial struggles.

The purpose of the act, he pointed out, was to remedy this condition—to guarantee that workers' basic rights would be recognized, and through that to promote industrial peace.

CODIFY RIGHTS

"The present law as adopted by Congress was simple in outline and sound in conception," he said. "It did not propose to establish compulsory arbitration, to fix hours, wages or working conditions.

"All it did was to codify and clarify the age-old bill of industrial rights, and to prohibit the specific practices that were antagonistic to the realization of these rights.

"The discriminatory discharge, the yellow-dog contract, and the company dominated union were proscribed. The law required the employer to bargain collectively with representatives chosen by a majority of employes in the appropriate unit, and authorized the holding of elections to determine employe representation."

The act's effectiveness was at first impaired by the bitter fight and court actions launched against it. But the Supreme Court finally declared the act constitutional, giving the Labor Board authority to enforce its decisions through the Circuit Courts.

The results were immediately beneficial, for the workers, for employers, and for the general public. Illustrating his points by a series of charts, Senator Wagner showed that strikes began to decline as soon as the act was cleared by the high court.

STRIKES DECLINE

"In 1938, the first full year of operation under the Supreme Court's mandate, there were only about half as many strikes, one-third as many workers involved, and less than one-third as much working time lost, as in the year 1937," he said.

"Not only does 1938 show a tremendous improvement over 1937, but it represents the best record in recent years. The steady upward trend in the number of strikes, over a period of eight successive years, was definitely reversed.

"Fewer workers were involved in strikes during 1938 than in any year since 1932. Less aggregate working time was lost through strikes than in any year since 1931.

"There is ample evidence that this solid improvement in labor relations is due largely to the operation of the Labor Act."

OTHER GAINS

Workers, employers and the public have made other great gains under the act, Senator Wagner pointed out, such as thousands of new agreements, elections involving representation, petitions for certification, and the like.

"Almost entirely through the informal method of achieving compliance, the law has provided a peaceful forum for about 20,200 cases involving more than 4,500,000 workers," he said.

"The Natl. Labor Relations Act has thus played a notable, constructive role in our national life. To millions of workers it has brought a better understanding of their employer's problems, and the material and spiritual value of participating in a free organization of their fellows for mutual aid and protection.

"To most employers who have given the act a fair trial, it has brought labor peace, and beyond that, a more human relationship with workers based on the mutual respect and understanding that grows out of free bargaining between free men. These employers—and they now represent the overwhelming majority—are among the chief beneficiaries of the Labor Act."

Defends His Act

Senator Robert Wagner of New York, shown as he opened hearings on amendments to the Act which bears his name, with a stirring defense of the charter of labor's rights. His hour-and-a-half speech rejected most attacks on the Act as unsound or prejudiced.

7-Point Defense Of Labor Law

WASHINGTON, Apr. 15.—Below in summary form are the seven points on which Senator Robert F. Wagner, author of the National Labor Relations Act, based his defense of the Act against proposed amendments at the first session of the Senate hearings here this week.

1. "The proof is overwhelming that the Labor Act, in its broad outlines, has proved an effective instrument for economic peace and industrial justice.

2. **". . . a very small but amazingly compact and powerful minority has fought the main objectives of the act tooth and nail at every turn, in Congress and in courts, day and night.**

". . . they are trying to destroy rather than to perfect the act, and those who want to preserve it must of necessity deal with them accordingly.

3. "Every worker who wants to remain free should look long and searchingly at each proposal designed to change the act that has helped so much to make him free.

4. **"The amendments pretending to make the act 'fair' by placing new restraints on labor would in true effect upset labor's new equality of bargaining power, and resign labor to its earlier status of the economic underling.**

5. "Amendments proposing drastically to change the administrative provisions of the act would, I believe, weaken the traditional type of informal tribunals where the average man has a better chance to be heard.

6. **"Reckless tampering with the act will substitute uncertainty for certainty in the law . . . will shake the stability and the surer blessings of industrial peace that thousands of employers enjoy under the present act as interpreted by the courts.**

7. "Within a comparatively narrow field, there may be some changes in the act which the hearings before this committee will reveal to be sound in principle and practical in operation. If the need for such changes emerges as a product of this full and open-minded inquiry, I shall feel it my duty to introduce or support the substance of such amendments, and to help enact them into law."

NLRB Tells Position On Act

Washington, Apr. 15. — The Wagner Act does not "require amendment at the present time" in the opinion of the National Labor Relations Board, made public today in its report to the Senate Committee on Education and Labor now considering proposed amendments.

Amendments proposed by Sen. Walsh and endorsed by Pres. Green of the AFL drew strong criticism in the Board's report, especially those that would permit employers to interfere with the workers' free choice of a union; would legalize contracts made in collusion between an employer and a union he favors; would force the Board to certify splinter craft groups in industrial plants; and would turn the Board's decisions over to endless delays in the courts.

MINOR CHANGES

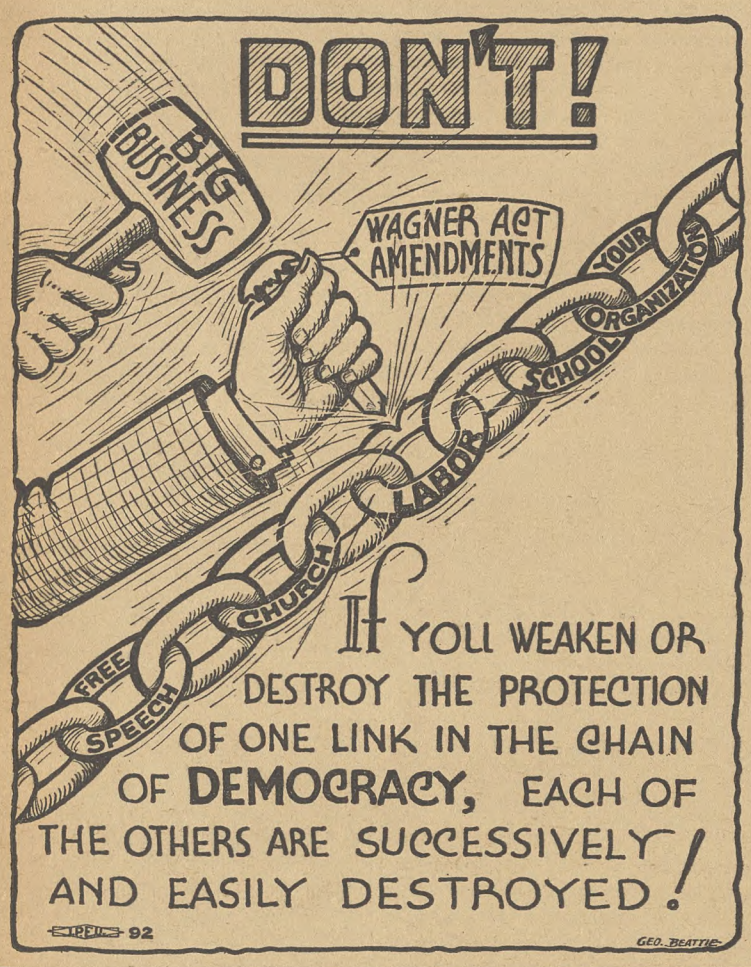
The Board mentioned several minor changes which it says "merit further consideration" although the amendments relating to them are "objectional in their present form" and although in general their objectives "could be achieved through administrative regulations without requiring legislative amendments."

"The remaining proposals in the bills before the committee are, in our opinion, definitely objectionable," the report says. "Many are not only in conflict with the basic purposes of the act but would, taken singly or in combination, effectively nullify the right of self-organization and collective bargaining which the Act is designed to protect.

"The others, while not striking at the roots of the Act, would drastically curtail the rights now guaranteed by the Act or substantially impair its effective administration."

[The NLRB report was released while The CIO NEWS was going to press. A more complete summary of the Board's findings will appear in next week's issue.]

CIO Charges Green, Bosses In Conspiracy



WASHINGTON, Apr. 15.—President William Green of the AFL, the National Association of Manufacturers and the U. S. Chamber of Commerce have entered into a "definite conspiracy" to smash the Wagner Labor Relations Act, the CIO charged this week in a leaflet sent to every member of Congress.

Released just as hearings on Wagner Act amendments started before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, the CIO accused "anti-union manufacturers and certain leaders of the AFL" of attempting to "break down the act which protects labor's rights for the purpose of making it serve their own special selfish interests."

The charge of "conspiracy" is based on a comparison between the amendments demanded by the N. A. M. and the Chamber of Commerce, and the proposed amendments in the Walsh bill, sponsored by Green, which are declared to be "startlingly similar."

ALMOST IDENTICAL

The CIO statement notes that the proposals of the NAM, the Chamber of Commerce and William Green are almost identical in regard to employer expressions to influence their employes' choice of a union; giving employers the right to call for elections; bringing in the courts to interfere with the administration of the act, and in a number of other respects.

It notes further that Senator Burke, "whose amendments follow in the line of the NAM," agrees with Green on the subject of craft amendments.

In joining with the NAM and Chamber of Commerce to break down present protections against company unions and other employer-favored types of organization, the CIO statement says that "the AFL leaders are perhaps shortsighted."

NO GUARANTEE

"They expect employer influence, as a part of the deal, to be used on behalf of their organizations, whereas they have no guarantee it will not be used to break down all forms of union organization."

The NAM and Chamber of Commerce do not represent the interests of employers who have accepted the Wagner Act, the CIO statement declares. If their amendments are passed, it says, "they will disturb existing collective bargaining relations in many industries, create disorder and confusion in the whole matter of labor relations, and promote industrial strife in place of industrial peace."

DOES NOT REPRESENT LABOR

William Green similarly does not represent the sentiments of the AFL membership, the CIO claims, citing evidence of their desire to defend the present Wagner Act.

The NAM, C. of C. and Walsh-Green amendments, it says, "represent in fact a conspiracy on the part of selfish, minority interests against fair employers, against labor and against the welfare of the general public."

The CIO leaflet, entitled "Conspiracy Against Labor's Rights", may be obtained from the Publicity Department, CIO, 1106 Connecticut Ave, Washington, D. C. It sells in quantities of 100 for 45c; 500 for $2.00; 1,000 for $3.75.

Fur Union Convention May 7th

New York, Apr. 15—All locals of the International Fur Workers are preparing for the thirteenth biennial convention to be held at the Hotel President, Atlantic City, N. J., beginning May 7. The IFW has a total membership of more than 45,000.

CIO Hits Pay Law Changes

Washington, D. C., Apr. 15—Proposed employer amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act were denounced by Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, in letters to Mrs. Mary Norton, chairman of the House Labor Committee and to Senator Ebert Thomas, chairman of the Senate Education and Labor Committee.

Referring to the amendments proposed in House Bill 5435 and Senate Bill 2008, Pressman said:

EMPLOYERS BENEFIT

"Practically every one of these amendments are for the benefit of employers and constitute an attempt to relax the standards of the law in order to meet claimed cases of hardship on the part of employers.

"There is no attempt made by these amendments to strengthen certain provisions of the wage-hour law necessary to secure for workers the protection which the law purportedly confers upon them.

"We feel that no attempt should be made to amend this important piece of labor legislation without holding hearings at which all interested parties will be given a full opportunity to discuss the proposed amendments."

Pressman asked that a definite time be set for hearings, and that the CIO be allowed to express its views on changing the law.

$100,000 RAISE

Los Angeles—Salary increases totaling $100,000 loomed for 500 employes of the Los Angeles Evening Herald and Express as negotiations with the American Newspaper Guild neared completion.

Machinists Union Raps AFL Policy On Wagner Act

WASHINGTON, Apr. 15. — The International Association of Machinists, AFL, is in disagreement with the top leadership of the executive council in its drive to destroy the Wagner Act through amendments. Early last month, Vice-President Laudemann wrote to John P. Frey warning him of the dangers to labor contained in the proposed amendments backed by Green.

This month the Machinists Union has made its reply to resulting charges of "disloyalty" to the AFL, pointing out several things of interest to the AFL and the entire labor movement in doing so. The reply is contained in the leading editorial of the current issue of the Machinists Monthly Journal, official IAM organ.

The editorial declares that the union officers had no opportunity to examine the amendments before they were submitted to Congress. Changes were discussed at the Houston convention of the AFL, the editorial says, and a committee appointed to draw them up on the lines suggested by the convention.

"When the committee appointed to prepare the amendments made them public," the editorial says, "the officers of the IAM found themselves in disagreement with some of the proposed amendments, and so stated their position in a letter addressed to John P. Frey, president of the Metal Trades Dept. of the AFL."

CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM

"The IAM is and always has been loyal to the AFL. However, its officers, who had no opportunity to examine the proposed amendments before they were submitted to Congress, respectfully made known their objections to certain language contained therein."

"The IAM has no quarrel with the AFL," the editorial repeats. "Its criticism of the proposed amendments was of a constructive character, offered in a most friendly spirit, and the IAM should not be condemned in its endeavor, by legitimate and fair means, to influence those in charge of the measure to accept the changes it proposes.

"Surely no fair-minded persons will find fault with such action and declare it inimical to the best interests of the organized labor movement as represented by the AFL."

AFL Hotel Union Hails WagnerAct

Washington, Apr. 15.—The Hotel and Restaurant Employes, third largest AFL international, reminded Congress this week that it is still opposed to all changes in the Wagner Act, in a letter sent to the House Labor Committee by James McNamara, international vice-president.

The letter recalled the resolution adopted at the 21st convention of the union in San Francisco last summer, "to the effect that the enemies of labor are seeking to deprive labor of its right to organize and bargain collectively without employer interference, and that they will seek to accomplish their purpose by introducing in Congress legislation to amend and emasculate the Wagner Act."

"This is to remind you of the position of our international union, the third largest in the AFL, and to state that we are opposed to the proposed amendments and changes in the Wagner Labor Act."

Your Job—

—May Depend on the Wagner Act.
—Is to Defend the Wagner Act.

Here's what you can do:

1. **Write to your Senators and Congressmen.**
2. **Write to Sen. Elbert Thomas, head of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor and Cong. Mary Norton, chairman of the House Labor Committee.**
3. **Take up the defense of the Act in the organizations to which you belong.**
4. **Aid in setting up Wagner Act Defense Committees in your community.**

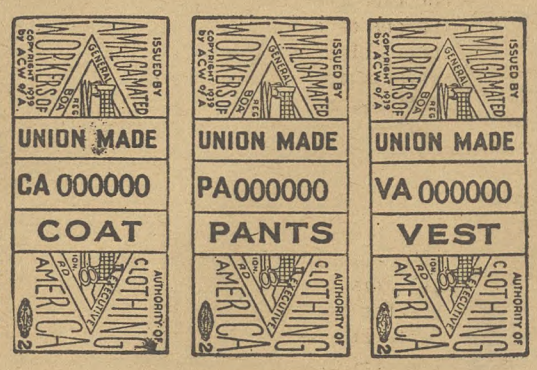
Gulfport AFL Lauds Act

Gulfport, Miss., Apr. 15—AFL workers in the Central Labor Union here have joined the growing number of AFL groups opposed to any changes in the Wagner Act, in a letter sent to state AFL Secretary J. C. Bullock.

BE ON GUARD!

Look for the union label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America when buying men's and boys' clothing, overalls, shirts, undergarments, neckties, lumber jackets, gloves, and all other kinds of men's wearing apparel.

The Amalgamated Label is your guarantee that the articles you buy are of the best workmanship and produced under one hundred percent union conditions by members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.



By insisting on the Amalgamated Label you will help to guard against a return of sweatshop conditions to the industry. By helping the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America you help the labor movement generally.

Ask for the Amalgamated label on each part of the suit, coat, pants and vest. There are different Amalgamated labels for coats, pants, vests, shirts and undergarments, work clothes, neckwear and gloves.

The GOP Deal

Some of the 60 blind men and women who picket the state capitol at St. Paul, Minn., to protest a proposed reduction in their $25 monthly allotments. Republicans gained power in the state's election on the basis of an allegedly ultra-liberal program.

Negotiate Soon, Union Warns Armour & Co.

CHICAGO, Apr. 15.—Pres. R. H. Cabell of the powerful Armour meat packing firm was today studying a demand from the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee that he enter contract negotiations with the CIO union by May 10.

Representatives of 18 Armour locals of the PWOC, meeting here, authorized their national officers and bargaining representatives to take any steps necessary to win the Armour contract.

Four locals unable to send delegates—Los Angeles, New York, Providence, R. I., and Spokane, Wash.—sent telegrams to the meeting pledging support to whatever decisions might be made.

CERTIFIED

The PWOC has already been certified by the National Labor Relations Board as the sole collective bargaining agent in every one of the big packing firm's plants, which are scattered in every section of the country.

Van A. Bittner, PWOC chairman, who has been active in negotiations for a new coal mine contract, was unable to attend. He wired the delegates that a "loyal, determined membership supporting the policy of the PWOC, your national and local officers, will guarantee success for a national contract with Armour & Co."

PWOC Director Don Harris urged the union officials to build strong discipline among the membership in order to avoid provocation by company agents who may seek to force premature strikes aimed at weakening the organization.

A strongly-worded resolution condemned un-American and anti-union Armour policies, and charged the company with numerous instances of coercion and intimidation, as well as stabbings and shootings.

Beg Pardon

The Labor and the Law column in the Apr. 10 issue of The CIO NEWS stated that Judge William Kirkpatrick of the Federal District Court in Philadelphia erred in ruling the anti-trust law applies to labor unions in the Apex Hosiery case.

Judge Kirkpatrick had originally ruled that the anti-trust law was inapplicable in the case, but had been over-ruled by the Circuit Court of Appeals.

Order Strike Against Six Tanker Fleets

New York, Apr. 15.—Failure of six oil tanker companies employing some 8,000 men to renew a contract after five weeks of negotiations caused the National Maritime Union today to begin preparations for a strike called for midnight, April 17.

After exhausting every possible means of reaching a peaceful settlement, the CIO union declared it was forced to break off negotiations because of the arbitrary stand taken by the oil tanker operators who refused "to recognize the basic principles of union rights and to consider any wage increases or proposals for better living and working conditions."

The companies involved are: Standard Oil of New Jersey, Socony Vacuum, Gulf Refining, Pennsylvania Shipping, Tidewater Oil and C. D. Mallory.

Pontiac CIO Keeps Black Legion Off Police Force

By SWANSON C. SHIELDS

PONTIAC, Mich., Apr. 15.—CIO unions in Pontiac strengthened democracy in this city recently by crushing the attempt of three ex-Black Legion leaders to win reinstatement on the local police department from which they were ousted two years ago for membership in the murderous cult.

When a Circuit Court Judge ordered the trio of cultists returned to their old jobs, CIO members in Pontiac immediately launched an "anti-Black Legion drive." Aided by other progressive groups, the CIO'ers exerted such tremendous pressure that the city council appealed the case to the Michigan State Supreme Court.

BLOW TO TERRORISTS

A few days ago the high tribunal ruled that membership in the Black Legion barred the three officers from police work. The decision — a crushing blow against the terroristic band—was hailed as a victory for the Pontiac CIO affiliated unions.

If Pontiac labor under the banner of the CIO had not blocked the apparent latest effort of the Black Legion to recapture power in local government, it is likely that other former public officials removed from office in the grand jury probe three years ago would have been instated.

LIKE HITLER

Pontiac was the hotbed of the Black Legion, the hooded cult that waged violence on Catholics, Jews, Negroes and trade unionists. Patterned after the same underground organizations that paved the way for the rise of power of Hitler and Mussolini, the Black Legion was a fascist-inspired movement bent on overthrowing the United States government.

Close to 40 prominent officials in city and county government—including the chief of police—were exposed as ringleaders of the Black Legion. Most of them were later removed from office, either by court action or at the polls.

Although outlawed following the grand jury investigation, it was common knowledge that the Black Legion was never completely dissolved and the effort of the three ex-policemen to regain their jobs was considered a "trial case."

Had they won, the Black Legion would have again been in a position to grab the reins of the local government as it did several years ago. But this time they had a militant CIO with which to reckon.

USED BY MAGNATES

Disclosure that Pontiac industrialists had used the Black Legion as a weapon to beat labor into submission was among the startling evidence uncovered by the grand jury. Kidnapping and flogging of a Negro labor leader, the burning of a workers' social center and other acts of violence against unions were traced to the night-riding band.

Plan 'Work Camp' For Refugees

New York, Apr. 15—Young refugees from foreign dictatorships will attend a four-week summer "Work Camp for Democracy" at West Park, N. Y., on the Hudson, according to plans announced last week by Algernon Black, chairman of the camp's executive committee.

American as well as foreign youth, both men and women, will be enrolled, including college students, trade unionists and representatives of Negro youth organizations.

AT BRYN MAWR

The camp will be located at the new home of the Bryn Mawr Summer School for Workers, which will be in session earlier in the summer. The camp will be held from Aug. 7 to Sept. 4.

The students who will be restricted to 60, will have opportunities to work, study and play together. A number of projects will be undertaken, such as making an athletic field and improving the buildings, to contribute toward making West Park a permanent center for workers education.

Cost of the four weeks session will be $65. A limited number of scholarships will be available, the committee announced. Inquiries about the school may be addressed either to the Intercollegiate Committee to Aid Student Refugees, 100 East 42nd St., New York City, or to Mr. Black, Society for Ethical Culture, 2 West 64th St., New York City.

Seek Two W. Virginia Steel Pacts

Charleston, W. Va., Apr. 15—Negotiations between the Steel Workers Organizing Committee and two important steel fabrication companies were under way here today.

Following a 218-190 Labor Board election victory at the American Fork & Hoe Co., the company agreed to meet with the union. Organization of the plant had been supervised by Pres. John Easton of the West Virginia Industrial Union Council.

Shortly after the victory at the polls, employes of the Midwest Steel Corp. formed an SWOC lodge and won recognition from the management.

Ask $800,000,000 For U. S. Housing

WASHINGTON, Apr. 15. — The United States Housing Authority should be granted the right to authorize another $800,000,000 in loans to further its slum clearance and low-cost home building drive, Administrator Nathan Straus told the Senate Committee on Education and Labor.

Some 180,000 new homes will be constructed if Congress votes the funds, Straus said. He pointed out that during the past three months, four new states have passed legislation making them eligible for USHA loans, and similar bills are being pushed in five other states.

"Unless additional funds are made available, those states which enact legislation this year cannot enter the program and would be penalized," he pointed out.

Private contractors, Straus told the committee, have admitted that "private enterprise cannot earn profits by construction to meet the housing needs of the lowest income group."

Textile Union Names McMahon To Post

New York, Apr. 15.—Thomas F. McMahon, president of the United Textile Workers from 1921 to 1937 and state labor commissioner of Rhode Island for the past two years, has been appointed a national representative of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee, by Emil Rieve, executive director.

As former president of the United Textile Workers, McMahon was one of the eight original founders of the CIO. He has been in the labor movement for 40 years and served in various official positions before being elected head of the UTW.

According to Rieve's announcement, McMahon will serve in New England for the present, being directly responsible to the national TWOC office. He lives at Cranston, R. I.

Remove Pickets In Coast Truce

San Francisco, Apr. 15 — Pickets have been removed from the Alaska salmon industry shipyards here pending the result of negotiations now in progress. If the conferences show signs of bogging down, the pickets will be restored, the Maritime Federation of the Pacific declared.

Six fish packing plants in Benicia, Contra Costa county, employing 400 men, are closed because employers refused to renew their contracts with the fishermen, alleging a jurisdictional dispute between CIO fishermen and AFL fish handlers as the reason.

The CIO union declares that this is merely a trumped up excuse to keep from signing a contract, as the AFL union has no appreciable representation among the workers.

New Orleans Priest Defends CIO, Assails Critics

NEW ORLEANS, Apr. 15.—Vigorous support for the CIO and denial that it is in any way un-American came today from Father James A. Drolet in an article appearing in the New Orleans States, a local daily paper usually anti-CIO in its attitude.

Answering charges that the CIO is "Communistic", Father Drolet said: "I feel that I am pretty well acquainted with the pronouncements of Catholic authorities on labor and on the CIO in particular, and your unfavorable comment on that union is completely at variance with their statements relative to it.

"Msgr. John Ryan of Catholic University and Msgr. Haas, director of the school of social science at Catholic University, and many other similarly competent leaders in that field, disagree with you and recommend the CIO and have defended it time and again against charges similar to those which you state or insinuate.

NOT COMMUNISTS

"Neither Lewis himself, nor Hillman are Communists; other officials such as Carey, Brophy and Kennedy are good, sound practical Catholics who are simply better read up on Catholic social teachings than the average editor of our great dailies."

Father Drolet goes on to tell what the CIO really is: "The CIO is a straight trade union movement along industrial lines rather than along craft lines, holding firmly to the principles of private property for all, and the ordinary democratic decencies which are denied to many in our advanced era in America. Neither in principles nor in leadership can it be intelligently charged with being Communistic."

HAS HELPED UNIONS

During the big CIO teamster strike here last year, Father Drolet actively aided the CIO workers. In reply to attacks on the local CIO, he said, "You accuse the CIO locally of being guilty of undemocratic practices. You are careful not to mention any specific cases. There were none such.

"The undemocratic stuff was all pulled off by the AFL, which you seem to like not a little. The AFL has been using all sorts of gangster stuff in order to keep up its racketeer and undemocratic character in and around New Orleans since the start of the CIO."

The CIO teamsters recently won a Labor Board election growing of last year's strike.

Father Drolet added, "Your paper was despicable all during the teamster strike. Your headlines tried to foment CIO violence and when the AFL alone perpetrated violence, you hushed it up or even made it appear that the CIO had committed it."

The New Orleans Industrial Union Council publicly thanked Father Drolet for "the stand he is taking to bring about a true picture of the labor movement in New Orleans."

Plan Meeting In Denver To Protect Act

Denver, Colo., Apr. 15. — The Wagner Act Defense Committee is planning a mass meeting here on April 23 to protest proposed amendments in Congress.

"Employers are trying to take away the workers' one protection by amending the Act to make it possible to use the power of the federal government to regiment workers into unions of the employers' choosing," the Committee said in calling the meeting.

Grace Church and Community Center, the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers (CIO), Machinists Local 47 (AFL), Packinghouse Workers Local 21 (CIO) and American Federation of Teachers Local 559 (AFL) are among the groups helping the Wagner Act Defense Committee.

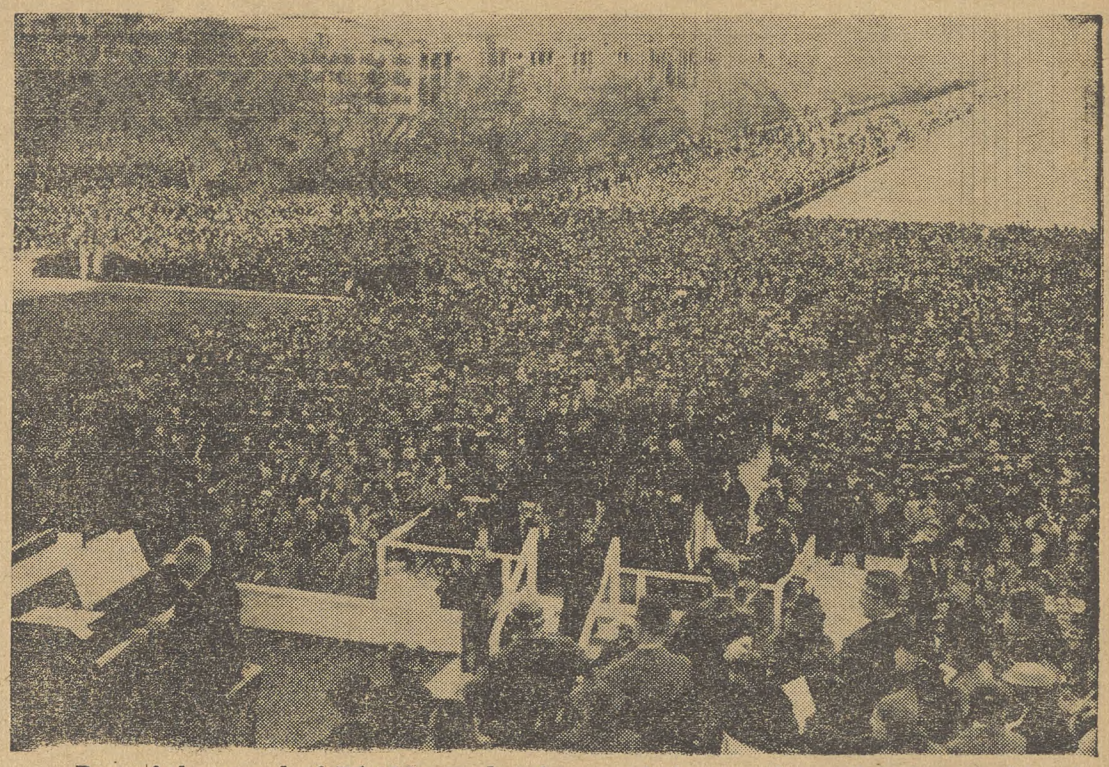
Msgr. Ryan Raps Wagner Act Foes

Washington., Apr. 17. — The Right Reverend Msgr. John A. Ryan, Director of the Social Action department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, announced his opposition to amendments to the Wagner Act last week.

Father Ryan said:

"I am opposed to all the changes in the National Labor Relations Act which have been proposed by the U. S. Chamber of Commerce and by Senator Burke, for it seems to me that these modifications would deprive the Act in greater or less degree of the power which it was intended to have, that is, to give labor an adequate opportunity to organize, to carry on effective collective bargaining, and to be represented in collective bargaining by its own freely chosen representatives."

Dedicated To Tolerance



Part of the crowd of 75,000 people who crowded on to the mall facing the Lincoln Memorial in Washington to hear Miss Marion Anderson, famed Negro concert singer. Previously, the Daughters of the American Revolution and District of Columbia school officials had denied her use of their auditoriums. Sec. of the Interior Harold Ickes presided at the open air concert, decried intolerance based on color, race and creed.

Ruling Hits Gas Company

BROOKLYN, N. Y., Apr. 15—The Brooklyn Union Gas Co. was found to have violated the Wagner Labor Relations Act in a ruling handed down by a Labor Board trial examiner today.

He found that 28 members of Local 142, Utility Workers Organizing Committee, had been discharged for union activities, and recommended their reinstatement with full back pay. The amount totals about $150,000.

CIO Radio Union Files Charge Against Westinghouse

WASHINGTON, Apr. 15.—Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co., second largest corporation in its field, has been charged with violation of the Wagner Act in a complaint filed with the National Labor Relations Board by the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers.

The union charged the company with refusing to bargain in good faith, refused to enter into a written agreement with the UERMW and adopted a "dilatory course of conduct in negotiations."

Decision to press NLRB charges against Westinghouse was unanimously voted at a meeting of representatives of locals in the company's plants, and was later ratified by the UERMW general executive board.

The case is expected to be important because it is based solely on the refusal of the company to sign a contract, and contains no accompanying features of discrimination or discharge of employes.

Uruguay Confab Helps Strengthen Democracy Throughout Americas

By JACK O'DONOHUE

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay. — Several hundred delegates from both the western hemispheres gathered here late in March for the International Congress of American Democracies. Among the delegates was Miss Kathryn Lewis, daughter and secretary of CIO Pres. John L. Lewis.

Miss Lewis was chief of the American delegation to the meeting, and was elected one of the congress' vice-presidents. On her trip back to the United States, she will visit various countries in South and Central America in order to get first-hand reports on their labor situations.

DISCUSSED CIVIL LIBERTIES

The congress met less than three months after the Pan-American Conference at Lima, where matters relating to labor were considerably hushed. On the agenda of the Montevideo meeting were many subjects discussed at Lima by the government representatives, but the main point of interest was the discussion of political and social trends affecting civil liberties, democratic institutions and labor organizations.

The problem of maintaining peace, the recent development of fascist penetration and the possibilities for united action by labor in the Americas were important points on the congress program.

Considering the fact that the delegates represented rank-and-file movements which have suffered the effects of economic and political depression, it can be taken for granted that the results will be of vital interest to the people in both the United States and Latin America.

The organization of the Montevideo congress was largely in the hands of prominent Uruguayan progressives, some of whom have helped to create the social legislation for which Uruguay is so well-known.

Delegations were present from Argentina and Chile, where labor is still able to work for better conditions. Other representatives from Cuba, Venezuela, Mexico, Peru and Colombia gave reports on conditions in their countries, where labor's status ranges all the way from open and militant action with full enjoyment of civil rights to complete suppression.

Particular point was given to the labor discussions through the fact that during its closing sessions, word came from Venezuela that labor unions in that country had been banned.

EXCHANGED KNOWLEDGE

American labor's growing interest—and representation—in meetings like this will inevitably bring a broader understanding of the problems which labor faces in the Americas. The personal contacts and confidence which grow out of congresses will make up to some extent for the lack of channels for the exchange of information among the various labor movements.

At the present time labor leaders in the United States do not have at their disposal any agency which will report to them accurately and frequently on labor developments among our southern neighbors. This is in sharp contrast with practices in the fields of education, science, agriculture, trade, finance, and manufacturing, where agencies supported by public funds handle this important function

Textile Union To Resist Speed-Up

New York, Apr. 15.—Union delegates from locals of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee in 11 velvet centers decided last week at a conference with national TWOC leaders, to contest any attempts to increase the work-load in the velvet industry.

The TWOC representatives expressed the conviction that Cheney Bros., Manchester, Conn., which has announced it will increase the loom-load in its velvet branch from two to four looms beginning April 17, is being used as a spearhead in the campaign by other manufacturers to increase the loom-load.

The CIO union, which has a contract with Cheney Bros., is demanding that the company arbitrate the matter.

MORE VACATIONS

New York—(FP) — Organized labor's drive for vacations with pay in union contracts has proved remarkably successful, judging from the results of a survey conducted by the National Industrial Conference Board.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 17 | April 24, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

LABOR BOARD OPPOSES AMENDING WAGNER ACT

The News In Brief

Coal

New York. — Pres. John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers threatened a nation-wide shutdown of the entire coal industry if bituminous mine operators persist in their lockout, aimed at weakening the union.

Security

Washington.—The CIO Social Security Committee has suggested a 6-point program of changes to liberalize the federal social security act.

Liberalism

Washington. — A definite swing back to the New Deal is seen by Labor's Non-Partisan League as the keynote of recent city elections throughout the country.

Bargains

New York.—The Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. defeated in a long court case, has started to bargain collectively with the CIO union of its agents.

Convention

Utah Industrial Union Council, Park City, Utah, Apr. 26.

New York Unions Aid Labor Act

New York, Apr. 21.—Hundreds of labor leaders, from shop stewards to international presidents, met at the Hotel Center today for an emergency conference aimed at strengthening the "Save the Wagner Act" campaign.

Vice-Pres. Philip Murray of the CIO; City Councilman Michael Quill, who heads the Transport Workers Union; Allen Haywood and Gustave Strebel, chairman and secretary of the state's Industrial Union Council; Elmer Brown, president of the Big Six Local of the AFL Intl. Typographical Union; and the Rev. John P. Boland, chairman of the State Labor Relations Board, addressed the gathering.

Representatives of both AFL and CIO unions were present.

"You know all about the conspiracy afoot to amend the Wagner Act to death," the call to the meeting said. "An immediate marshalling of all labor's forces is essential to prevent this calamity."

QUICK STRIKE

New York—Local 76-B of the United Furniture Workers won a seven day strike at the Grand Central Wicker Mfg. Co. here.

Sea-Going Picket Line

Naturally enough, striking members of the National Maritime Union take their picket lines right on to the water. Frank Stockmal (with megaphone) shouts a message about the NMU's strike to the crew of an incoming oil tanker on the Delaware River at Philadelphia. Seaman Frank Glassman is at the rudder.

Mid-Continent Oil Frames Strikers; Uses Finks

TULSA, Okla., Apr. 22. — Indictment of 140 members of the Oil Workers' International Union, Local 217, on conspiracy charges by the Tulsa county grand jury in connection with the Mid-Continent Petroleum corporation strike was interpreted here as another brazen step by corporation dominated politicians in prostituting the law and legal procedure to destroy effectiveness of unionization.

Among those indicted was Jack N. Hays, president of Local 217. Hays and other union leaders were named in the conspiracy charges. Others were accused of unlawful assembly and directing a riot.

The grand jury report said a "mob collected inside the Mid-Continent and held the property for some six hours."

The wholesale indictment was not unexpected by union leaders. It had been apparent from the day the grand jury was called that it would be used as a weapon against the union.

LOP-SIDED JURY

The jury was dominated by Dixie Gilmer, county attorney, according to those who were in contact with the hearings. Gilmer is a member of the Tulsa county political machine which has been accused of political collusion with Mid-Continent.

A list of the names of the grand jurors indicates the lop-sided role in which it played to discredit striking oil workers.

Heading the list as foreman was Frank W. Johnson, tax agent for the Oklahoma Pipe Line company. Other oil company executives and corporation officials who served were Lewis P. Myers, Oil operator; Rus Stamper, sales manager for a Tulsa Oil company; E. F. Moran, drilling contractor; H J. Klinger, operator of a mill works; Frank H. Mathey, machine company president; Roy R. Rush, salesman; C. B. Morton, sales manager of a supply company; Joe Leder, a barber; V. G. James, warehouseman; L. L. Jones, salesman, and W. C. Bunn, listed as a trucker.

Not one union official or striker

Continued on Page Eight

'Liberty League Decision'

Washington, Apr. 22 — The American Newspaper Publishers Assn., trade body for the big boys in the history, was sharply criticized this week by Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, for its interpretation of a Wage Hour ruling on newsboys.

Elisha Hanson, association mouthpiece and bitter-end foe of trade unionism, claimed that the ruling exempted all newsboys from the Wage Hour law except those that actually came to the plant for their papers.

"This interpretation by the publishers is just another 'ruling' like the one in which the notorious 58 lawyers of the Liberty League long ago declared the Wagner Act unconstitutional—without consulting the Supreme Court," Pressman said.

Pressman advised CIO affiliates that the CIO considers all newsboys employed by newspapers to be under the section of the act forbidding child labor. The CIO will ask for a re-definition of the Wage and Hour ruling.

Madden On Stand 3 Days

(See Stories Page 5, 6)

WASHINGTON, Apr. 22—J. Warren Madden, chairman of the National Labor Relations Board, sees no need for amendments to the Wagner Act at this time.

Appearing before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, he read a long statement which showed evidence of careful preparation, and answered innumerable questions from committee members. Senators Taft of Ohio, Ellender of Louisiana and Holt of West Virginia, all of them foes of the Act and of the CIO, did most of the cross-examination.

Their questions were easily taken in stride by the NLRB head, however, and the persistent attempt to show that the Labor Board has given preference for the CIO wilted under the barrage of facts which Madden had at his finger tips.

Madden told the committee that the people who most want to amend the Act are those who are the most outspoken foes of the labor unions.

He said that the Board felt that four minor changes in its procedure might be worthy of consideration, but flatly denied that the Walsh-Green or Burke amendments could have any effect but to harm the nation's workers.

To nullify the Act's effectiveness, he asserted, would be to destroy the workers' newly-found liberties, and would scarcely provide a fitting celebration for the 150th anniversary of the Bill of Rights.

Call Gulf Unfair To Union

Toledo, Apr. 22.—The Gulf Refining Co. will be faced with a "state of non-production" before many more months have passed unless it executes an about-face and agrees to deal with Local 346 of the Intl. Oil Workers Union.

This was the warning given by Clyde Shamblen, president of the local. He said:

"We have attempted to convince the company to bargain in good faith and enter into an agreement with the union since May, 1937.

DICTATOR POLICIES

"At each meeting the company agreed to bargain until an agreement was reached, only to change its mind later by attempting to foster upon us a dictatorial employer-employe relations policy."

CIO Backs Housing Fund Plea

Washington, Apr. 22.—The CIO Housing Committee today urged all CIO unions to support a proposed amendment to the U. S. Housing Act which would allow the Housing Authority to borrow and lend for low-cost housing projects up to $800,000,000.

Anthony Wayne Smith, executive secretary of the CIO Housing Committee, asked all CIO affiliates to write to their Congressmen and Senators requesting favorable action on these bills.

He pointed out that it is necessary to act quickly because the proposed amendments will be discussed in the Senate in the next few days and very soon afterward in the House.

CIO Union Saves Pay Rate for Boys

Washington, Apr. 22—Prompt action by the American Communications Assn., CIO, has saved thousands of telegraph company messenger boys from going back to the $4.00 weekly wage scale in effect before the wage-hour law was passed.

The threatened cut came in the form of an amendment the companies tried to sneak by the House Labor Committee which would have exempted the messengers from the act.

Telegrams and letters from ACA members aided by joint action with the Commercial Telegraphers Union, AFL, induced the committee members to withdraw the amendment after it had passed almost unnoticed.

Plan Party

Philadelphia, Apr. 22.—Three parties for the price of one is the way the Philadelphia Newspaper Guild is describing its fifth anniversary party in Town Hall on May 13.

Three separate bands will be on the job, and numerous stage and radio stars have promised to entertain.

Four girls of different races acted as usherettes at the Interracial Unity Meeting in New York, sponsored by the American Society for Racial Tolerance. Left to right, Joan Wengler, Paula Allen, Toshi Alto, and Theodora No. The meeting was held to arouse American opinion against race hatred and to organize a program for racial and religious tolerance.

Invitation

Chicago, Apr. 22.—William Randolph Hearst, staying at the swank Drake Hotel here, received the following telegram from striking employes of the Hearst-owned American and Herald-Examiner:

"Will you join your striking employes at dinner Wednesday night at 6:30 at the basement of strike headquarters, 188 West Randolph St., serving stew, bread, butter, coffee, and address the group briefly on 'Labor Pains.'"

Priest Urges Fight On Intolerance

Erie, Pa., Apr. 22—Catholics should not let themselves be stampeded by the reactionary wave that is forming throughout the nation today, and must at all costs avoid anti-Semitism, Father Charles O. Rice of Pittsburgh declared at a rally here.

"A definite wave of reaction is sweeping the country and it will not do for Catholics to be stampeded into a herd-like following of this trend," Father Rice said.

"Among the nastiest features of this reactionary surge," he said, "is a pronounced anti-Semitism. Anti-Semitism is stupid, vicious and un-Catholic.

All Nations' Workers Send Help to Chile

By JACK O'DONOHUE

American labor solidarity has been shown recently by the support given the Chilean labor unions in their effort to cooperate with the government of that republic to rebuild the provinces striken by the recent earthquake. Relief committees have been set up in Mexico, Argentina and Cuba, to mention only a few. These committees are collecting funds and, what is perhaps more important, are explaining the importance of backing up Chilean labor at this particular time.

The present administration of President Pedro Aguirre Cerda is the first ever elected in that country with the open and solid support of the labor unions. In spite of the efforts of reactionaries, union ranks held fast under the leadership of the Chilean Confederation of Workers (Confederacion de Trabajadores de Chile).

They supported a program of better living conditions, higher income for the workers of field and factory, fairer tax laws, and control of the corporations, banks and shipping companies that had run the country for years.

BIG TASK AHEAD

To carry through such a program under normal conditions would have been hard enough. But the shock that killed and injured over 100,000 people, destroying millions of dollars worth of property, placed a double burden on the friends of the government.

Besides going ahead with the program on which he was elected, Aguirre Cerda has to relieve suffering, get the wheels of industry turning and the six provinces rebuilt from the ground up. His enemies in the Chilean Congress have been trying to hamstring him on both counts, hoping that the people will get disgusted with everything, including labor, and turn to the reactionaries for help.

So far, the government has held its own. Important laws in which labor has a big stake have been passed. The plan for economic reconstruction has been drafted and, it is hoped, will soon be in operation. And it also begins to look as if the big corporations will have to pay a greater portion of their huge earnings into the national treasury.

CHILE'S NEW DEAL

From all this, labor stands to benefit.

Chile's labor laws have had a reputation for liberality but they have not been properly enforced by previous governments, some of which have been out-and-out dictatorships. The attempt to enforce these laws, which are similar in many ways to the laws in the United States which protect the right of the worker to organize and to seek better conditions, will arouse the enemies of labor not only in Chile but outside as well.

The answer which American labor, north and south, has given is expressed in the earthquake relief which is now being carried on. Contacts established in this way, strengthened by personal visits like that of Miss Kathryn Lewis, who is now in Santiago, will go a long way to show that labor is marching shoulder to shoulder from Canada to the Straits of Magellan.

Ken Says AFL Leaders 'Scared' by CIO Charge Of Tory Conspiracy

WASHINGTON, Apr. 22.—New grounds for the CIO contention that proposals to amend the Wagner Act coming from President Green of the AFL, the National Association of Manufacturers and the U. S. Chamber of Commerce come from the same litter of anti-unionism are seen in current stories of close collaboration among all three.

The latest story comes from Ken Magazine, which has just published a paragraph to the effect that "AFL leaders are scared stiff of John L. Lewis' threat to make documented exposure of a direct connection between John P. Frey, Joseph Padway and other AFL bigwigs and the NAM in a 'conspiracy' to rewrite the Wagner Act, amend the life out of it."

NOBODY KNOWS

AFL leaders are scared. according to Ken, and they "are exhibiting guilty consciences: recent executive council meetings have been taken up to a great extent with alibi-ing themselves and each other, and whistling in the dark generally."

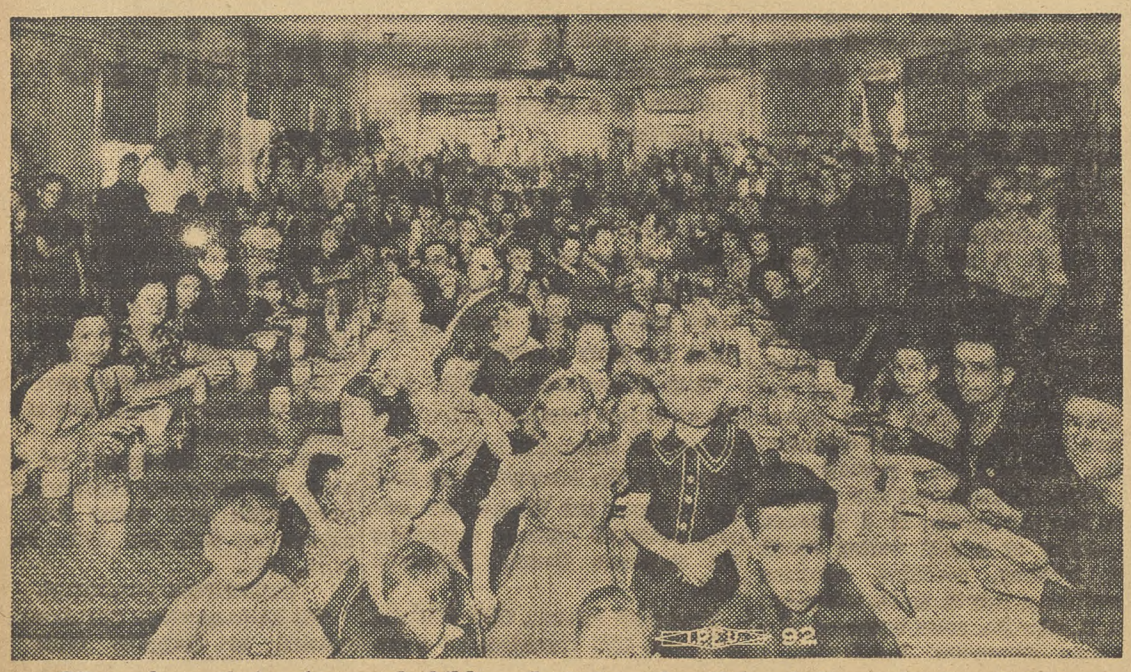
The magazine goes on to point out that many AFL internationals, even craft unions, are strongly opposed to the amendments sponsored by Pres. Green through Senator Walsh of Massachusetts.

Transit Union Gives Safety Awards

New York, Apr. 22.—Twenty-nine employes of New York transit lines have received awards from the Transport Workers Union for having contributed the best suggestions for the promotion of greater safety and courtesy in the operation of the transportation systems.

Lieut.-Gov. Charles Poletti, President of the City Council, Newbold Morris and Judge William O'Dwyer presented the awards at the TWU's annual spring dance. The TWU campaign, aimed at helping World's Fair visitors to the city, has won widespread praise from civic leaders.

Lots of Mouths to Feed



Oil workers, their wives and children flock into the dining hall run by Local 217 of the Oil Workers International Union in West Tulsa, Okla. The local has been on strike at the plant of the Mid-Continent Petroleum Corp., refiners of DX gasoline, since December 22.

Scab Reporters Cover Chisox, Cubs' Games For Hearst Papers

CHICAGO, Apr. 22.—When the Chicago Cubs and White Sox hit the road this week, their games will be covered for the Hearst-owned American and Herald-Examiner by scab reporters, the Chicago Newspaper Guild today warned trade unionists and baseball fans.

Jim Gallagher and Clair Kelly are the scab sportswriters for the *American*, with Leo Fischer, Jimmy Corcoran, Jim Enright and Forrest Myers occasionally pinch-hitting for Kelly. What few *Herald-Examiner* subscribers are left will get their baseball stories from Warren Brown and Edgar Munzell, also strikebreakers.

NEAR FIFTH MONTH

The Guild strike at the two papers was still going strong as it reached its 140th day, with advertising still falling far below last year's levels.

Goldblatt's, chain department store which has aided Hearst by carrying large ads in the two publications, received labor's answer last week when unions picketed five of the stores—two of them in Chicago, and others in Gary and Hammond, Ind., and Joliet, Ill. Steel workers, packinghouse workers, farm equipment workers, oil workers and seamen helped swell the quintet of picket lines.

Angered by the display of union strength, the store management sought restraining orders in the two Indiana cities, and joined the Hearst anti-handbill fight in Chicago itself.

BIG LOSS

In the first ten days of April, a Guild statement revealed, the papers have dropped a total of 374,716 lines of advertising as compared with the same period last year. "Conservatively estimated," the Guild said, "the lineage loss to the struck papers totals up to $949,075 in lost revenue.

Further Coal Shutdown Due May 5

Strike Hits Four Oil Tank Lines

New York, Apr. 22—The employers' front cracked in the first day of the CIO Natl. Maritime Union strike against oil tanker operators on the east coast, when all but four signed contracts with the workers. Six thousand men are involved.

The strike was caused by refusal of the shipowners to bargain with the union on the preferential hiring system. This point, designed to put an end to finkhalls and favoritism in hiring seamen, is the major issue in the struggle.

CIO SUPPORT

Full CIO support for the strike was announced in Washington by National Director John Brophy, who wrote to NMU President Curran that the whole force of the CIO would back the seamen in their fight for union conditions.

President Curran described the situation when he said: "The union is seeking to do away completely with an old evil in the maritime industry—the crimping system. For the past 65 years the seamen have been victimized by notorious shipping masters, shipping crimps and boarding houses of ill repute."

MAY NAME BENSON

Washington—Rumors here say that President Roosevelt will name former Farmer-Labor Governor Elmer Benson of Minnesota to the Interstate Commerce Commission in the place of former Rep. Thomas Amlie, who asked that his name be withdrawn when tory critics raised a vicious red-scare drive against him.

Mayor F. H. LaGuardia of New York (third from left) joins coal contract negotiators in an effort to reach a formula which will end the operators' lockout of 320,000 bituminous miners. Left to right: Walter Robinson, conference chairman; Charles O'Neill, operators' spokesman; LaGuardia; and President John L. Lewis of the UMW.

High Court Upholds NLRB

Washington, Apr. 22.—The National Labor Relations Board has won another case before the U. S. Supreme Court.

The high court ruled that the NLRB has jurisdiction over firms engaged in the processing of materials belonging to other companies or individuals. In so doing, it over-ruled a decision of the third federal circuit court of appeals.

TAILORED CLOTHING

The issue was presented in the case of Benjamin and Marjorie Feinblatt of New Jersey, who tailored various types of sports clothing for the Lee Sportswear Co. in New York City. Materials were shipped from the New York outfit to the Feinblatt firm, tailored and then shipped back.

H. Warrum, Mine Union Counsel, Dies

Washington, Apr. 22—Henry Warrum, chief counsel of the United Mine Workers of America for 41 years, died in Emergency Hospital here on April 18. He was 71 years old.

Leaders of the United Mine Workers and of the CIO attended his funeral on Thursday. Offices of both organizations were closed on the afternoon of the final rites.

CIO Pres. John L. Lewis spoke at the funeral.

BORN IN 1867

Born in Greenfield, Ind., in 1867, Mr. Warrum attended DePauw University and later attended the University of Michigan Law School.

Mr. Warrum represented the UMW in scores of important cases in all parts of the country. He fought injunctions and yellow dog contract suits, which were used as weapons to prevent organization of the workers.

In Washington he actively assisted in the passage of the National Recovery Act, the Wagner Act, the Guffey Coal Bill and other labor legislation.

Met Life Bargains With Union

New York, Apr. 22—Metropolitan Life, biggest insurance company in the world, has agreed to negotiate with the Industrial Insurance Agents Union of the CIO United Office and Professional Workers.

The opening of negotiations climaxes a two-year struggle by the CIO union to win recognition from the major insurance companies. One year ago the 2,500 agents employed by Metropolitan in the greater New York area selected Local 30 of the UOPWA as their sole collective bargaining agent in a Labor Board election.

The company resisted the consequent Labor Board order to bargain with the union by appealing to the courts. Its agreement to negotiate follows a New York State Supreme Court decision upholding the Board.

Union charges are pending before the Labor Board against Metropolitan, including domination of a company union, known as the Employes Fidelity Organization; intimidation of union members and discharge of 33 men for their membership in the UOPWA.

Sign Pact, Operators Warned

NEW YORK, Apr. 22. — A complete shutdown of the nation's bituminous coal mines threatens on May 5th, unless mine operators come to terms with the United Mine Workers before that date.

The necessary 15-day notice ending special agreements outside the Appalachian area was given Thursday.

Miners in Alabama and a number of mid-western states have been working under terms of the old agreement, while some 320,000 Appalachian bituminous miners have been idle since they were locked out on April 1. Previously Pres. John L. Lewis had indicated that the anthracite miners, just starting to negotiate a new contract, might also be called out.

The announcement of the serving of notice was made by Vice-Pres. Philip Murray. Lewis has charged that the operators, by stubbornly resisting the union's demand for elimination of a one-sided strike penalty clause, are attempting to weaken the UMW, the country's largest labor organization.

Lewis quoted Mayor F. H. LaGuardia of New York, who has been trying to mediate the dispute, as saying the disputed penalty clause "almost is murder" as far as the workers are concerned.

CONCILIATORS PRESENT

While the U. S. Department of Labor Conciliation Service rushed its chief, John Steelman, to the conferences here, additional reports from all sections of the country showed that the accelerating coal shortage will soon be near the crisis stage. Railroads, government offices, utilities and manufacturers have little coal left on hand as a result of the lockout. The Pennsylvania and Baltimore & Ohio Railroads, which have extensive trackage in the coal areas and the adjoining industrial regions, reported a marked slump in business.

ANTHRACITE NEGOTIATIONS

Meanwhile, as the bituminous conferences remained stalled, Lewis and Sec.-Treas. Thomas Kennedy appeared at the opening session of the anthracite contract negotiations, which affect about 100,000 miners, most of them in Pennsylvania.

The hard coal miners, whose present agreement expires at the end of this month, are demanding a reduction of the work-week to 30 hours; a guarantee of 200 days' work a year; equal division of work; seniority; and increases in the present wage scale.

WOULD DAMAGE UMW

At a press conference following another of the fruitless meetings with the bituminous operators, Lewis pointed out that the operators' counter-proposal would "create a condition of encouraging members of the UMWA to resign from that union, and of agents provocaturs deliberately stirring up trouble so miners could be penalized by reason of their acts.

"In addition to having the right to pay miners inadequate wages, operators want the right to fine him while they might be engaged in breaking up his union," Lewis continued. "If a settlement is to be reached here,

Continued on page six

Bill Asks $100,000 For LaFollette Group

WASHINGTON, Apr. 22.—A bill to grant the LaFollette-Thomas Civil Liberties Committee an additional $100,000 to continue its investigations, was filed in the Senate this week.

Sponsored by Sen. Schwellenbach of Washington and Sen. Downey of California, it was referred to the Upper House's Committee on Audit and Control.

The resolution introduced by the two Senators pointed out that there has been "widespread demand" for continuation of the committee's work on the part of the Grange, the CIO, the AFL and numerous other organizations.

The committee, before its present funds were exhausted, made investigations on the west coast, and is believed to have made valuable discoveries about the anti-union activities of the Associated Farmers, big-business organization which has been increasing its power in the Pacific and Rocky Mountain states.

Unions should write or wire their own Senators and Congressmen, as well as Senator James F. Byrnes, head of the committee, asking that the funds be voted immediately.

WANT THIRD TERM

Boston—By a 135-19 vote, delegates to the convention of Massachusetts' Labor's Non-Partisan League indicated they would vote for President Roosevelt for a third time if he is nominated next year.

Martin Joins Goldfish Craze; To Swallow AFL Charter

WASHINGTON, Apr. 22 — President William Green of the AFL today prepared a hearty welcome for the approaching return of Homer Martin, discredited former president of the United Automobile Workers.

Martin and Green met in AFL headquarters here this week, and paved the way for affiliation of the Martin faction with the Federation.

THOMAS COMMENTS

In Detroit Pres. R. J. Thomas of the UAW-CIO, speaking in the name of more than 300,000 auto workers, declared:

"The old AFL charter, spurned and ignored by three international conventions of the UAW, has been fished out of the gutter again by Willie Green and has been humbly and gratefully accepted by an ousted president of the UAW.

"Both the AFL and the former president are acting in character. The AFL has not hesitated to dicker with every lame duck in a CIO international union in a futile effort to undermine the CIO. It tried in the flat glass industry with an ex-president and failed dismally. It tried it again in the textile industry with an ex-president, and its failure was equally complete.

WILL FAIL AGAIN

"The AFL will fail again in the auto industry in its attempt to stir up trouble through a discarded outcast from our union. The auto industry is a mass-production industry and must be organized on industrial union lines as represented by the UAW-CIO.

"The AFL charter will permit the aristocratic craft unions to take their pick of the workers in the industry and leave the remnants for the lame duck and his goons.

"The UAW-CIO is not concerned with the last-ditch maneuvers of a discredited former leader. We predict that the AFL will find plenty of reason to regret any deal it has made with him."

BROPHY'S COMMENT

John Brophy, CIO director, commented:

"Mr. Martin's union is largely a paper one. He now becomes the No. 1 problem child to the AFL, as he was to the CIO.

"Like Humpty-Dumpty, he fell off the wall, and all the AFL horses and all the AFL men, including Mr. Green and Mr. Woll, cannot put him back together again.

"This action will not affect the CIO. It will merely be an added burden to the AFL."

LEFT THE AFL

The automobile union, before it affiliated with the CIO, had an AFL charter. Craft raids, refusal of support for organizing campaigns and an AFL-maintained dictatorship in the union's affairs

Continued on page six

THE CIO NEWS
Official Weekly Publication of the
CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II April 24, 1939 No. 17

The Right to Vote

Workers who cast their votes in Labor Board elections at this time have an opportunity to express their wishes on even wider considerations than choice of the particular union they desire to represent them.

Their very right thus freely to vote for whatever union they prefer is being challenged in Congress. Anti-labor manufacturers, congressional tories and leaders of the American Federation of Labor are combining in a drive to amend the Wagner labor act. The aim of this campaign is to restrict the workers' right of free choice, and to drive them willy-nilly into craft unions or other organizations preferred by the employers.

The CIO stands 100 per cent for preservation of the democratic rights embodied in the present Wagner act, including the right of the workers themselves to vote for whatever kind of organization they prefer.

By voting for a CIO union now, therefore, workers not only choose the protection of the strongest and most modern type of labor organization, but they also serve notice on Congress that they value their democratic right to vote as they please without interference, and are determined to defend this right.

Resistance Breaking Down

There is something epoch-making in the simple announcement last week that the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. has agreed to negotiate with the Industrial Insurance Agents Union of the CIO United Office and Professional Workers.

To be sure, this concession on the part of the company is long delayed. The CIO union won an election of Metropolitan's New York employes a year ago, and the law requires that a company negotiate with the union chosen by its workers. But the insurance company appealed to the courts, and it has taken a decision of the New York Supreme Court to make it willing even to negotiate with the union.

Before the CIO was formed, no serious effort was made to organize insurance employes. They, like millions of other white-collar workers, were regarded as outside the pale of the labor movement.

But just as the CIO organized for the first time millions of workers in the steel, auto, rubber, electrical and other mass-production industries, so it has also opened the door to better conditions for office and professional workers.

The big insurance companies have been no more willing to agree to collective bargaining than were the big industrial corporations. But the trend of the times is against them. Last week's announcement is a sign of the inevitable breaking down of this resistance, and a promise of the coming of union organization for millions of other still unorganized white-collar workers.

Name-Calling

President Roosevelt had something thought-provoking to say in his recent letter deploring the unprincipled attacks made on former Congressman Thomas Amlie.

"Those who for political reasons have called you a Communist," the President said, "do not perhaps realize that such name-calling ill serves the democratic form of government which this nation as a whole wishes to continue.

"A quarter of a century ago I, too, was called a Communist and a wild-eyed radical because I fought for factory inspection, for a 54-hour-a-week bill for women and children in industry and similar measures."

Such name-calling as has been directed against Roosevelt and Amlie has also been the stock-in-trade of anti-labor reactionaries in their efforts to check and disrupt the CIO.

The millions of true Americans who have built the CIO will agree with the President that this name-calling to which they and their leaders have been subjected ill serves the cause of labor and democracy.

Fishermen To Join CIO

Portland, Ore., Apr. 22—Workers are still flocking into the CIO from the AFL, despite President Green's periodic bleats about "the rapidly disintegrating CIO."

Two thousand fishermen on the west coast have just completed a referendum which will break a 50-year affiliation with the AFL, and join the balance of Pacific Coast workers who have affiliated with the CIO.

Only two small fishermen's locals remain outside the CIO now, one independent in Seattle and another AFL affiliate in Alaska, which is conducting a referendum at the present time.

Casey At The Bat

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Goof and Goldfish

PEOPLE who look for reasons for everything are trying to explain away the latest styles in women's hats.

Adult persons of otherwise sound mind may be seen on every side with curious structures on their heads that defy description.

Nor is this type of goofiness confined to one sex.

Woman, that "ministering angel" when pain and anguish wrack man's brow, is after all entitled to wrack her own brow with any kind of hat she pleases.

But what can be said for the male sex when members of its species deliberately swallow live goldfish and mice?

The times are out of joint, say the explainers. So women wear hats that resemble every shift in the changing map of Europe; male students swallow live fish like Hitler and Mussolini swallow whole countries; and both sexes get themselves as much out of joint as the times, in jitterbug contests.

Prevailing Craziness

If women's hats and college students' habits are goofy, the psychologists explain, they are a reflection of the prevailing craziness of their environment.

What can be said, for instance, for coal operators who lock out hundreds of thousands of miners, deprive a whole country of coal and threaten to wreck their industry, rather than to reach a rational agreement with a union which has done more for the industry than they could ever do for themselves?

As for swallowing goldfish, what kinds of indigestion is William Green not inviting by gulping down that jumping Jonah, Homer Martin, whom the auto workers refused to stomach?

Or consider the Wagner act hearing in Washington. Every kind of amendment is being proposed to enable anti-labor employers to interfere with the workers' right to organize, to permit them to promote company unions, and to wreck the whole labor act in a dozen other ways—and these amendments are actually sponsored by leaders of the American Federation of Labor!

Is there any wonder that some women's hats resemble a double-cross rampant or the leaning tower of Pisa?

Rat-Swallowers

If some students swallow mice, is their appetite any more abnormal than that of the AFL when it swallows every kind of rat outfit formed to disrupt legitimate labor unions?

After the AFL leaders took in the strikebreaking Blue Card company union to fight the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers union in the middle west, anything might have been expected.

But since then, they have swallowed almost everything in sight, whether it walks or totters on two legs or crawls on its stomach, if only they think it will spite the unions of the CIO.

The students swallow goldfish for the "glory" of their alma mater, while the AFL leaders charter ratty dual unions in the name of "labor unity"!

Both are as careless of the inner convulsions they invite, as are the employers who invite industrial disorder and conflict by encouraging union-busting dual outfits and seeking to destroy the Wagner act.

Signs of Sanity

But let us not paint the picture too darkly. Most women are keeping their heads, even if we wonder how they keep their hats on them. For one student who swallows goldfish, there are a million who prefer steak and onions.

The commonsense of a peace-loving world is being aroused to a determination to check the warmania of Fascist and Nazi aggressors.

There are even signs of sanity in Congress; and recent local election trends should have a sobering effect on those reactionaries who managed to get a jag on from the timblefuls of comfort provided them by the last elections.

In Baltimore, Chicago, Los Angeles and other cities, the more reactionary old deal elements were roundly trounced by labor and progressive voters. So the tories need not count their 1940 chickens so hopefully before they are hatched.

Building the CIO

As for the labor movement itself, the signs are most encouraging.

Green is becoming almost hysterical in his efforts to whip some following into line behind his anti-labor amendments to the Wagner act. His alliance with the National Association of Manufacturers and the Chamber of Commerce on this subject has opened the eyes of many workers in the AFL, so that there is a growing labor unity in resistance to all amendments to the labor act.

As to Green's goldfish-swallowing antics in regard to splinter dual unions and rejected labor leaders, these too are causing a substantial revulsion among the workers.

All intelligent workers know that to improve their conditions they need the strength of a single united union. That is why they continue to vote their preference for the industrial unionism of the CIO, rather than the craft division of the AFL. And that is why they recognize all attempts to promote minority breakaways as anti-labor moves, even when these have the blessing of Bill Green himself.

Green may yet go down in history, against his will, as a builder of labor unity and the CIO. For if he continues his present tactics, he will drive most of his followers to seek the unity they desire within the growing ranks of the CIO.

Labor Board Discusses Wagner Act

Report Urges Defeat Of Amendments

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON, Apr. 22.—Proposed amendments to the Wagner Act would destroy "the basic principles of the act," would "destroy freedom of self-organization" and would make collective bargaining "impossibly complicated and wholly ineffective", the Labor Relations Board said in its long report to the Senate Committee on Education and Labor late last week.

Careful study of the proposed amendments, made "against the background of labor relations in this country, the decisions of the courts upon labor issues, the provisions and operation of the present act," has led the Board to declare that the act does not need amendment at the present time.

With the exception of four minor changes, which the Board described as "objectionable in their present form" but which merit consideration, the report said bluntly that "the remaining proposals in the bills before the Committee are, in our opinion, definitely objectionable.

NULLIFY ACT

"Many are not only in conflict with the basic purposes of the act, but would, taken singly or in combination, effectively nullify the rights of self-organization and collective bargaining which the act is designed to protect."

The amendments proposed by Senator Walsh and backed by Pres. Green of the AFL came in for sharp criticism. With the exception of the four points (employer petitions, appropriate unit, notice on contracts and time limits) noted early in the report, the Board found the Walsh-Green proposals a serious threat to the act and to genuine collective bargaining. The first three of these changes as worded had objectionable features or were "destructive of the basic principles of the act." Only the minor proposal on lengthening time limits for hearings received a clean bill of health.

The Walsh-Green amendments to allow employers to interfere with unions through propaganda or influence by supervisory employes were sharply criticised by the Board.

AID COMPANY UNIONS

Not only were they unnecessary, the report pointed out, but "they would increase rather than alleviate industrial strife, they will in the long run benefit neither industry nor any labor group, they will lead to a tremendous growth in company unionism, they will in short destroy freedom of self-organization and restore many of the conditions prevailing before passage of the act."

Proposals of Senator Burke along the same lines, and also abolishing majority rule, outlawing the closed shop and the check-off and requiring employers merely to meet with unions without negotiating, were also sharply criticized.

COLLUSIVE CONTRACTS

The Walsh-Green amendment that would allow contracts with company-assisted or company-favored unions to stand was also found "wholly in conflict with the basic principles of the act."

"The act professes to protect employes against discrimination and other unfair labor practices," the Board said. Under this proposal, an employer could set up a preferred union, sign a closed shop contract, "and thereby render himself immune against any redress the act could give. In our opinion to legalize collusive contracts in this way would simply operate to nullify most of the safeguards to self-organization the remainder of the act affords."

In line with these AFL-backed amendments are those in Walsh's bill that would force the Board to certify splinter craft units in industrial plants, whether the employes want it or not or even whether craft unions exist or not in the plant.

IMPOSSIBLY COMPLICATED

This proposal, which Pres. Green wants written into the act "would in the great majority of cases thwart rather than carry out the desires of the employes," the Board said. It would put "an intolerable administrative burden upon the Board in requiring determination of the limits of many hypothetical craft unions in each case," would involve the Board and the courts in endless AFL jurisdictional squabbles, and finally, "would make collective bargaining impossibly complicated and wholly ineffective."

Final criticism in the Board's report was made on the plan of Senator Burke and Senator Holman to destroy the present Board by substituting a commission or a supposed "impartial" Board of three—one representing the workers, one the employers and one the public.

"The Board is a quasi-judicial agency, not a mediation board. Its members should, therefore, all represent the public, rather than partisan interests," the report said.

COURT UPHOLDS NLRB

New Orleans — (FP) — NLRB orders directing three Mississippi manufacturing firms and one Louisiana chemical firm to end unfair labor practices and rehire union workers, have been upheld by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals here.

EDWIN S. SMITH
NLRB Member

Testifies

J. WARREN MADDEN
Chairman, National Labor Relations Board

Labor Foes Speak Up At Hearing

Washington, Apr. 22—Two outspoken foes of labor and the Wagner Act—Rep. Clare Hoffman of Michigan and Sen. Rufus Holman of Oregon, both Republicans—substituted slogans for arguments in their brief appearances before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor.

Hoffman, who once offered to raise a strike-breaking private army for the Republic Steel Corp., said he appeared in behalf of the "under-dog," whom he defined as the member of an unaffiliated union or the man who doesn't want to join a union.

His testimony was filled with pity for the anti-union employer directed to deal with labor by the Labor Board, and with the fate of organizations which are generally classified as company unions.

Holman, who wants to see the Board's prosecuting and judicial departments separated, hinted that the split between the AFL and CIO had been caused by the NLRB; his reason being that we never had labor rivalry before.

Senator Burke, whose amendments follow the line of the Natl. Manufacturers Assn., also testified at considerable length in the hearings on the Wagner Act.

Nothing new was revealed by the Nebraska tory, who chose to repeat stale charges that the act and the Board are "biased, unfair, ruinous," etc.

Criticize Ellender

New Orleans, Apr. 22.—The action of Sen. A. J. Ellender of Louisiana, in introducing a bill calling for amendments to the Wagner Act, won him condemnation from the New Orleans Industrial Union Council today.

Ellender, a member of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, has been markedly hostile to the CIO, and has made a point of trying to protect so-called independent unions—most of which are in fact company-dominated.

Madden's Plea: Don't Curb Liberties

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, Apr. 22. — The man who knows most about the workings of the Wagner Labor Relations Act — Chairman J. Warren Madden of the National Labor Relations Board—believes that the "Act should be retained in its present form."

Appearing before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, the former law school dean read into the record a 108-page statement which answered, point by point, the generalized attack of the opposition.

Using charts and statistical tables to round out his arguments, Madden denied that the Wagner Act and the NLRB have been prejudiced against employers, that they have favored the CIO against the AFL, or that the Board has abused its privileges.

The Burke bill, which has the endorsement of the National Association of Manufacturers is a piece of "class legislation of the most intolerable kind," he said.

WALSH-GREEN BILL

The Walsh-Green bill, which has the support of the AFL's top leadership, is based on a "quite different" motive, Madden told the committee.

In hundreds of cases, the NLRB chairman recalled, AFL unions have complained about employer interference, and the Board, under the terms of the Act, has been able to end this practice.

"Now," he said, "the leadership of the AFL proposes to repeal the provision of the law under which AFL unions have so often obtained relief. They surely do not so propose out of consideration for employers who strike such foul blows, or because their unions really have not been hurt by these blows about which they have so often complained."

NEW LIBERTIES

Madden devoted considerable attention in his statement to the new liberties and the added dignity which the Wagner Act has given the American labor movement.

The question is not whether we shall cut a "new pathway to freedom," he went on, but "shall we abandon one that is now open and in use.

"Shall we do in 1939 what we so pointedly refused to do in 1935, imitate those foreign governments which began their evolution to their present condition by depriving their working people of their former liberties? In brief, shall we take away in 1939 liberties which we conferred upon our people in 1933?

"If American workmen are obliged to say, after the adjournment of this Congress: 'We have less liberty than we had last year, less freedom to belong to unions of our own choosing, less freedom to take a position of leadership in a union without economic retaliation by our employers,' that will be important. It will be the most important domestic event of 1939.

BILL OF RIGHTS

"It will mean that we have celebrated the 150th anniversary of our Bill of Rights by repealing civil liberties, easily comparable in importance with those which are found in the Bill of Rights of the Constitution.

"It will be the first time in American history that the national government has, except under exigencies of war, taken away a civil liberty deliberately granted and for a time enjoyed by millions of Americans."

Madden reminded the committee that when the Act was passed in 1935, only about three million workers were organized, whereas now at least seven and a half million belong to the AFL and CIO.

ENJOY NEW RIGHTS

"A large proportion of the millions of newly-organized workers are enjoying for the first time those civil liberties which organization often helps to secure—the right of free speech, the right of free assembly, the right of adequate protection against organized lawlessness," he continued.

"Civil liberties have become a living reality in many communities where they were not previously enjoyed. These communities are located in all parts of the country—in the steel district of western Pennsylvania, in the lumber-producing areas of Arkansas, Michigan and Wisconsin, in the California fruit and vegetable packing sheds, in the small towns of up-state New York and of the Middle West. Perhaps the most spectacular example of all is Harlan County, Kentucky.

"If the National Labor Relations Act had brought no other benefits than this rebirth of civil liberties, it still would have justified itself."

DONALD W. SMITH
NLRB Member

Court OK's Board Order

Newport, Minn., Apr. 22—The U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals has upheld the National Labor Relations Board decision against the Cudahy Packing Co.

The case had been originally filed by the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, CIO affiliate.

Consumers' League Joins Defense of Act

NEW YORK, Apr. 22. — The National Consumers League, whose aim is "to promote fair labor standards through investigation, education and legislation" has investigated the proposed amendments to the Wagner Act and found them all bad.

The League's findings, made public in an eight page leaflet this week, are based on a careful study of the amendments so far proposed in Congress, and an analysis of the benefits the act has brought to workers, employers, and consumers.

ON THE RECORD

On the record of the act and the Board that administers it, the Consumers League finds that both have made great contributions to industrial democracy and peace and should be retained in their present form.

Should the National Labor Relations Act Be Amended? Pamphlet, 8 pp. Analysis of amendments, concluding none should be passed. Published by Natl. Consumers League, 156 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y. 2c each, $1 per 60.

Amendments proposed by Senators Walsh, Burke and other enemies of the act are rejected by the League as "born of emotional antagonisms that run counter to the basic principles of the act."

The charge that the act is "one-sided"—one of Burke's favorites—is answered simply and briefly: "This charge," the League says, "disregards the realities of the situation. The act does nothing more than grant the worker the right to organize without interference that his employer already has."

Employers don't need this protection "for the obvious reason that employes have never interfered with the right of the employing group to organize, in corporate form or otherwise, and to bargain collectively with its employes."

Green, Martin Clasp Hands

Continued from page three

so disgusted the membership that they joined the CIO.

Aligned with the CIO the union had a phenomenal growth, its enrollment spurting upward from 25,000 to 375,000 in a year, despite efforts by Green and his allies to halt its growth. Even Martin, it is recalled, called Green "the Judas Iscariot of the labor movement," when he tried—unsuccessfully — to prevent the union from reaching an agreement with General Motors.

Green's actions in denouncing UAW contracts was regarded by workers in the long-time open-shop auto industry as sheer treason to their cause, and few believed until recently that Martin would dare to make common cause with the AFL leadership in its war upon the CIO.

Mine Union Shutdown Threatens

Continued from page three

the operators may as well prepare now to abandon the practice."

Vice-Pres. Philip Murray pointed out later on that the mine workers are prepared to accept renewal of the old contract, minus only the penalty provision.

"If a strike should be precipitated by men who are not members of the union," he said, "the fine would be imposed upon men who are members."

PENALTY CLAUSE

The penalty clause requires the union to pay $1 a day or more for every member who goes out in violation of the contract. The UMW contract, it is said, is the only major union agreement in the country which contains any such provision.

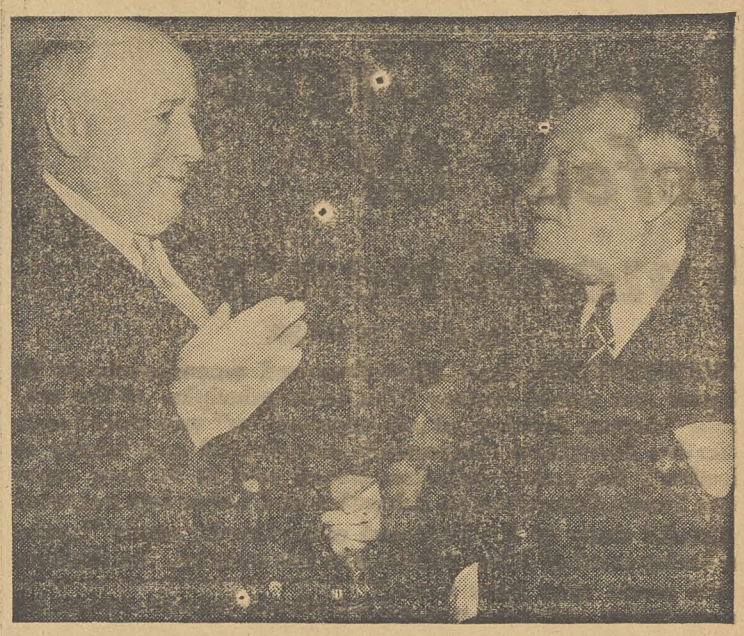
Certain coal operators who have been flirting with Pres. William Green of the AFL and his splinter Progressive Miners of America might be able to use the clause to help destroy the union at its own expense, it has been pointed out.

Early in the conferences, Lewis charged that the operators' resistance to removing the clause was based on pressure from "outside interests"—large corporations—which were seeking to land a blow on the CIO by hurting the United Mine Workers.

NOVEL PACT

New York—A new contract reached by the Department Store Employes Organizing Committee and Hearn's in this city provides that employes may have two days off a year on which to observe religious holidays.

Talk About Act



Sen. Elbert Thomas, (left), head of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, talks with Sen. Robert Wagner after the latter had made an outspoken defense of the National Labor Relations Act.

Wagner Act Literature

Here's a list of the pamphlets and leaflets published by the CIO, by Labor's Non-Partisan League, and other groups that want to preserve the Wagner Act:

Why the Wagner Act Should NOT Be Amended. Pamphlet, 28 pp. Background of the act and why it should be left alone. CIO publication No. 23. 3c each, $2.00 per 100, $12 per 1,000.

The Wagner Act Threatened With Destruction! Pamphlet, 24 pp. Analysis of amendments proposed by Sen. Walsh and backed by Pres. Green of the AFL. CIO publication No. 25. 3c each, $1.50 per 100, $6 per 500, $11 per 1,000.

Don't Be Fooled, Defend the Wagner Labor Act! Leaflet, 4 pp. Analysis of proposed amendments, for mass distribution. CIO publication No. 27. 40c per 100, $3.75 per 1,000.

What Hurts Labor Hurts Business. Leaflet, 4 pp. Open letter to business and professional people on the dangers involved in amendment of the act. CIO publication No. 28. 40c per 100, $3.75 per 1,000.

How to Defend the Wagner Act. Mimeographed bulletin, 4 pp. Outline of suggestions for the campaign to protect the act. Published by CIO. Free.

Conspiracy Against Labor's Rights. Leaflet, 4 pp. Comparison of amendments of Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers, U. S. Chamber of Commerce, and Pres. Green of AFL, showing startling similarities. CIO publication No. 30. 45c per 100, $2 per 500, $3.75 per 1,000.

Protect Your Liberties, Defend the Wagner Act! Leaflet, 6 pp. Dialogue between two workers on the act and proposed amendments, suitable for radio. Published by United Rubber Workers, CIO, United Bldg., Akron, O. Prices on application.

Protect the National Labor Relations Act! Pamphlet, 48 pp. Background of act and analysis of proposed amendments. Published by Labor's Non-Partisan League, Earl Bldg., Washington, D. C. Prices on application.

"No Amendments." Leaflet, 4 pp. Statements by AFL affiliates and officers opposing amendments. Published by Labor's Non-Partisan League, Earle Bldg., Washington, D. C. Prices on application.

Must We Amend the Wagner Act? Leaflet, 6 pp. Questions and answers on proposed amendments, concluding none should be passed. Published by Chicago Religion and Labor Foundation, 1717 N. Fairfield Ave., Chicago, Ill. 5c, quantity discount.

They Join Fight To Protect Wagner Act

Louisiana Priest

Houma, La., Apr. 22. — Proposed amendments to the Wagner Labor Relations Act sponsored by Sen. Ellender of Louisiana came in for criticism from Father Drolet, liberal Catholic priest who spoke at a Knights of Columbus meeting in the Senator's home town.

Ellender is a member of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor which is now holding hearings on the Wagner Act changes.

"The amendments which he has introduced for others are unsound and misleading," the priest told members of the local Knights of Columbus.

'POSITIVELY FUNNY'

"His idea of protecting 'local, independent' unions against national unions such as the AFL and the CIO is positively funny.

"It is just a trifle more subtle than the more honest and frank attempts of the enemies of labor to outlaw any real union in the country.

"The kind of union he professes to believe in is just another form of company union, in effect if not in name. A polecat would stink just as much by any other name."

Father Drolet pointed out that the Papal Encyclicals envisage workers and employers organized on national and industrial lines, and that organized employers are trying to prevent the workers from achieving organization.

"In their crusade for social justice, the Knights of Columbus should start at once a campaign to keep the Wagner Act intact: no amendments!" he continued. "If we allow the Wagner Act to be emasculated by amendments, as now proposed, our crusade for social justice will be just a huge joke."

AFL Paper

Santa Barbara, Calif., Apr. 22— Unity is the most important requirement if labor is to defeat the tories' attempts to destroy the Wagner Act, the Union Labor News, AFL paper of this city, declared in a recent editorial.

"Employer groups have had a series of amendments introduced that amount to a complete rewriting of the Act and would make it read very much like Proposition No. 1 that appeared on the California ballots in the elections last November," the editorial said.

"Not only would the protection now provided by the Act be removed but the resulting federal law would seriously restrict all unions' activities.

"In order to defeat the Burke amendments a solid united front of organized labor is needed, for it must be remembered that the present Congress is largely unfriendly to labor."

Rubber Union

Akron, Apr. 22. — The United Rubber Workers campaign to protect the Wagner Act went into high gear today as Pres. S. H. Dalrymple assumed personal charge of the union's campaign.

Dalrymple moved on four fronts at once:

1. He issued invitations to a score of leading Akron citizens to take part in a citizens' committee to protect the act. Responses from a number of those invited indicate that a broad committee will be established.

2. He sent urgent messages to all local unions pointing out dangers in the amendments, and advising them to follow the suggestions outlined by the CIO Publicity Department. Copies of the suggestions were mailed to all URWA locals, together with copies of CIO leaflets.

TO OFFICIALS

3. Officers of companies with which the URWA has signed or verbal agreements received letters from Dalrymple and a copy of the CIO leaflet, "What Hurts Labor Hurts Business."

4. Ministers, priests, business men and civic leaders in Akron were sent letters by Dalrymple, together with the CIO leaflet addressed to business and professional people.

"From our experience in negotiations and in discussions with management I know that many employers feel the act has been of distinct service in allaying unrest and in preventing serious labor disputes," said the rubber union leader in his letter to the ministers. "Nevertheless the impression has been created that employers as a body are opposed to the act and that only one wing of the labor movement is in favor of it."

Movie Stars

Hollywood, Apr. 22.—Hollywood stars, leading directors and other big movie people who have been acquiring a well-earned reputation for progressiveness lately are joining in the fight to save the Wagner Act from crippling amendments.

Members of the League of American Writers, the Anti-Nazi League, the Screen Writers Guild, the Musicians Democratic Committee, the Actors Guild, and the Motion Picture Democratic Committee are signing a gigantic telegram protesting the Walsh proposals to destroy the act and all other attempts to amend it out of existence.

BIGGEST TELEGRAM

The telegram, put out by the American League for Peace and Democracy, will be sent to President Roosevelt and all Senators and Representatives. The League's plan is to make it the biggest wire ever sent to Washington. It asks the recipients to "defeat the Walsh amendments (S.1000) and the numerous other amendments which would weaken or destroy the effectiveness of the Wagner Act."

Labor and the Law

By Lee Pressman

CIO General Counsel

Supreme Court Reverses Itself

In January 1936, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled that federal control over agriculture was unconstitutional. In April 1939, the Supreme Court rules that federal control over agriculture is constitutional.

The difference between the two cases is purely a technical one. In substance the Supreme Court within less than three years reversed itself on a fundamental issue.

CHANGED VOTES

Two of the six justices, Hughes and Roberts, who had voted against the law in 1936, voted for it in 1939. McReynolds and Butler still think that planning agricultural production is unconstitutional.

Justice Stone, who vigorously dissented in 1936, is now on the majority side, which included in addition Reed, Black and Frankfurter. But even if there had been no changes in the personnel of the court since 1936, the first decision would have been reversed by a 5-4 vote.

Once again the Supreme Court offers convincing proof of a tendency recognized by historians, that judicial decisions do not come from some invisible majesty of the law, but are the products of economic and political conditions.

The economic conditions which brought about the planned agriculture centered about the simple fact that farmers were growing more crops than they could sell in times of industrial depression. The court's decision in 1936 did nothing to improve these economic conditions so the government continued to give a cash benefit to farmers who reduced their crops and penalized the minority who did not.

EVOKED PROTESTS

Politically, the decision of the court in 1936 evoked considerable protest and resentment. The President's court reorganization bill forcefully dramatized the swelling popular objection to judicial interference with progressive legislation.

Thus, the combination of economic and political conditions caused the Supreme Court to reverse itself and to sustain a drastic measure for control over agriculture production.

The moral to be drawn from the case can bear constant repitition, in many other important situations. As we see the courts throughout the country attacking the administration of the Wagner Act we know that these decisions will yield to the progressive struggle for the right to organize free from any interference by the employer.

A CIO Council In Action; Oregon Unions Cooperate

By HOLLACE RANSDELL

Washington, Apr. 22—An account of the activity of a lively CIO Council in the Pacific Northwest was brought to Washington last week by two members of the International Woodworkers of America from Portland, Oregon—J. Edward Laux and Verne Ryan.

Laux, who is president of the Portland CIO Industrial Union Council, and Ryan came to Washington to confer with the National Labor Relations Board on the Plylock case, in which their union, Plywood Workers Local 102 of the IWA is involved.

In describing the activity of the Portland Council, Ryan and Laux said that it represents more than 5,000 CIO members from various affiliated unions in the timber, shipping, cannery, steel, textile, clothing and communications industries. A brewery workers local affiliated with the AFL also belongs to the Council.

ASSIST UNIONS IN STATE

Union problems of all the member groups are made the common concern of the Council the men said, giving as an instance the cooperation and assistance their own union had received from the Council in a long drawn out struggle with the Plylock Corporation.

The Council went on record recently in favor of an immediate appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court in the Plylock case, calling upon Chairman J. Warren Madden of the Labor Board to make an appeal from the decision of the ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

The Circuit Court in February reversed the ruling of the NLRB last year ordering the company to return some 300 members of IWA Local 102 to their jobs. The Board had upheld charges of the CIO union that the Plylock Corp. was aligned with reactionary officials of the AFL Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, to deprive Local 102 of its bargaining rights as representatives of more than a majority of the workers.

COUNCIL PLANS DRIVE

After the ruling was reversed by the court, the company again locked out CIO workers, replacing them by outsiders, many of whom were not even residents of the community. Local 102 is therefore now asking the NLRB to carry the case through to the Supreme Court.

Laux and Ryan also told of the Council's plans for a joint organization drive, especially in the unorganized clothing industry, which is being retarded not by lack of spirit, but by the fact that about 50 per cent of the Council members are unemployed at the present time, and funds are therefore low.

One of the ways the Portland Council has found most effective in furthering the interests of its members is a radio broadcast presented every other Monday. A serialized dialogue featuring a worker known as "Bud" is used to get across to the public some of the outstanding problems of Portland union labor.

The Council finances the program by a one cent per capita tax on its members.

ANTI-PICKETING BILL

One of the outstanding problems of CIO unions in Portland and throughout Oregon is the campaign for the repeal of the anti-picketing bill, passed last November at Initiative 131. CIO and AFL unions are cooperating in the fight to abolish the law, Laux and Ryan said.

Action to get it wiped off the statute books is now pending in the courts, with the first skirmish decided in favor of labor. Laux and Ryan said that the three judas of the Circuit Court before whom the act was brought, ruled that they could hear the main case charging that the law is unconstitutional and asking a declaratory judgment. In making this decision, the court overruled three defendant enforcement officials who had filed demurrers.

Up until the time when the state legislature adjourned, part of the Council's work was concerned with a pressure campaign for legislation favoring labor, and opposing proposed bills against the interests of workers.

The Council also has a committee working actively in behalf of its unemployed members, a very important function at the present time, Laux and Ryan said, with so many out of jobs.

Elections Show Big Swing To New Deal

By ROBERT DALE

WASHINGTON.—A definite swing back to New Deal candidates is apparent in local elections in widely scattered parts of the nation. Recent returns augur well for 1940 and indicate a change in the trend since last Fall's Republican gains.

Outstanding in the by election results thus far are those from Chicago and Baltimore. Both cities voted to keep liberal mayors in power. But even more significant was the fact that genuine New Deal candidates for lesser offices ran well ahead of their respective tickets.

In Chicago not only was Mayor Edward J. Kelly re-elected by the largest vote in the city's history, but 39 aldermanic candidates who had aligned themselves with the New Deal were also elected. One of these candidates, Prof. Paul Douglas, of the University of Chicago, carried the Fifth Ward by more than 6,500 votes as against Mayor Kelly's 2,000 votes in that ward.

LEAGUE OFFICIAL

Douglas is an executive committee member of the Cook county Labor's Non-Partisan League. He has long been a prominent figure in Chicago progressive circles. Friends are already mentioning him as a potential candidate for mayor of Chicago.

Two other well known liberals backed by Labor's Non-Partisan League who won election are Earl B. Dickerson, Second Ward, and Benjamin Grant, Third Ward, both of whom ran ahead of the Kelly ticket.

Results of the League's ward organizing work clearly apparent in the returns. Working class districts, especially those where League organization exists, went heavily for the Kelly ticket. For the first time in the history of Chicago's Negro area, there was a switch from the Republican to the Democratic column. Mayor Kelly's vote was 820,000 to his Republican opponent's 637,000.

BALTIMORE VOTE

The Baltimore result was a body blow to Maryland's Old Guard Democratic machine which had thought itself secure since it put over its candidates for Senator and Governor last Fall. The machines plans to run ultra-Tory Howard Bruce, banker, for Senator next year, were jolted by the lacing it took in Baltimore's primary.

Mayor Howard W. Jackson, a Roosevelt New Dealer who was backed by Labor's Non-Partisan League forces uniting CIO, AFL and Railway unions in a "Labor Committee for Jackson" ran 36,000 ahead of his opponent. He carried 26 of the 28 Baltimore wards.

Of the outcome, the Baltimore Sun, anti-New Deal paper, said:

"The result of the primary . . . probably will figure prominently in the forthcoming presidential campaign when Marylanders will also elect a Senator. One of the aims of the Bruce-O'Conor combination in attempting to defeat Jackson and build a new city organization . . . was the furtherance of the Senatorial aspirations of Bruce."

NATIONAL IN SCOPE

The progressive trend in 1939 voting is not limited to any particular section but is national in scope.

Voters of Omaha, Neb. gave impetus to the New Deal swing by returning a number of liberal candidates to city offices in the primary there. Mace Brown, president of the Central Labor Council (AFL) and state secretary of Labor's Non-Partisan League, was nominated to the city commission. Brown was backed by a joint labor committee including AFL, CIO and League officials and received 11,500 votes.

The central body which Brown heads recently sent a strong letter of protest to AFL president William Green in reply to a communication from Green against Labor's Non-Partisan League. Brown took a firm stand for labor unity, especially on the political field.

In addition to working together in the Omaha election, both CIO and AFL forces in Nebraska, home state of Senator Edward Burke, arch-foe of the Wagner Act, are cooperating in the drive to save the Wagner act. Resolutions against any amendments have been adopted by the Nebraska and Omaha bodies of AFL and CIO.

Los Angeles voters were also in the parade of progress as they voted in a city primary for various local offices. Two council incumbents opposed by Labor's Non-Partisan League were defeated. Two candidates endorsed by the League won places on the ballot.

CIO Backs Refugee Proposal

Washington, Apr. 22—Support for Senator Wagner's bill to admit child refugees from Nazi terror into this country was expressed at the Senate hearing here by John Brophy, national director.

Brophy appeared in behalf of President Lewis, and as part of his testimony quoted Lewis' statement of last February on the subject. President Lewis said at that time:

"Assuredly America should do its part in caring for some of the children who are the victims of religious and racial oppression in Germany. I heartily approve of any practical action necessary for the accomplishment of this purpose."

AGAINST NAZIS

Brophy added that the entire CIO was on record in condemning the atrocities of the Nazis against the German people, and especially against German minority groups.

"It is appalling that the victims of persecution include defenseless children," he said. "We know that organized labor in the U. S. lends a willing hand to aid these children, both as an expression of its common humanity and a protest against the terrible persecutions of Nazism."

Utah CIO Meets April 26

Park City, Utah, Apr. 22.—The Utah Industrial Union Council will hold its annual convention here, starting Apr. 26. Delegates from many parts of the state will attend.

The Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers has considerable strength in Utah, as do the United Mine Workers and numerous local industrial unions of the CIO. Labor was sufficiently strong to elect a number of representatives to the state legislature, who form a strong progressive bloc.

Speakers See Need For Civil Rights

Philadelphia, Apr. 22—The United States must support tolerance and labor's civil liberaties, Sen. Elbert Thomas of Utah told 450 labor, religious and civic leaders attending a banquet marking the 164th anniversary of the Battle of Lexington.

Judge Michael Musmanno of Pittsburgh, noted liberal jurist, also spoke at the affair, which was held under the auspices of the Labor Record, Philadelphia union paper. He emphasized the role of labor as a leader in the fight for racial and religious tolerance.

CIO Offers 6-Point Program To Improve Social Security Act

WASHINGTON, Apr. 22.—Six basic points for amendments to the Social Security Act were presented by the CIO in a letter sent to the House Ways and Means Committee today by Joseph Kovner, secretary of the CIO Social Security Committee.

The six points included recommendations for care of the aged; extension of coverage; disability benefits; uniform standards in assistance programs; simplification of unemployment compensation laws and keeping employe wage records. The letter's arguments:

"1. Care for the aged should provide adequate minimum benefits sufficient to assure a decent standard of living to persons over 60.

"2. Coverage should be extended as recommended by the Social Security Board, the Advisory Council on Social Security and organized labor. This would give needed protection to agricultural labor, seamen, domestics and employes of non-profit organizations.

DISABILITY

"3. Disability benefits. A system of benefits for permanent and totally disabled can be established without any substantial new costs.

"4. Uniform standards in assistance programs. Assistance programs now established under the act should contain guarantees against discrimination of any kind and for uniform benefit payments to all classes of recipients.

MORE SIMPLE LAWS

"5. Simplification of Unemployment Compensation Laws. Further federal standards are required to simplify the present cumbersome and over-complicated unemployment compensation laws and to provide minimum benefit payments for a reasonable length of time.

"6. Employe Wage Records. While every effort is now made to facilitate the task of the employer to keep social security records, nothing has been done to provide the workers with their wage records. This lack has made it impossible for workers to understand how the social security system operates and what it means to them."

Sausage Pact In Boston Won by CIO

Boston, Apr. 22.—Five of the six companies involved in a "hot dog" strike here have signed contracts with Local 11 of the United Packinghouse Workers of America, CIO.

The sixth firm, the Colonial Provision Co. at first told the New England Sausage Manufacturers Assn. that it would agree to the joint contract, but at the last minute pulled out of the agreement.

Harvey Fremming On Leave

Fort Worth, Tex., Apr. 22—Pres. Harvey Fremming of the Oil Workers Intl. Union has been granted a leave of absence, due to illness, until the union's international convention in September.

Vice-Pres. J. C. Coulter has been named acting head of the organization, and Harry Station has been appointed to fill the vacancy left by Coulter.

MidContinent FramesStriker Uses Finks

Continued from Page One

was called before the grand jury to give testimony. Witnesses were strike-breakers, police officers, and Mid-Continent executives.

The basis on which the unionists were indicted was the opening day of the walkout. The union members notified the Mid-Continent they were going on strike, effective that night. During the day, the unionists made preparations for the shutting down of the refinery. This was done to prevent damage to the boilers and other equipment. If the men had walked out without regard to property and equipment damage, they could have been charged with sabotage.

The grand jury interpreted the above safety precautions against damage as "seizures of the refinery."

VIOLENCE BY THUGS

For calling the strike, Hays and the other union leaders were indicted for "inciting to riot." The oil workers had resorted to no violence in their walkout, but the company armed guards, hired ex-convicts, many with murder and rape convictions, made an attempt to force the pickets into a fight.

Mid-Continent officials contributed to the corporation-inspired demonstration. The officials were photographed handing tear-gas bombs over the refinery fence to police officers who in turn hurled them at the pickets and friends of the strikers who had congregated some distance from the Mid-Continent gate. The Mid-Continent property is located outside of the Tulsa city limits. The tear-gas bombs were hurled at strikers within the city limits.

No attempt was made by County Attorney Gilmer to bring before the grand jury the Mid-Continent violations of both federal and state labor statutes, the suppression of civil liberties, and the hiring of notorious company guards with criminal records.

PHONEY EXPLOSIONS

A series of pipe-line explosions is another angle to the strike which has a mysterious tinge. Investigators have revealed that they have found no trace of union connections to the explosions, but that all evidence points to another source.

The strike-breaking tactics used by the Mid-Continent have been so fantastic and foul that it has taken investigators months to unravel.

Conclusive evidence has been found to show a corporation-city-county government political collusion. The Tulsa city police department was put at the disposal of the Mid-Continent despite the fact that the refinery pays no city taxes and is located outside of the City of Tulsa.

Both city and county officials are given job-patronage considerations at the refinery, and relatives of the city and county officials have been employed at the plant as strike-breakers since the strike started.

FREEDOM OF PRESS?

Large advertisements, "paid by Loyal Tulsans" have appeared in the Tulsa newspapers and as a result anti-labor editorials have appeared frequently, and favoritism was shown in the Mid-Continent in news stories on the strike.

Even the state government "was reached" and the state militia was called in on the third day of the strike. The militiamen have also been used as strike-breakers, and some of the troopers report to jobs in the refinery as soon as they complete their militia duty.

The tactics used by the Mid-Continent to fight labor and unionization are similar to those used by the Bethlehem Steel and Harlan coal mine companies in attempts to Hitlerize their communities.

The Mid-Continent-Tulsa-City-county machinations have long been a travesty of injustice, and the grand jury's action is but another incident and shows to what lengths non-federal government agencies will go after being corrupted by a corporation.

New evidence of arming of strike-breakers at the Mid-Continent Petroleum Corporation here has been disclosed by Jack Hays, president of Oil Workers' International Union Local No. 217, which has been out on strike for more than four months.

Hays made the discovery after checking gun permits issued by the city during the past three months. The information, he said, will be turned over to federal authorities.

Despite the elaborate preparations made by the Mid-Continent in arming scabs, loading the plant with tear-gas bombs, machine guns and other strike-breaking weapons, there has been no violence to date to justify the corporation's actions.

Picketing At Crown Oil Big Success

Houston, Tex., Apr. 22—Picket lines which had been thrown around the Crown Central Petroleum Company here recently to halt "hot oil" coming in from the struck Mid-Continent Petroleum Corporation of Tulsa proved a "double-header" success.

The employes of the Crown Central became so educated to the picketing and became so sympathetic to the union cause, they demanded admittance to the Oil Workers' Union membership.

Within two weeks more than 60 per cent signed cards, and a conference with Crown Central officials resulted in Local 227, Houston, being designated as the collective bargaining agency. The Crown Central went a step further and cancelled its contract with the Mid-Continent.

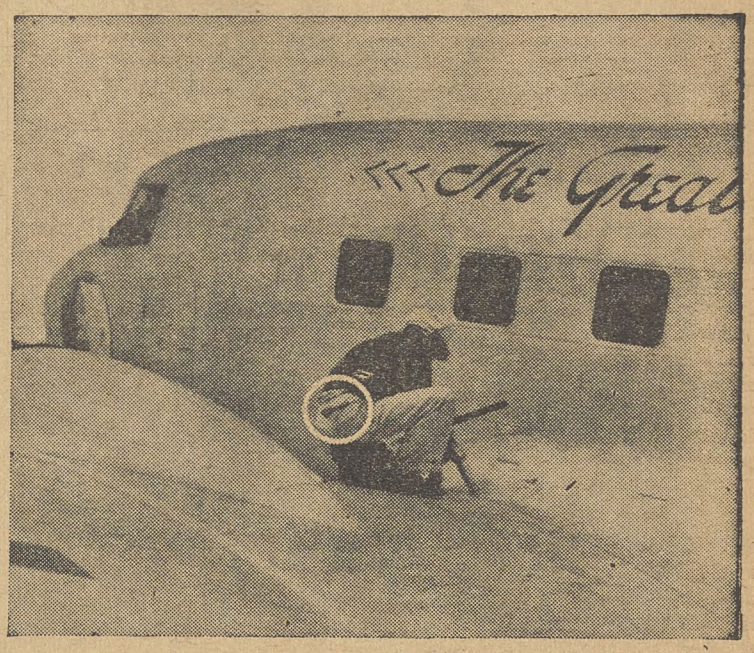
DOUBLE-HEADER

C. P. Humburg, secretary for Local 227, and B. J. Shafer, Oil Workers' International vice president, announced that the Crown Central had agreed to immediate negotiations for a working agreement covering wages, hours and working conditions.

The Oil Workers' Union has withdrawn pickets from the refinery. Pickets were thrown around the Crown Central when a cargo of Mid-Continent products was loaded on the tanker "Malay" through Crown Central facilities. The "Malay" was prevented from sailing for weeks, and it was allowed to leave port only upon agreement that the Crown Central would cease business with Mid-Continent, which has been on the "unfair list" since the Tulsa Oil Workers Local 217 went on strike on Dec. 22.

The Crown Central has about 150 employes. Practically all have now been signed up as union members.

Scab Totes Gun



A scab service man refuels a big Eastern Air Lines plane at Newark, N. J. Airport. Note the gun (in circle) tucked away in his pocket. Members of the unaffiliated Air Line Mechanics Assn. went on strike last week for a signed contract and higher wages.

Timbermen Strike In Minnesota

Cass Lake, Minn., Apr. 22.—Demanding higher wages and recognition of the union, Local 173-M, International Woodworkers of America, have called a strike at the mill and box factory of Rathborne, Ridgeway & Hair here. About 100 employes are involved.

The minimum wage at the time the men walked out was $13.07 a week, LeRoy Wright, publicity chairman said. The maximum was $16.77. "At these wages the men and their families are just existing, not living," Wright declared.

MINISTER SUPPORTS STRIKE

The Rev. Frank H. Stephens of the Cass Lake Methodist Church has appealed for public support for the strikers, charging that "such an outrageously inadequate wage is a direct threat to men's faith in democracy, to their own and public health, to all standards of human decency, and certainly is an insult to American labor."

The minister offered the strikers the use of his church for their meetings.

Detroit Dairymen RenewPact

Detroit, Mich., Apr. 22.—Renewal of a contract covering some 2,200 workers employed by 23 dairies supplying more than 80 per cent of the milk delivered in Detroit, was announced this week by the United Dairy Workers, CIO local industrial union here.

Principal terms of the new contract are: Closed shop; check-off of union dues and assessments; employment through the union office; seniority rights including bids by employes for vacancies; $35 weekly minimum guaranteed wage on routes and $36 in the plant; and two weeks vacation with pay.

SIGNED IN 1937

The CIO union signed its first contract with the companies in 1937. The renewal was negotiated by the UDW bargaining Committee at joint conferences with representatives of the 23 companies.

John W. Gibson, secretary of the union, in announcing the new contract, said that it was won "without any interruptions or strikes."

CIO Local Continues Fight At Lorillard

Middletown, O., Apr. 22—Members of Pioneer Tobacco Workers Local Industrial Union 55 are continuing their drive to win a signed contract from P. Lorillard & Co., makers of Old Gold cigarettes and other tobacco products.

As a result of the Lorillard products being placed on labor's unfair list, the company's sales have dropped to as low as 60 per cent of normal. The union has distributed handbills listing the products of the company and urging union members to keep the firm's refusal to bargain with the CIO local in mind when they buy cigars, cigarettes, pipe and chewing tobacco.

Last autumn the local called a strike to force the firm to negotiate a contract, but the strike was called off when former Gov. Davey of Ohio called out the militia and bloodshed was threatened.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 18 | May 1, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

LEWIS OFFERS PROOF OF AFL—EMPLOYER TIE

Hillman Offers Plan To Help Stabilize Clothing Industry

NEW YORK, Apr. 29.—Leading manufacturers in the men's clothing industry which is 95% organized, were invited this week by President Sidney Hillman of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, to cooperate with the union in a program to stabilize labor costs and eliminate cut-throat competition in the industry.

Suggesting that the manufacturers loan their technical and production experts to the union to work directly with him in the general office of the Amalgamated, Hillman assumed the responsibility of laying down a national policy of equitable labor costs between market and market, and of seeing that the policy is strictly enforced.

DECISION WOULD BE FINAL

The combined conclusions of the manufacturers' experts, the union's research and stabilization departments and staff of experts, Hillman said, will be taken by the union as final, and will be promptly applied to the ills of the industry. He expressed his conviction that labor costs can be stabilized if employers will give their active cooperation.

The Amalgamated's plan has been received with enthusiasm by leading clothing manufacturers in every principal market in the country, according to Hillman. Names of outstanding technicians and production experts who will be named to work with him during the campaign will be announced soon, he said.

Since the men's clothing industry was the first in America to set up impartial machinery for the settlement of disputes and other democratic procedure within the industry, the ACW regards the new program as "the latest in a series of harmonious employer-employe relationships which have marked the past 25 years."

The News In Brief

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

Coal

New York.—The lockout of 320,000 miners entered its second month, as Lewis charged "outside interests" with seeking to attack CIO through the miners' union.

Wagner Act

Washington. — Reading a long statement filled with reference to the legal aspect of National Labor Relations Board cases, Charles Fahy, chief NLRB counsel, told the Senate Committee on Education and Labor why he is opposed to amending the Wagner Act.

Aircraft

Toledo, Ohio. — The new executive board of the powerful United Automobile Workers, CIO, has ordered an intensive organizing campaign in the nation's important and rapidly-growing aircraft industry.

Maritime

New York. — Picketing on land and sea, members of the National Maritime Union carried on their strike against four large oil tanker lines which had refused to sign a new union contract.

Labor Board

Washington. — William A. Leiserson, head of the National Mediation Board, has been appointed by President Roosevelt to succeed Donald Wakefield Smith on the National Labor Relations Board.

Conventions

Indiana Industrial Union Council, Evansville, Ind., June 23.

Michigan Industrial Union Council, Grand Rapids, Mich., June 29

[illegible]

Lynn, Mass., April 28-May 1.

Describe Progress In Steel

Gary, Ind., Apr. 29. — Progress toward 100% organization of the steel workers was reported at the Chicago-Calumet district convention of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee held here last week.

The 441 delegates, representing 85,000 workers in 55 lodges, heard reports that 75% of the membership is covered with collective bargaining contracts, that dues collections have increased 150% since last August, and that six subdistricts are operating.

HALL TOO SMALL

The convention was the largest and most successful ever held in the district, and union headquarters, where it was first planned to hold the meeting, proved too small for the crowd of delegates. A large hotel auditorium had to be hired to accommodate them.

Philip Murray, SWOC chairman, and Van A. Bittner, regional director, wired greetings and congratulations to the meeting, which was presided over by Nicholas Fontecchio, SWOC district director.

Resolutions unanimously passed by the delegates included a strong statement against attempts of anti-union employers, aided by AFL top leaders, to destroy the Wagner Act, a statement favoring the LaFollette Oppressive Labor Practices Bill, and the CIO proposal for a united American Congress of Labor.

In addition, the delegates voted to support the CIO Packinghouse Workers in their struggle for an Armour contract, voted aid to the Chicago CIO Newspaper Guild strikers, the struggle of the United Mine Workers for a union contract with the coal operators, the Oil Workers strike in Tulsa, and other labor struggles throughout the nation.

Brass Workers Vote 3-1 For CIO Smelter Union

ANSONIA, Conn., Apr. 29. — Workers in the American Brass Co. here showed their preference for the CIO by an almost three to one vote in a Labor Board election held late last week, when they cast 1,161 votes for the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers and a little over 400 for the AFL Machinists.

The vote came after a year's hard work by Mine, Mill and Smelter organizers in the Naugatuck Valley plants where close to 20,000 workers are employed in normal times. Last year the CIO affiliate scored at nearby Waterbury, when 2700 workers chose it as sole bargaining representative.

FOLLOW-UP PLANNED

Over 3400 workers are involved in the Ansonia vote, and union leaders are planning an intensive follow-up campaign to secure a CIO contract and to organize the remaining brass plants in the area.

First steps in the Ansonia follow-up will be rescinding of the 10 per cent cut put over by the management when the workers were weak and unorganized. After that will come vacations with pay, ironing out of numerous grievances, and general improvements in the plant.

John Brophy, national CIO director, wired congratulations to the Ansonia local on the overwhelming victory.

Reveals Plot On Wagner Act By Green, Tories

WASHINGTON, Apr. 30.—Documentary proof of collusion between President Green of the AFL, the National Association of Manufacturers and anti-labor corporations in the preparation of proposed amendments to the Wagner Act was offered to the Senate Labor Committee by John L. Lewis, president of the CIO, today.

"I charge publicly," Lewis wrote, "that these amendments recommended by Mr. Green and his associates have been drafted with the aid, advice and counsel of representatives of the National Association of Manufacturers and of several of the most reactionary and anti-labor corporations of the country.

"In the event that Mr. Green and his associates either refuse to answer this charge or the questions suggested, or evade or deny the same, I am prepared to present to your Committee at any time documentary proof of my charges."

SIX QUESTIONS

After briefly reciting the benefits to labor and the public brought by the Wagner Act, Lewis suggested that the Committee ask Green and his associates a number of questions when they appear to testify for their proposed amendments. These questions were based on six points:

1. Were the amendments prepared solely by representatives of the AFL and in the interest of the workers of the country?

2. Were they prepared with the advice and counsel of representatives of corporations and of the Natl. Association of Manfacturers?

3. Did Green or his associates confer in secret with corporation representatives on the proposed amendments?

4. Will Green or his associates disclose the names of the corporation representatives with whom they conferred?

5. Are the corporations with which Green or his associates conferred under charges by the Natl. Labor Relations Board as the most serious and flagrant violators of the Wagner Act?

6. What accounts for the widespread revolt among many AFL affiliates throughout the country against the proposed amendments, if not their realization that the amendments were prepared to serve the interests of the enemies of labor?

"The workers of this country," Lewis said in conclusion, "whether members of the AFL or the CIO, and all citizens interested in the development of progress and democracy in our country, are entitled to a thorough probing of this situation."

(Full text of Lewis' letter to the members of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor will be found on Page 5.)

Teachers on Strike

The mine lockout isn't the only labor dispute in the area around Shamokin, Pa. School teachers, unpaid for months and owed $200,000, went out on the picket lines to force action by the city fathers. Jean Troutman, seventh grade pupil at the McKinley School, shows there's nothing to the old yarn about the kids not liking teacher.

Strike Hurts Hearst

CHICAGO, Apr. 29. — Hearst's Chicago papers, the American and Herald-Examiner, have suffered a circulation loss of 221,000 as a result of the strike of the Chicago Newspaper Guild, the strike committee said today.

Basing its estimates on April 15 figures, which it said came "from various sources of unquestionable authority," the Guild listed the following figures:

EVENING AMERICAN	Dec. 15, 1938	April 15, 1939	Loss to Date
Home Delivery	108,000	72,000	36,000
Suburban and County	15,000	11,500	3,500
News-stand	274,000	204,500	69,500
Indiana	14,900	9,500	4,500
	411,000	297,500	113,500
HERALD & EXAMINER			
Home Delivery	82,000	46,500	35,500
Suburban and County	20,000	13,500	6,500
News-stand	230,000	169,000	61,000
Indiana	20,000	15,500	4,500
	352,000	244,500	107,500

U. S. Batting 100% In Courts On Wage-Hour Law

WASHINGTON, Apr. 29.—The federal government has kept a 100 per cent batting average in the courts in its first six months of administering the wage-hour law, Administrator Elmer F. Andrews reported today.

Since the law became operative on October 24, fourteen civil suits and five criminal actions have been instituted by the Wage-Hour Division of the Department of Labor, or at its request, by the Department of Justice.

The record:

1. **Seven injunctions granted.**
2. **Four employers have pleaded guilty and have been fined a total of $31,500.**
3. **Six civil suits and one criminal case are now pending.**

$15,000 FINE

Largest single fine was levied against Nathaniel Breath, official of the Picardy Mills in New York City, who was assessed $3,000 on each of five counts. Payment was suspended on four of the counts on the provision that he restore back pay to girl workers whom he had forced to falsify time sheets.

The Sportswear Hosiery Mills of Philadelphia, in one of the division's first cases, was enjoined from maintaining a phoney "trade school" at its Etowah, Tenn., plant. The "school," formed immediately after the Act went into effect, was used to keep wages below the 25-cents-an-hour minimum provided by law.

HALT CHILD LABOR

The first injunction issued under the child labor provisions of the Act was issued in a federal court at Harrisonburg, Va., against the DuPlan Silk Corp. The complaint charged the firm with employing minors less than 16 years of age. The company, declaring its error was unintentional, readily consented to correct the situation.

Adminstrator Andrews said that from newspaper clippings and other sources of information, it appeared that at least 25 suits have been brought by employes to recover wages allegedly due them.

WORKERS CAN SUE

The Act permits workers to sue for twice the amount of wages due them in violation of the law, as well as court costs and attorney's fees. These cases are brought by the individuals concerned, and the Wage-Hour division takes no part in them.

Andrews said he understood most of these actions have been settled or have resulted in judgments for the workers involved.

CIO Furniture Local Files Charges

Carnegie, Pa., Apr. 29—Charges of unfair labor practices under the Wagner Act have been filed with the National Labor Relations Board against Buchman Manufacturing Company. The allegations were made by the newly-formed Local Union No. 467, of the CIO's United Furniture Workers.

The charges reveal that company officials have fired employes solely for activities in the union. They expose vicious methods used by the firm to "freeze out" any "outside" union which does not meet with company approval.

COMPANY UNION

It is alleged by the employes that, with the blessing of the company, a group known as the "Independent Employes Representative Association," has sprung up in the plant for the purpose of side-tracking the bona-fide Furniture Workers Union.

Employes in the plant—a vast majority of whom are members of Local No. 467, recently elected new officers. They include:

Herman Doak, president; Helen Zyjicek, vice-president; I. C. Green, treasurer; Mary Nanek, secretary; Felix Kavonic, Eddie Zyjicek, Vic Maksa and Josephine Carilli, trustees.

The new officers are launching a vigorous campaign to bring every employe of the company into the CIO union. President Doak recently issued a plea that all unions in the district lend support to the drive, and to contact him at 321 Center Street, Carnegie.

F. D. R. Names Liberal To Circuit Court

WASHINGTON, Apr. 29 — Continuing his policy of placing liberals in court positions, Pres. Roosevelt has named Calvin Magruder, chief counsel for the Department of Labor's wage-hour division, to the federal circuit court of appeals in Boston.

Indiana CIO Meets

Indianapolis, Ind., Apr. 29 — An official called to the second annual convention of the Indiana CIO Industrial Union Council to be held in Evansville, June 23-24 was sent out this week to all affiliated CIO unions by John Bartee, secretary-treasurer of the Council.

Local unions which have not yet affiliated with the Indiana Council will not be eligible to representation in the convention unless they join before May 23, the letter stated.

The convention is called to elect officers and board members, to make such changes in the constitution as the members deem necessary, and to take up other business which concerns the development and progress of the Council.

The sessions which will be held in the United Automobile Workers hall, 1101 North Evans St., will open at 9:30 Friday morning, June 23.

Michigan Meet June 30

Detroit, Apr. 29.—The Michigan Industrial Union Council, whose affiliates have a membership running into hundreds of thousands, will hold its annual convention at the Rowe Hotel in Grand Rapids on June 29 and 30 and July 1.

The announcement was made by Pres. Adolph Germer of the state council following a meeting of its executive board here last week.

Activities of the council are expected to spurt ahead in the next few months as a result of the cleaning out of the Homer Martin group of disrupters in the United Automobile Workers Union, which comprises a majority of the council's merbership.

Strike Shuts Singer Plant

South Bend, Ind., Apr. 29—(FP)—A strike by 800 members of Local 917, United Electric, Radio and Machine Warkers, has halted operations at the Singer Sewing Machine Co. plant in this city.

Disregarding seniority, the company had hired new workers instead of filling vacancies from the regular waiting lists. The strike against the giant concern, which began April 15, climaxed two years of Wagner Act evasions.

Pecan Shellers Ask Enforcement Of Pay Law

San Antonio, Tex., Apr. 29—"Open and acknowledged violations of the wage-hour law continue throughout the south in the pecan industry," officials of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers charged in a telegram sent today to Administrator Elmer F. Andrews.

"Legitimate operators have either been driven out of business or are being forced to law violations to exist by mushroom operations which have sprung up and which are feeding upon law violations," the wire said.

"The pecan industry, which before the birth of our organization, had the lowest-paid workers in the nation, is today being destroyed and re-established in other cities and towns in the south at wages which are lower and under working conditions which formerly existed here.

Canadian Labor Asks 'Wagner Act' For Dominion

TORONTO, Ont., Apr. 29. — Almost identical measures have been introduced in the federal and Ontario parliaments providing for recognition by law of workmen to organize into unions of their choice.

The federal act, an amendment to the Criminal Code of Canada, was submitted to the house of commons by Minister of Justice Ernest Lapointe, which makes it certain of passage.

Mr. Lapointe's amendment is similar to the draft act proposed by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada and presented to parliament on three occasions by J. S. Woodsworth, Cooperative Commonwealth Federation member of parliament. Mr. Woodsworth's bills have always been talked out by the members but now the government has adopted it as its own legislation.

The federal bill would "make it an offense to unlawfully refuse to employ or to dismiss a person, for the sole reason that such a person is a member of a lawful trade union or association." The bill declares further that it will be unlawful for an employer to "seek by intimidation or threat, to compel an employe to abstain from belonging to such a trade union or association, or to conspire with any other employer to do any of these things."

Violation of the law is considered an indictable offense and an individual employer is liable to $100 fine or three months in jail. Corporations can be fined $1,000 for an offense.

Similar to the federal bill is the act introduced in the Ontario legislature by Hon. David Croll, member of the legislature for Windsor-Walkerville, and former minister of labor.

RIGHT TO BARGAIN

An additional feature not contained in the federal act is a provision that employes shall have the right to bargain collectively with their employers. This is interpreted that refusal to bargain would constitute violation of the act.

The Croll bill may receive opposition from the house because of Premier Hepburn's violent opposition to the industrial unionism as exemplified in the CIO. Croll himself had to resign his labor portfolio during the Oshawa General Motors strike in 1937 when the premier demanded that he take the side of the corporation.

At that time Croll said he preferred to march with the auto workers than ride with the auto magnates. His position then placed him as the most progressive member of the Ontario house.

Brophy Tells Need Of Councils

Cleveland, Ohio, Apr. 29. — The need for the organized strength that Industrial Union Councils can add to the CIO and the entire labor movement was stressed by John Brophy, national CIO director, in speaking to the newly installed officers of the CIO Council here this week.

"This occasion is a demonstration to our opponents that the CIO is strong and united and prepared to defend its gains and to extend them," he told the officers and delegates at the ceremony.

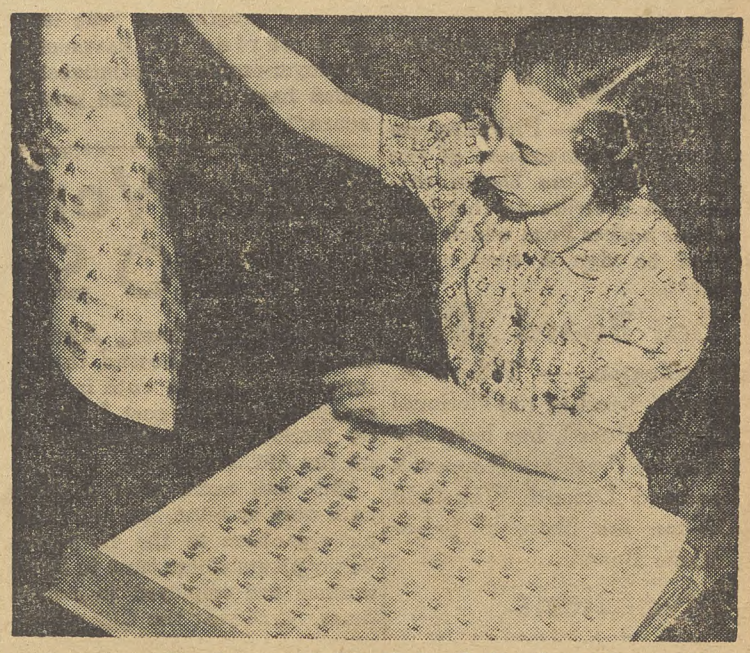
"Unity within our internationals and locals is needed, but it is not enough in itself," he said. "We need the strength of all our CIO affiliates, organized into delegate bodies such as yours, so that it can be placed at the disposal of all.

HEAVY TASKS

"Your council, and the entire CIO, has many heavy tasks on its hands at the present time, and more looming up ahead. The forces of reaction are attacking on every front where they think they can detect a sign of weakness.

"Deceived by apparent successes in the last elections, and encouraged by the spread of fascism abroad, they are searching everywhere for a break in the labor and progressive front to push their anti-social pogram through."

Food in Stamps



Imogene Stanhope of the Federal Surplus Commodities Corp. examines one of the first batches of the new special stamps to be used in a new U. S. plan for distributing surplus farm products to unemployed through stores and merchants. Relief clients will get 50c worth of designated commodities free with every $1 outlay, and the merchant will get the stamps redeemed in cash by the government.

Maritime Strike Against Tankers Going Strong

NEW YORK, Apr. 29.—Discovery of a plot to use convicts on parole as scabs, and an appeal to foreign marine transport workers were outstanding developments this week in the tanker strike of the National Maritime Union against four big American oil companies.

Joseph Curran, NMU president, pointed out that part of the fleets of the companies operate under foreign flags. Standard Oil of New Jersey, for example, has more than 140 tankers under foreign flags, he said, and only 78 under the U. S. flag.

STRIKE 85 SHIPS

The other three companies whose tankers are on strike are Socony Vacuum, Tidewater Oil and C. D. Mallory. About 85 tankers have been struck by the NMU since the walkout was called April 17.

A plot on the part of Standard Oil to hire paroled prisoners to work on struck ships was discovered in Boston by the NMU. The union learned that the company had arranged to take a total of 21 convicts from Concord Reformatory, Charlestown State Prison and Norfolk Prison Colony into custody and give them jobs scabbing.

SCAB PLAN FLOPS

The plan failed when State Commissioner of Corrections Arthur T. Lyman, upon being informed of the plan, refused to let the men take the jobs, declaring that he would not allow "any prisoner released on parole to be used as an instrument to break a strike."

Aid of foreign transport workers was asked by the NMU in a cablegram sent this week to Edo Fimmen, executive secretary of the International Transportworkers Federation, with headquarters in Amsterdam. The message requested the ITF to inform affiliated organizations that the struck companies were chartering European ships, especially Scandinavian. "We ask pressure be brought against these companies on any tankers chartered since April 17," the cablegram read.

ASK COOPERATION

In a statement issued by the union explaining the kind of "pressure" sought, Curran said that it was the hope of the NMU that foreign seamen would refuse

Continued on Page Six

Goes to NLRB

William M. Leiserson, chairman of the U. S. National Mediation Board, who was named by Pres. Roosevelt to succeed National Labor Relations Board member Donald Wakefield Smith.

Gotham Cab Tie-up Looms

New York, Apr. 29—Possibility of a taxi strike loomed here today as fleet owners and negotiators for the CIO Transport Workers Union appeared unable to reach a settlement.

Mediation efforts which have been under way since a strike last January were blocked by the refusal of spokesmen for the two largest fleets of cabs, Parmelee and Terminal, to agree to the union's demand for the closed shop and a 2½ per cent wage increase.

Outsiders Push Coal Lockout Into 2nd Month

New York, Apr. 29. — The lockout of 320,000 Appalachian bituminous coal miners neared the end of its first month today, with the United Mine Workers led by President John L. Lewis, standing firm against the anti-union drive, whose main impetus comes from interests outside the coal industry.

Three developments marked the end of the fourth week of the lockout:

1. Rapidly dwindling supplies of bituminous coal throughout the eastern states.

2. Threat of a complete shutdown of bituminous mines in the midwest and south, as well as in the east, by May 4 and 5.

3. Possibility of the closing of all anthracite mines when the present contract expires at midnight April 30.

4. Appearance of John Steelman, head of the Department of Labor's Conciliation Service, at the negotiations here.

SEES SHORTAGE SOON

Chairman Percy Tetlow of the National Bituminous Coal Commission predicted that another week of the lockout would cause severe shortages in many areas throughout the east. Bituminous production has been cut about 73 per cent by the lockout, and supplies of coal mined before March 31 are beginning to run out. Corporations which had failed to accumulate large stocks on hand will soon be forced to curtail operations, it is expected.

Miners in the midwest and south, who have been working under special agreements pending the signing of a new contract for the big Appalachian area, will become idle on May 4 and 5, when their agreements expire, thereby removing an additional 2,000,000 tons of soft coal a week from the market.

ANTHRACITE

Anthracite operators, mean-

Continued on Page Six

President Appoints Leiserson

Washington, Apr. 29.—The appointment of William M. Leiserson to the National Labor Relations Board was in the hands of the Senate Committee on Labor and Education today.

He was named by President Roosevelt to succeed Donald Wakefield Smith, whose term expired last summer. At that time he was reappointed but his name was never sent to the Senate for confirmation.

STUDENT OF LABOR

The new appointee has been a student of labor problems for 30 years. For many years he was an impartial arbiter in the needle and printing trades industries, and in 1934 he was appointed to the National Mediation Board when it was created under the terms of the Railway Labor Act of that year.

It is expected he will be succeeded on the mediation board by former Rep. "Davey" Lewis of Maryland, veteran liberal who unsuccessfully sought the Democratic nomination for Senator last year, but lost out to the conservative Millard R. Tydings.

Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, said that Leiserson, at present chairman of the National Mediation Board, is "a good choice," while President Green of the AFL said he had "no objections" to Leiserson.

AGAINST AMENDMENTS

Leiserson is known to frown on amendments to the Wagner Act, having declared that the Act needs strengthening, rather than emasculation.

Speaking on a radio network recently, he declared that "there is room for much improvement in the administrative methods of the Board, but the Act cannot be made to work efficiently until the opposition to it and the attempts to weaken it by revision have ceased."

The attack on the labor law, he concluded, is not because it is one-sided or unfair, but "that the proposed revisions of the Act, especially those advanced by the National Association of Manufacturers, are intended to restore the days when labor law was class legislation in favor of employers."

3,000 Vote To Quit AFL, Join CIO

SAN JOSE, Calif., Apr. 29 (FP)—The Dried Fruit and Nut Packers Union of Santa Clara County, with 3,000 members, has voted 3 to 1 to leave the AFL and affiliate with the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, CIO.

Die Casters Meet In Convention

New York, Apr. 29.—Delegates Representing 4,000 organized die casting workers in five states gathered here this week to attend the national convention of the National Association of Die Casting Workers which opened at the Hotel McAlpin April 28.

A record year of achievements will be shown in the various reports to the convention, union officials said.

The NADW has nine affiliated locals at the present time, in New York City, Batavia and Syracuse, N. Y., Newark and Garwood, N. J.; Pottstown, Pa., Kansas City, Mo., and Toledo, Ohio.

Nominations made by the locals before the convention, resulted in the following slate of candidates to be voted on by the delegates:

National President: George Peacock, Pottstown, Pa., incumbent; Frank Gallo, chairman Local 1, New York City.

Secretary - Treasurer: W. R. Ramsey, New York City, who has held the office for three years; E. Cheyfitz, Toledo, Ohio; Carl Pickar, Pottstown, Pa.

Auto Union Launches Campaign in Aircraft

TOLEDO, Apr. 29.—The newly-elected executive board of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, concluded its first meeting with announcement of plans to spur organization of the thousands of workers employed in the nation's aircraft industry.

It voted to set up an aircraft organizing committee composed of a drive director, representatives of state and city CIO councils, and local unions of aircraft workers. Pres. R. J. Thomas of the UAW said he had conferred with CIO leaders and obtained a promise of support for the campaign.

One of several resolutions on aircraft passed by the board called for "nationalization of the aircraft industry as a means of securing job security for all aircraft workers."

A "MAIN OBJECTIVE"

"Organization of aircraft workers will be one of the immediate and major objectives of the UAW-CIO," Pres. Thomas said. "We have taken this step in response to requests from many thousands of aircraft workers and because the industry is facing expansion on a large scale.

"Although work in aircraft plants is in a great many instances similar to that in automobile plants, aircraft wages are in most cases at least 50 per cent below the wage rates in organized automobile plants. This is a situation which has no justification, particularly in an industry which appears to be ready to receive the benefit of government cooperation and encouragement."

Fur Workers Report Doubled Membership As Convention Nears

NEW YORK, Apr. 29.—With the election of delegates to the 13th national convention of the International Fur Workers Union nearing completion, affiliated locals in the fur centers throughout the country are preparing to send in their lists of accredited representatives. Close to 800 delegates and visitors are expected to attend the convention which opens in Atlantic City, N. J., Sunday, May 7.

Pointing out that the IFW membership has doubled since the 12th convention held two years ago, union leaders say that the coming convention will mark the greatest gains the union has ever made.

NEVER SO POWERFUL

"Never before has our union been as powerful, as united and as successful in establishing decent working and living conditions for its members," President Ben Gold declared in a statement issued this week.

Outstanding gains won by the union include the contract concluded in the New York fur market following a general strike last summer, and the unionization of the big Hollander Fur Dyeing plants in 1937.

UNITY IN RANKS

President Gold declared that these gains were due to the "high militancy and discipline of the membership, the firm unity within our ranks and the policy of militant struggle to preserve and improve our union standards even in the face of nation-wide economic depression."

Texas CIO Leaders

Officials of the Texas Industrial Union Council, named at the group's recent convention in San Antonio: John Patella, Amalgamated Clothing Workers, third vice-president; P. F. Kennedy, re-elected executive secretary; Roy B. Sessions, Oil Workers Intl. Union, newly-elected president.

THE CIO NEWS
Official Weekly Publication of the
CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II May 1, 1939 No. 18

Reaction's Dual Drive

The lockout of the coal miners and the drive in Congress to destroy the Wagner Act represent two parallel attempts to achieve a similar result.

The aim is to weaken or destroy effective labor organization.

Labor's enemies use both economic and political weapons simultaneously—and ruthlessly—for their purposes.

While hundreds of thousands of miners are locked out, pressure is put upon the authorities in many states to deny to these miners and their families the unemployment compensation or relief to which they are entitled.

A disastrous coal shortage is caused by the efforts of open-shop interests to break the United Mine Workers and to bulldoze the public into tolerating their general drive against unionism.

At the same time every political string is pulled to prevent the administration from bringing the operators to reason and ending this situation in the public interest.

* * *

The same anti-labor interests that are behind the coal lockout are also behind the campaign to amend the Wagner Act.

Through the economic weapon of the lockout they hope to weaken the union which is the backbone of the American labor movement, and then to follow this up with an open-shop drive in other industries.

Through the political action of crippling the Wagner Act, they hope to curtail the workers' right to organize and bargain collectively, and so to weaken labor resistance to future wage-cutting.

* * *

Labor traitors are being used by reaction in both of these anti-labor campaigns. The individual scab we have always had with us, but now we have the sorry spectacle of organized scabbery with the official blessing of AFL leaders.

A miserable little dual union is promoted in an effort to break the miners' resistance to the lockout, while these same AFL leaders join with the National Association of Manufacturers in their drive to cripple the Wagner Act.

* * *

Labor can defeat this dual drive of reaction by being similarly active on both the economic and political fields.

The miners are solidly organized in the country's biggest labor union and they know how to deal with traitors and scabs. They are also assured of the solidarity of the whole CIO and of most of the AFL members as well.

But they need the political support of all public-spirited citizens to see that they are accorded the relief to which they are entitled during the lockout; and to impress upon the administration the importance of ending the lockout in the public interest.

The Wagner Act can similarly be saved from amendment, if Congress is given clearly to understand that the great majority of workers and of Americans generally desire the act which upholds American living standards to be preserved.

Fighters in Labor's Cause

A gallant struggle for unionism is in progress in Oklahoma, where the employes of the Mid-Continent Petroleum Corporation are now in the fifth month of their fight to make the company grant them their collective bargaining rights.

Every weapon at the disposal of anti-labor corporations has been used against these oil workers and their families. The National Guard has been called out against them. Hired thugs and criminals have been used to terrorize them. All the political power of a great corporation has been mobilized in the attempt to deny their rights. But they have stood firm.

The Mid-Continent strikers, in standing firm for their own rights, are fighting like true soldiers in the cause of all American labor. They deserve the support of all lovers of freedom; and one of the easiest ways to give this support is to remember that Mid-Continent products, D-X gasoline and Diamond 760 motor oil are on the unfair-to-labor list.

The Back Seat Driver

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Lockout of the Miners

OLD KING COAL is letting others run his kingdom these days, with disastrous results.

Like some European monarchs who take their orders from Fascist dictators, American coal operators are letting Wall Street dictators and outside interests tell them what to do.

These American dictators have the same type of mania for conquest as have their Fascist brethren. To them the coal industry is just a battleground in their open-shop campaign against the CIO and organized labor generally.

The coal operators have had years of satisfactory collective bargaining relations with the United Mine Workers of America. The whole industry, as well as the miners, has benefited from the stability, higher standards and industrial peace which a powerful industrial union has brought.

If left to themselves, there is little doubt that the operators would agree to the union's reasonable requests.

But instead of this, they have locked out hundreds of thousands of miners, have created a national catastrophe by depriving the country of coal, and are threatening their own industry with disaster.

Outside Interests

After weeks of futile negotiations, President John L. Lewis explained the operators' refusal to reach an agreement as follows:

"Obviously the interference of outside interests has stopped an agreement," he said.

"It is a bad time for the operators to undertake to destroy the United Mine Workers of America in this year of 1939, to please labor-hating interests in this country who are opposed to the extension of collective bargaining.

"We assert that that cannot be done, and we say that the coal industry should not permit itself to be used as a catspaw in this situation."

Explaining further what he meant by "outside interests," Lewis declared that these include "independent steel companies, utilities, railroads and large consumers of coal—employers who detest collective bargaining and feel that the establishment of collective bargaining in the coal industry will destroy their present conditions."

An Open-Shop Drive

The United Mine Workers are fighting the battle of all organized labor in the present lockout.

The world's most powerful labor union, the UMWA is the backbone of the CIO. It has done more than any other organization to bring the benefits of unionism and collective bargaining to millions of previously unorganized workers.

In concentrating their present attack on the UMWA, the anti-labor financial and industrial interests are aiming to destroy all effective union organization.

If they attain any measure of success in the present fight, they will follow up this advantage by launching open-shop drives in every other industry.

Treachery to Labor

If the coal operators are suckers to let themselves be used as a catspaw for interests outside their industry, what can be said for alleged labor men who also play the game of these open-shop interests?

William Green's attack on the miners' demands, in the midst of this struggle, makes comparison with Judas Iscariot and Benedict Arnold seem unjust to those classic betrayers.

True, he performed a similar act of treachery against the auto workers when they were locked in conflict with General Motors. But this time his stab in the back is directed against the very union which raised him to prominence.

It is also perpetrated at a time when this union is holding back an open-shop drive which threatens every labor organization in the country, AFL as well as CIO.

Not Isolated

Fortunately, the United Mine Workers are by no means isolated in this struggle. They have behind them the strength not only of their own mighty union but also of powerful industrial unions in the steel, auto, rubber, electrical and other mass-production industries.

The UMWA was practical and farsighted, as well as idealistic, when it threw its resources into organization of these industries.

Before the CIO, the UMWA was a stronghold of unionism surrounded by a sea of non-unionism ever threatening to encroach upon it.

Now it is bulwarked by strong unions in surrounding industries, and by the more general acceptance of collective bargaining throughout the country which it has done so much to bring about.

The open-shop interests are fighting all the more desperately because now they must engage, not a single battalion but a whole army of labor. But they are fighting a losing battle.

Neither labor nor the general public will tolerate indefinitely the national disaster which these interests are ready to court for the sake of destroying collective bargaining—and those who hold public office should take note of this fact.

Lewis To Bare Deal By AFL-Employers On Wagner Changes

WASHINGTON, Apr. 30.—Documentary proof of a tie-up between President Green of the AFL and reactionary forces in the National Association of Manufacturers and other labor hating groups in the proposed amendments to the Wagner Act was offered by John L. Lewis, president of the CIO, today.

Lewis charged that Green's changes in the act were prepared "with the aid, advice and counsel of the NAM and several of the most reactionary and anti-labor corporations in the country," in a letter to the Senate Labor Committee now hearing testimony on proposed amendments to the act.

Full text of Lewis' letter to the Committee members follows:

The Senate Committee on Education and Labor is at present holding hearings on several bills proposing amendments to the National Labor Relations Act. This act represents for labor the difference between economic and political serfdom, which prevailed in many areas of our country prior to its enactment, and real freedom. Millions of Americans feel deeply the full significance of this freedom and are therefore determined to fight against the emasculation of this legislation.

The people of this country, in considering the merits of any proposed amendments to the National Labor Relations Act, are entitled to know who are the proponents of such amendments and the economic interests they represent.

SCATHING INDICTMENT

The anti-labor and reactionary views and activities of the National Association of Manufacturers and of such individuals as E. T. Weir and Tom Girdler do not require detailed recital for members of your Committee.

The facts brought to light through the investigation conducted by your Civil Liberties Sub-Committee constitute a scathing indictment against this organization and its affiliated corporations because of their vicious industrial espionage, corruption of local and state officials to deprive workers of their elementary constitutional rights, and the widespread purchase and use of instruments of military warfare against helpless individual workers during industrial disputes.

Opposition from these organizations to the National Labor Relations Act and their proposed amendments to such legislation are understood and appreciated by the public.

PIOUS MASKS

Individuals or other groups, who recommend amendments to the National Labor Relations Act at the behest or in the interest of the National Association of Manufacturers or Weir or Girdler, should have torn from them their mask of pious expression of good will for the workers, in order that the country may know the real motivation for such proposed amendments.

Mr. William Green, Mr. John P. Frey and Mr. Joseph Padway of the AFL are to appear before your Committee to testify on behalf of certain proposed amendments to the National Labor Relations Act which they have recommended.

I charge publicly that these amendments recommended by Mr. Green and his associates have been prepared with the aid, advice and counsel of representatives of the National Association of Manufacturers and of several of the most reactionary and anti-labor corporations of the country.

In order that the millions of Americans who are vitally concerned with this problem may be acquainted with all the facts, may I suggest that your Committee propound to Mr. Green and to his associates who may appear on behalf of their recommended amendments the following questions:

SIX QUESTIONS

(1) Were the amendments prepared solely by representatives of the AFL and in the interest of the workers of the country?

(2) Were the proposed amendments prepared with the advice and counsel of representatives of corporations and of the National Association of Manufacturers?

(3) Did Mr. Green or his associates confer in secret meetings with representatives of various corporations in connection with the preparation of such proposed amendments?

(4) Will Mr. Green and his associates disclose the names of the corporate representatives with whom they conferred in connection with the amendments?

(5) Are the corporations whose representatives consulted and advised with Mr. Green or his associates as to the proposed amendments under charges with the National Labor Relations Board as the most serious and flagrant violators of the Wagner Labor Act?

(6) What accounts for the widespread revolt on the part of many AFL International Unions, State Federations, local labor bodies and of locals throughout the country against the proposed amendments if not the instinctive realization on the part of the members of the AFL that the amendments were not prepared in the interest of the rank and file workers but rather to serve the purpose of enemies of labor?

The workers of the country, whether members of the AFL or the CIO, and all citizens interested in the development of progress and democracy in our country, are entitled to a thorough probing of this situation.

In the event Mr. Green and his associates either refuse to answer this charge or the questions suggested, or evade or deny the same, I am prepared to present to your Committee at any time documentary proof of my charges.

CERTIFY CIO UNION

Washington (FP) — The National Labor Relations Board has certified the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, CIO affiliate, as sole collective bargaining agency for employes of five cotton compresses in New Orleans, La. The action was based on a secret election held recently.

NLRB's Chief Counsel Defends Practices, Raps Amendments To Act

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON, Apr. 29.—Charles Fahy, general counsel of the Labor Relations Board, regards the Wagner Act amendments proposed by AFL leaders, the Chamber of Commerce and others as "weakening and debilitating, destructive of time-honored and established processes, and permeated with possibilities of delay and frustration."

Expressing his opinion in a 149-page brief before the Senate Labor Committee, Fahy concentrated chiefly on the administration of the act and the procedure of the Board, defending it vigorously as "fair as any ever devised for the administration of any law by any agency of government."

The chief threats to the act and to the work of the Board, Fahy pointed out, were in the proposals by Senator Burke and Senator Walsh (the latter backed by President Green of the AFL) to subject the work of the Board to endless court review and veto.

WOULD DESTOY ACT

"Clearly this would destroy the act," he said of Senator Burke's proposal to have the courts decide Board cases. "The present processes, carefully devised, molded into a proper place in the judicial system, and thoroughly approved, are nullified.

"The rights of labor to self-organization and collective bargaining would thus be lost, and the protection of commerce growing out of the present method of solving these matters could not be attained. Strikes would increase due to the frustration and delays incident to District Court proceedings.

"In some districts the act would be wholly ineffective. The net result would be interminable delays, hopelessness on the part of employes, an inharmonious and irreconcilable number and type of decisions, and a gradual defeat and blockade of the whole purposes of the act."

WALSH PROPOSALS BAD

The Walsh-Green plan to make the courts compel the Board to carry out its duties and to provide also for court review of Board decisions, was equally severely criticized.

"No statute dealing with labor relations or any other subject could stand up under these circumstances," Fahy said. "Every disinterested study made of the operations of the Board has affirmed the soundness of its procedure and practice. The Board itself is its most severe critic in this regard, because it has constantly sought, and has attained a scrupulously fair method of arriving at its decisions."

Part of Fahy's testimony was devoted to demolishing the stale charge that the act and Board have been "unfair" to the employers. "Those who might feel that the Board proceeds indiscriminately and irresponsibly to prosecute and pronounce judgment against employers . . . consistently ignore the fundamental factual situation, namely, that of the 20,192 cases handled up to March 1, 1939, 6,680 were dismissed or withdrawn without even formal hearing," he said.

MODERATE POWERS

The powers of the Board are in reality moderate, Fahy pointed out, and have been sustained by the highest courts in 100 cases. "No fines or penalties attach to its violation," he said in discussing the Board orders. "It is not self-executing and is enforceable only by the courts.

Kenosha AFL Against Act Amendments

Kenosha, Wis., Apr. 29—"Hands off the Wagner Act," the Kenosha Trades and Labor Council has warned the AFL executive council.

The local AFL body voted at its last meeting unanimously registered opposition to proposed changes in the Act.

The action followed a speech by Bertam Day, state president of the International Typographical Union conference and a delegate to the 1938 AFL convention in Houston. Day told the local delegates that the convention would have given the federation's executive council no mandate to sponsor the amendments if they had been placed before the convention.

Why Defend Act? Here's The Answer

Denver, Colo., Apr. 29. — A local businessman, presenting reasons why the Wagner Act should be amended, actually gave the best speech on why amendments should be fought by organized labor, in the opinion of an audience which attended a public hearing sponsored by the Denver Defense Committee for the Wagner Act.

Frank Fetzer, the business representative, drew howls from the audience when he declared that no one gets fired for union activities any more, so that no law to protect organization is necessary.

Reid Robinson, president of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers spoke against amendments, while John Sherwood, international secretary-treasurer, served as a member of the examining committee which plied the speakers with questions.

Schedule House Hearings

WASHINGTON, Apr. 29.—The House Labor Committee will start holding hearings on amendments to the Wagner Act on May 4, Chairman Mary Norton announced today.

The Senate Committee on Labor and Education is entering the third week of what gives promise of being extended hearings.

Printers Oppose Changes

W. Virginia

Clarksburg, W. Va., Apr. 29—Opposition to any and all Wagner Act amendments was voted here today by the West Virginia Allied Printing Trades convention.

Representing AFL printers, stereotypers, pressmen, mailers and others throughout this state, the 350 delegates to the council's fourth semi-annual convention took the position that amendments would cause definite harm to the entire labor movement.

New York

Buffalo, N. Y., Apr. 29—Add to AFL unions which oppose changing the Wagner Act—the Empire State Typographical Union.

Meeting in a week-end conference here, the New York printers endorsed the labor law, and made emphatic their wish that it not be amended. Other typographical units throughout the country have previously taken a similar stand.

Help Refugee Tots

Sen. Robert Wagner chats with Actress Helen Hayes, who appeared before a Congressional committee to urge support for the Senator's bill which would permit entry into the United States during the next two years of 20,000 German children.

New York Union Leaders Praise Act

NEW YORK, Apr. 29.—Leaders of both CIO and AFL unions in greater New York, attending a hurriedly called "Save the Wagner Act" conference here last week, adopted a resolution condemning the sponsors of proposed amendments to the National Labor Relations Act as "pro-fascist" and "reactionary corporate interests" and called upon President Roosevelt and Congress to stand firm against such attack on organized labor and the New Deal.

"The amendments being offered spell deep-rooted bias, by their sponsors, against the Wagner Act and organized labor in general," declared the Rev. John P. Boland, chairman of the New York State Labor Relations Board who was the principal speaker.

TYPO OFFICIAL

Elmer Brown, vice-president of New York Typographical Union "Big Six", largest local in the AFL's ITU, denounced "misleaders of labor who are seeking to stifle the progress of unionization through a left-flank attack on the Wagner Act and the Labor Board."

"Green and the other so-called leaders of the AFL are deserting the AFL membership when they attempt to amend the Wagner Act.

"The interests of the members of the CIO and the AFL are common interests and we must forge a unity of labor strong enough not to be divided and strong enough to cleanse from the House of Labor the misleaders.

QUILL SPEAKS

Michael J. Quill, New York City Councilman and president of the CIO Transport Workers Union told the union officials that the proposed Wagner Act amendments were part of a general attack on organized labor and the New Deal administration. He pledged the full support of the TWU, represented at the conference by 100 shop stewards and organizers, in the fight to save the Wagner Act.

Chairman of the conference, attended by more than 1,000 officials from shop stewards up to and including international presidents of unions located in New York, was Allan S. Haywood, president of the New York State Industrial Union Council. Gustave Strebel, general organizer for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, was secretary of the conference and distributed petitions calling for defeat of all proposed amendments.

Coal Lockout Enters 2nd Month

Continued from page three

while, indicated to UMW negotiators that they will seek inclusion in their new agreement of the strike penalty clause which the bituminous miners have been fighting to remove. The anthracite operators have also asked for wage cuts and lengthening of the work week.

In face of the growing national crisis in the coal industry, the federal administration has taken no steps to end the lockout beyond sending in conciliators to whose urgings the operators have given no signs of paying attention.

The lockout was caused by the refusal of the coal operators to remove a strike penalty clause from the contract. This clause, under which miners are automatically fined by the operators at a rate of $1 a day for striking, has operated in a one-sided fashion, the union complains.

AFL LEADERS ATTACK

With AFL leaders allying themselves with reactionary employers to fight the CIO, the mine union insists upon protecting itself in future months. Retention of the penalty clause, the union said, would mean that the AFL and anti-union coal operators could form an alliance, foment strikes, and force the UMW to pay the cost of its own destruction.

Mayor F. H. LaGuardia of New York, who sat in at the coal negotiations, was caustic in his criticism of the penalty clause, Pres. John L. Lewis of the UMW reported.

GREEN BUSY AGAIN

How correctly the UMW leadership has diagnosed the situation was proved by Pres. Green of the AFL, who during the course of the week issued another in his long series of "Judas" letters.

Repeating the same tactics he had employed during the course of the auto and steel strikes of 1937, the one-time member of the mine union attacked the UMW demands and questioned the union's right to represent the miners of the country who are almost 100% organized in its ranks.

Pledges of loyalty to the UMW, which have come in from all coal areas in the nation, provided the miners' answer to Green.

Realization that the open shoppers' fight is not merely against the United Mine Workers but against the entire labor movement of the nation was expressed in a story by Robert Allen which appeared in the "Philadelphia Record" on April 25.

ATTEMPT BLOW AT CIO

Allen declared that "open shop forces, working through financial and economic controls behind the scenes, have blocked all efforts to get together. They see in the situation an opportunity to strike a body blow at the CIO . . .

"As government executives view the ominous situation, the object of the open-shop interests is to undermine the UMW in order to lay the ground work for a nation-wide drive to destroy the CIO."

Maritime Strike Strong

Continued from page three

to sail tankers chartered by any of the four struck companies since the strike started.

"We know that Standard Oil is preparing to put foreign ships into service wherever it can," he declared. "Since they will attempt to sail them with foreign crews, we feel that it is the duty of the International Transportworkers Federation to refuse to sail those ships.

INFORMAL ACTION

"Representatives of the Federation were in this country last year. We discussed the possibility of cooperation between American and European seamen. Of course formal joint action is not feasible at this stage in maritime organization, but informally we can help each other."

Union officials say that registry under foreign flags of American-owned tankers has long been a sore point between the unions and the oil companies. Companies sometimes register their tankers under foreign flags so that they can load them up with low-paid crews, the NMU holds, and then use this low pay as an argument to keep wages down on American ships.

President Curran of the NMU called upon President Roosevelt to halt the Department of Commerce from issuing more seamen's certificates to non-seamen. Declaring that the certificates were being issued to strikebreakers, the NMU leader said he was forwarding to Secretary of Commerce Harry Hopkins a series of charges against inspectors for the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation regarding violations of the law governing requirements for specific ratings.

REINSTATED

Boston, Apr. 29 — David Wrathall, CIO Telegraphists member, was ordered reinstated by the Natl. Labor Relations Board following his discharge for union activity.

NEW HOMES FOR OLD

A department dealing with the need for better housing and how to obtain it, conducted by the CIO Committee on Housing.

By LEWIS ALAN BERNE
President, Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians

Last week the nation's capital witnessed a new variety of picket line.

It was a picket line made up of home owners whose mortgages are held by the Home Owners Loan Corporation.

From New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania they came, 900 of them, and marched up and down in front of the Washington office of the HOLC. They sang "Home, Sweet Home" and carried signs reading, "Save America's Homes."

Then they attended en masse a hearing of the Senate Banking and Currency Committee, which was considering many bills concerning the HOLC. They buttonholed Senators and Congressmen, asking that they help to get a reduction in the interest rate charged on HOLC mortgages.

BIRTH OF HOLC

In 1933 the situation of American home owners was very serious.

Caught in the throes of the depression, many of them were unable to meet their mortgage payments. As a result, thousands of foreclosures took place every month. Thousands of families lost their homes.

To remedy this situation the HOLC was set up. The HOLC was given power to refinance mortgages of home owners who were in danger of foreclosures.

The HOLC loaned more than 1,000,000 home owners funds with which to pay off the mortgageholders. In this way more than 1,000,000 families were enabled to keep their homes.

FLY IN THE OINTMENT

But there was a fly in the ointment.

The terms under which the HOLC granted its mortgages were none too easy. The interest rate was usually 5 per cent. The money usually had to be paid back within 15 years.

For many home owners, then, the burden of meeting mortgage payments was just as heavy as ever before. The 5 per cent interest insisted upon by the HOLC was not much less than the 6 per cent interest they had previously had to make to the banks.

As a result, many of them were unable to carry on. More than 100,000 defaulted on their payments. More than 100,000 homes were foreclosed upon by the HOLC.

NEEDED REFORMS

Today, there is a growing movement on foot to make HOLC's terms much easier. Councils of HOLC mortgagors have been formed. Numerous bills have been introduced into the House and Senate.

The aims of this movement are: (1) an extension of the amortization period from 15 to 20 or 30 years; (2) a two-year moratorium on principal payments when home owners are paying both interest and taxes; (3) the right to redeem homes already foreclosed, and (4) a reduction in the interest rate from 5 per cent to 3 per cent.

The demand that interest rates be reduced carries special weight. There is ample precedent in that the Reconstruction Finance Corporation has just lowered its 5 per cent interest rates. Besides, the HOLC secured its money at about 2 per cent and there is little reason why it should make such a large profit on the transaction at the expense of home owners.

Eli Oliver, vice-president of Labor's Non-Partisan League, has expressed support for the amendments liberalizing the act, and the CIO committee on housing is urging all CIO organizations to take the following steps:

1. Go on record favoring such legislation.

2. Convey their sentiments to their Congressmen and Senators.

3. Send special communications to the chairman of the Senate Banking and Currency Committee and to Representative Henry Steagall, chairman of the House Banking and Currency Committee.

CIO Wins Praise Of Oregon Priest

PORTLAND, Oreg., Apr. 29.—Anti-CIO red-baiting has failed to impress Father Michael Mulcaire, noted Catholic priest who heads the economics department at the University of Portland.

Speaking at a CIO meeting here recently, Father Mulcaire said:

"I have known many of these men (the leaders of the CIO) personally for many years. I have known them all by reputation, and I challenge any man to name the officers of any organization, be it political or fraternal, who exhibit a finer type of Americanism than the officers of your organization.

FOLLOW CHRIST'S TEACHINGS

"(There are) those who condemn you . . . only because you have successfully challenged the citadel of entrenched privilege and entrenched power by stretching out a helping hand to the victims of an unjust economic doctrine. . . . You preach the doctrine of Charity and Justice which Christ himself preached almost 2,000 years ago. . . .

Minister Likens Coughlin, Hitler

Boston, Apr. 29—Father Charles E. Coughlin is following the example of Adolph Hitler "in alarming fashion," the president of the Michigan Conference of Unitarian Churches told a Ford Hall Forum audience here.

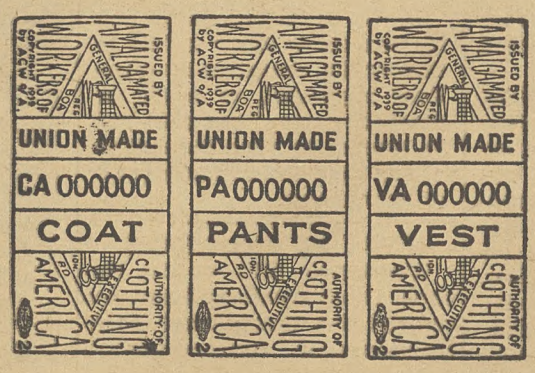
The Rev. Walton E. Cole compared Coughlin to Hitler because of his "unfair endeavor to couple the words Jew and Communist, his emotional appeals to prejudice and his self-glorifying theatrical entrances in mass meetings of his followers."

Coughlin, he added, continues to repeat statements of falsehood even when the truth is explained to him.

BE ON GUARD!

Look for the union label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America when buying men's and boys' clothing, overalls, shirts, undergarments, neckties, lumber jackets, gloves, and all other kinds of men's wearing apparel.

The Amalgamated Label is your guarantee that the articles you buy are of the best workmanship and produced under one hundred percent union conditions by members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.



By insisting on the Amalgamated Label you will help to guard against a return of sweatshop conditions to the industry. By helping the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America you help the labor movement generally.

Ask for the Amalgamated label on each part of the suit, coat, pants and vest. There are different Amalgamated labels for coats, pants, vests, shirts and undergarments, work clothes, neckwear and gloves.

This Stooge Union Talks Through Its Hat

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, Apr. 29—.This is the story of a company union with delusions of grandeur.

The outfit is the Adams Hat Employes Association, which has had two flings at publicity in recent weeks.

Its latest appearance in the public eye came last Monday when its "leaders," escorted by the reactionary Sen. H. Styles Bridges of New Hampshire, took the stand for a few minutes at the Senate Committee on Education and Labor hearings on Wagner Act amendments.

Bridges told the committee that the National Labor Relations Board "fomented strikes and encouraged labor troubles." To prove his contentions, he let the company unionists speak. Their "proof" was a decided flop. They claimed that the Adams Hat chain of stores is being picketed unfairly by the United Retail and Wholesale Employes, a CIO affiliate.

But, Chairman J. Warren Madden of the NLRB reminded the stooge leaders, no complaint had ever been made to the NLRB, and the national board has nothing to do with the activities of the New York State Labor Relations Board. That was the end of their Washington episode.

ACTIVE AFTER LOCKOUT

The Employes Association began to be heard from after the company bought out the Kaufman Hat Co. and the Truly Warner Hat Co., both of which had long-standing union agreements. Fifteen men were locked out by the new management, and, when they sought to get their jobs back, were told that the company wouldn't hire "any union members."

The United Retail and Wholesale Employes promptly placed the store chain on its unfair list, and placed picket lines around outlets in New York, St. Louis, Kansas City, Rochester, N. Y., and Newark, N. J.

It was then that the company union sprung into action, placing large advertisements defending the management in every New York City paper.

COST $2,238

According to Federated Press, labor news service, the ad space cost the Employes' Assn. "exactly $2,238.32, if you take the company union's word that the employes paid for it out of their 'welfare fund.'

"But the association has only 210 members (so the financial secretary says) and dues are only 75c a month.

"So it took 14 months' dues from the entire membership to tell the public:

" 'We feel that no outside meddlers should have the right to disturb the strong bond of mutual understanding and respect that has always existed between our employer and ourselves.' "

This employer-employe amity is probably heightened by the fact that the financial secretary of the "union" is a brother-in-law of the stores' general manager.

PAY BELOW SCALE

Martin Koppel, business agent of the CIO union, has charged that while the union wage scale is $35 a week, Adams is paying its salesmen as low as $18 and $24 weekly. Reports from the cities in which the union is picketing indicate a sharp decrease in sales.

Pretty soon, the URWEA predicts, the Adams management is going to realize that though company union ads look nice in print, they don't convince workers to buy scab hats. Then the brief fling of the Adams Hats Employes' Assn. will be all over.

Nation's Accident Rate Lower; WPA Helping Promote Safety

HELPING PROMOTE SAFETY: WPA runs a check-up station for automobiles in Tacoma, Wash., (left) where car-owners may find what ails the old bus' brakes. At right: This Illinois WPA worker might have been blind in one eye, except for the safety goggles supplied to project workers to protect them from just such accidents as this.

WASHINGTON, Apr. 29. — For fifteen consecutive months highway accident fatality rates for the entire country have shown a decrease, according to the National Safety Council's latest report. This, despite the fact that the number of vehicles on our streets and highways have shown a steady increase.

A total of 8,500 lives have been saved which would have been snuffed out if accidents had continued to occur with the frequency normally to be expected on the basis of past experience. Millions of dollars in property, hospital bills, etc., also are chalked up as a direct saving from the accidents which DIDN'T happen here.

A number of contributing factors are responsible for this encouraging record. Through city-wide and state-wide safety campaigns conducted by the Safety Council, local police departments and similar organizations, the country has become safety conscious. Newspaper and magazine editors the nation over have taken up the cudgels and battled for the elimination of carelessness—responsible for so large a percentage of the annual accident toll.

WPA'S CAMPAIGN

And there is a third important factor: the WPA campaign to increase public safety. Safety on the highways; safety in industry; safety in our schools—these are three objectives of a broad program of construction and white-collar projects which give employment to hundreds of thousands of needy persons certified to WPA rolls.

The utilization of relief labor for the improvement of our streets and highways and the installation of safety signals, is perhaps the greatest contribution of the WPA to safety. Roads and streets have been widened, re-surfaced, repaired. Dangerous curves have been eliminated; death-courting grade crossings replaced by overpasses or underpasses; warning signs and traffic lights placed at strategic points.

HELP AIRPLANE LINES

Air travel has been made safer by the installation of many beacon lights along our principal air routes and by frequent markings to guide aviators, painted on the roofs of barns or other buildings by WPA workers.

Other construction projects of the WPA have resulted in greater safety for children, through the repair and modernization of public schools and in many cases, the replacement of antiquated buildings that were potential fire-traps.

In connection with traffic safety, WPA white-collar workers have been utilized in many cities and towns to survey traffic conditions. These surveys are the basis of recommendations for more efficient handling of difficult traffic problems.

One salient fact demonstrated by the WPA's own safety program on projects is that good safety records can be achieved without high cost to the employer. The WPA's remarkably good record has been brought about by the use of ordinary and familiar safety devices—platforms, guard rails, masks, goggles, ropes, safety belts, where necessary, and, in addition, by regular inspection and the training of workers in safety methods.

Book Review:

Seeds of Destruction

By John M. Blair

(Covici-Friede, New York)

Reviewed by WALTER N. POLAKOV

Anyone who realizes that most labor problems arise from the changed technology of production will find this book by Mr. Blair informative, helpful and interesting.

When the impact of machinery on the civilized world created an industrial revolution in England and Europe in the late 17th and early 18th centuries, unemployment resulted, textile and and engineering workers rioted and starved, and many workers destroyed machines on which they could put their hands.

But the machines of those days, even though they were more productive than the earlier models, were merely forerunners of the machinery of today. The changed technology of that time not only altered the economic system of enthroning the capitalist system, but it also wiped out laws affecting agriculture and the old feudalism. In successive steps it reduced working hours and limited employment of women and children in England.

Unemployment in Ireland at that time was likewise severe—so severe that it prompted the famous author of "Gulliver's Travels" to publish a satirical pamphlet advising the unemployed to roast their babies to take them out of their misery and to fatten themselves upon their flesh.

NEW SITUATION

That situation, dramatic as it was, does not measure up to the situation which has developed with our lifetime. The old machinery has been supplanted by new types of machinery powered by electricity, which have increased productivity by leaps and bounds and displaced a far greater number of workers than at any previous time.

While machinery and mass production are certainly desirable —for they **could** produce plenty with ease, they have turned out to be a curse because artificial scarcity is still maintained and the number of hours of work for each worker is still kept at a high level. This, despite the speedier production of men-displacing machines.

This is the picture which forms the background of Mr. Blair's book, Seeds of Destruction. But the book itself deals with factual, statistical analysis of why our capitalist system does not provide workers and farmers with a living income.

The book is divided into three main sections. First, it discusses what may be called axioms or apparent facts, which are later traced into the second part as the aggravating trends, and are studied and followed up in the third part, which analyzes the corrective measures. In that latter section of the book, Mr. Blair shows the difficulty, if not the impossibility, of making capitalism function as a sane economic system.

Blair analyzes such trends of great importance to the working classes as technological displacements in manufacturing, mining, agriculture and clerical work; real wages; the behavior of prices contrasted to wages; the inadequate use of our resources, etc.

In another section of the book he shows how the farmer on one hand and the worker on the other are exploited by middlemen who impose exorbitant disitrbution charges. He also shows how the large, monopolistic industries curtail their production and payrolls greatly in times of depression and maintain prices, while in upswings these same industries raise their prices higher and faster than their wages.

Reorganize Tenant Farm Locals

Memphis, Tenn. — Reorganization of former Arkansas Southern Tenant Farmers Union locals in the CIO Cannery and Agricultural Workers union, parent organization, was completed with the unanimous vote of 87 delegates here to retain their CIO affiliation.

The vote came after similar decisions by locals in Missouri and Oklahoma, which broke away from the executive board of the STFU when the latter decided to withdraw from the international and the CIO.

The break was caused by the action of the STFU officers in refusing to abide by the Cannery and Agricultural Workers' constitution and in ordering locals to stop paying per capita taxes to the international.

A three-point plan involving compliance with the constitution, full autonomy and lifting of the suspension of the STFU officers was drawn up by the national office of the CIC some weeks ago. This was accepted by the international but rejected by the officers of the STFU.

St. Louis Ladies Busy Helping Unions' Drive

St. Louis, Apr. 29—Plans and activities of the Ladies Auxiliaries Joint Committee here indicate a vigorous program of social events and legislative and trade union work.

Early in May they're planning a mass meeting to celebrate Mother's Day. Project workers, social service union members, the Harriet Hubbard Society and other groups have promised to participate.

Last month a crowd of union wives and their husbands attended the installation ceremonies and watched a program of songs and skits on union subjects.

LEGISLATIVE CORNER

In the "Legislative Corner," a feature of the monthly bulletin, first place is taken by the fight to save the Wagner Act from amendments. Over 200 letters were sent to Congressmen urging them to vote against amendments at one meeting, and the campaign is being pressed throughout the community.

Housing, social security, national health and a proper appropriation for WPA are also important items of concern to the Joint Committee. A resolution opposing the so-called Equal Rights Amendment that would abolish all protective legislation for women workers was passed, and radio time secured in the fight against this reactionary proposal.

Tories Run Amok In Wisconsin

(By Federated Press)

MADISON, Wisc., Apr. 29.—A preview of what is in store for the country should the reactionaries win in 1940 was provided in Wisconsin when the legislature approved a drastic bill limiting the right to strike, banning sitdowns, and sharply curbing picketing, the checkoff and the closed shop.

The bill, described by labor leaders as a "semi-fascist strait jacket" is now before Gov. Julius P. Heil, Republican, for signature. Approval by the comic-opera governor, himself a wealthy industrialist, is taken for granted. Labor leaders are planning an immediate test of the law's constitutionality.

PRINCIPAL POINTS

Some of the chief provisions in the bill are:

1. The present labor relations board, patterned after the NLRB, is abolished and a three-man "employment peace board" to be named by the governor with senate approval, is substituted.

2. Strikes are outlawed unless voted by a majority of the employes in a collective bargaining unit — the unit to be determined by the new board.

ATTACK CLOSED SHOP

3. Closed shop contracts are outlawed unless approved by three-fourths of the employes in a designated bargaining unit.

4. Sitdown strikes are declared illegal.

5. Secondary boycotts are declared illegal.

6. Dues checkoffs are forbidden unless unanimously requested.

7. Only employes on strike may picket, and then only if a majority in a designated bargaining unit are on strike.

8. Strikes affecting perishable commodities may be called only after 10 days' notice.

MUST REPORT FINANCES

9. Unions are required to furnish detailed financial statements to their members. In effect, this means a detailed account of union finances for the employers, since a law adopted a few weeks earlier forbids a union to exclude an employe, though a known company stooge, from membership.

10. Employers are given wide authority to file charges of "unfair labor practices" against their employes. Coercion, which may be construed as any form of persuasion by an unfriendly board, is defined as an unfair labor practice.

WEASEL WORDING

Penalties for violation of provisions of the new law are fines up to $500 or imprisonment up to one year, or both. A multitude of seemingly harmless phrases in the 7,000-word law are capable of being interpreted by an employer-controlled board with crushing weight against labor unionism.

A coalition of Republicans and Democrats in both houses of the legislature fought off all attempts of Progressives to amend the bill. In the senate one Progressive joined with the reactionaries, and one Republican fought the bill. All senate Democrats, holding the balance of power, voted for it.

CO-OPS PROTEST

The bill was officially sponsored by the Wisconsin Council of Agriculture, a federation of farm organizations, although few believe that bona-fide farmers had any hand in writing the bill. Two of the council's largest affiliates, the Midland Cooperative Wholesale and the Wisconsin Cooperative Milk Pool, quit the council in protest against the bill.

Leaders of the council are farmers only in the sense that they are owners of large dairy farms. It is commonly believed that they served as a front for reactionary industrialists.

Union Heads Form Group For Refugees

New York, Apr. 29 — Heads of a number of CIO international unions have joined the Trade Union Committee for Spanish Refugees, it was announced here by the Spanish Refugee Relief Campaign.

The CIO members include Pres. Heywood Broun of the American Newspaper Guild; Pres. Reid Robinson of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers; Pres. Joseph Curran of the Natl. Maritime Union; Pres. Lewis Allan Berne of the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists & Technicians; Pres. Lewis Merrill of the United Office & Professional Workers; Pres. Harold Pritchett of the Intl. Woodworkers of America, and Pres. Donald Henderson of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers.

A number of AFL union executives are also on the committee, which will put on a nationwide drive to aid the refugees from General Franco's government. Many of the half million Spanish refugees are trade union members, George Pershing, secretary of the committee, pointed out.

Steel Local Sponsors Big Banquet

Youngstown, Ohio, Apr. 29—Several hundred members of Brier Hill Lodge 1462, Steel Workers Organizing Committee, attended a banquet here, prepared and served by the Betsy Ross Women's Auxiliary. Hugh Carcella, SWOC field representative, was toastmaster.

In reviewing the progress of the lodge during the past year, President Anthony Mastopietro said he felt confident that in another year the lodge would have the Brier Hill plant of the Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. organized 100 per cent.

Formed two years ago, the lodge is now humming with activity, he said, with parties, dances and other social affairs being held regularly by both the lodge and the auxiliary. Although the mill is working at only 25 per cent of capacity, new members are continuing to join the union in increasingly large numbers.

Hosiery Union To Appeal Apex Damage Case

PHILADELPHIA, Apr. 29.—Appeal of the Apex Hosiery case to the higher federal courts was announced this week by the American Federation of Hosiery Workers. The appeal follows refusal of Federal Judge William Kirkpatrick to set aside the triple damage verdict in the suit of the Apex Hosiery Co. against Branch 1 of the AFHW. Damages awarded amounted to $711,932.55.

The CIO union's argument was based on the ground that the case did not properly come under the Sherman Act. The Circuit Court of Appeals for the third district is expected to hear the case late in May or early in June.

Decision in the case will hinge on the question of whether or not the damage provisions of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act can be used as an anti-labor weapon to penalize unions attempting to call strikes.

AFFECTS EVERY UNION

According to the union's attorneys, if the higher courts upholds the verdict of the District Court, no union in the country will be safe from damage suits brought under the Sherman Act, which provides triple damages. Suits would be brought on the theory that a strike is an interference with interstate commerce, and therefore in violation of the law.

Union counsel also pointed out that the newspapers have taken the point of view of reactionary interests and have tried to make the sit-down strike and violence the question before the court, failing altogether to realize that the company would have brought suit in the state courts, and not under the Sherman Act, if it were solely seeking reparation for damages to the plant.

PERVERTING SHERMAN ACT

The Apex case is one of a long series of instances in which the Sherman Act, passed to curb monopolies, has been used against the labor movement, in spite of the fact that neither the author of the act nor Congress intended it to apply to unions.

In no case, however, union counsel declared, have the courts gone as far as in the Apex suit. The strike out of which the case arose occurred in the spring and summer of 1937 at the big Philadelphia Apex plant, long a bitterly anti-union concern.

There was nothing unusual about the strike, AFHW officials declare. It was typical of hundreds of other sit-down strikes which took place during the same period. It was the attempt later to penalize the union under the provisions of the Sherman Act, they hold, which now makes the Apex strike important.

Trainmen's Head Hails LaFollette Bill

CLEVELAND, Apr. 29.—If Congress is really fired with an enthusiasm to do some "emasculating," let it forget about the Wagner Act and turn its attention to the labor spy racket, and the industrialist-strikebreaker alliance against organized labor.

This is the advice of Pres. A. F. Whitney of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen which appears in a signed article in the May issue of the union's monthly magazine.

Whitney said the BRT will cooperate with all progressive organizations in helping win passage of Senate Bill 1970, the Oppressive Labor Practices Act, which is based on the findings of the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee.

"Now that the LaFollette Committee has 'put the finger' on the vicious practices of labor-hating employers," Whitney added, "it is high time that organized labor in America, together with the progressive groups of citizens throughout the land are vitally concerned with the problem of protecting our civil liberties, took a bold stand against the fascist forces now plotting the destruction of collective bargaining."

Maritime Union Fights Four Oil Tanker Lines

Members of the National Maritime Union push their fight against four big eastern oil tanker fleets whose managements refused to sign new contracts. Standard Oil of New Jersey, Standard Oil of New York, Tidewater Oil and C. D. Mallory Oil Transportation. Picture at left shows the seamen picketing a Socony-Vacuum filling station in New York City. Scene at right shows NMU headquarters, with the boys volunteering for picket duty.

CIO Music Center Sponsors German Refugees

Philadelphia, Apr. 29—Two famous German refugee soloists—Anna Burstein, pianist, and Zelig Kauffman, violinist—will appear with the Music Center orchestra at the fifth annual concert and ball to be given by the Philadelphia Music Center, 310 South Juniper St., on Friday evening, May 19, at 8.30.

The People's Chorus will present the "Revue Hit of 1939" and "The Ballad of Uncle Sam," by Earl Robinson.

The Music Center is affiliated with the Philadelphia CIO Industrial Union Council.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 19 | May 8, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

LOCKOUT SHUTS DOWN ALL SOFT COAL MINES

The News In Brief

Pennsylvania

Harrisburg, Pa. — Support for the American Federation of Hosiery Workers in its fight against a $700,000 damage award won by the Apex Co. of Philadelphia was pledged by 600 delegates at the convention of the Pennsylvania Industrial Union Council here.

Textile

Philadelphia. — Seven hundred delegates are expected to attend the first convention of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee, which meets here May 15.

Merger

Atlantic City, N. J.—Merger of the CIO International Fur Workers Union and the National Leather Workers Assn., also a CIO affiliate, is expected to be ratified at the fur union convention here this week.

Radio Speech

Washington. — CIO Vice-President Philip Murray will deliver a speech attacking Wagner Act amendments over a Columbia Broadcasting System nation-wide network on Tuesday, May 9, at 9:45 P. M., Eastern Standard Time.

Wagner Act Fight At A Glance

WASHINGTON, May 6.—Here is the situation in the fight to preserve the Wagner Act against crippling amendments:

1. Pres. William Green defended the AFL's company unionism in his appearance before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor. He denied that he, personally, had been in collusion with employer groups—but Sen. Burke, tory foe of unionism, congratulated Green, pledged all support possible in a "non-prejudicial" way.

2. Joseph Padway, AFL counsel, obviously worried by charges made by CIO Pres. John L. Lewis, admitted that he had conferred about amendments with lawyers whose clients are employers.

3. Sen. Robert LaFollette warned AFL leaders that their amendment to permit employer "interference" with unions would hurt all labor. *Story Page Six*

4. George Kidwell, state labor commissioner in California and veteran AFL leader, attacked AFL amendments. *Story Page Five*

5. The Minneapolis AFL city body took a stand opposing all amendments to the Act. *Story Page Five*

6. A newspaper poll in a predominatly AFL area in Oregon showed public sentiment two-to-one against amendments. *Story Page Six*

7. Pennsylvania CIO Council adopts resolution demanding that the Act be left unchanged. *Story Page Two*

Half Million Bituminous Miners Idle

See Story Page 3

NEW YORK, May 5. — All bituminous coal mines in the nation were scheduled to close today as temporary working agreements in the Mid-West and South came to an end. Over 125,000 miners will be added to those already idle as the result of the Appalachian lockout of members of the United Mine Workers of America, unless there is some unforeseen last minute development.

In addition it appeared probable that anthracite miners and operators would be unable to agree on a new contract before the deadline, and that some 100,000 men in Pennsylvania would cease working until an agreement is reached.

Coal supplies are dwindling. In New York City two of the main subway lines cut operations 25 per cent to protect their stock of fuel. From other sections of the nation reports indicated that corporations are being seriously affected by the lockout.

The union is demanding elimination of the strike penalty clause. President John L. Lewis has charged that outside corporate and financial interests have pushed the lockout in an effort to weaken the union and the CIO.

Cuban Labor Backs Tanker Walkout

HAVANA, Cuba, May 5 —The Cuban labor movement is backing the strike of the National Maritime Union, CIO, against four oil tanker lines which have refused to sign a new union agreement.

The Cuban Federation of Workers has placed all Standard Oil products on its unfair list pending settlement of the dispute. The transport workers have voted to avoid buying Standard Oil products in buses.

Set Board Hearing In Oil Strike Case

TULSA, Okla., May 6.—Intimidation and coercion was officially charged against the Mid-Continent Petroleum corporation by the National Labor Relations Board in a formal complaint issued by Dr. Edwin A. Elliott, regional NLRB director, this last week.

Dr. Elliott set the date for the hearing into the Oil Workers' International Union's four-month old strike for May 15. It is the same date that Jack N. Hays, president of the local union, is scheduled to go on trial in district court on a grand jury indictment charging conspiracy.

The formal complaint charges that the Mid-Continent Petroleum Corporation, through its foremen, sought to coerce and intimidate its employes beginning March 1, 1937, and continuing through December 22, 1938; that it placed armed guards inside the refinery for the purpose of accomplishing such intimidation, and that after the strike had been called it sponsored, through its agents, a 'back to work movement' designed to break the strike, and that on December 31, 1938, it discharged, by formal notices signed by George Bush, personnel director, 222 of its employes "because of the fact that they had joined and assisted . . . . the Oil Workers' International Union, and had engaged in concerted activity in its behalf."

Die Casters Elect New Secretary

NEW YORK, May 6. — With the unanimous re-election of George C. Peacock of Pottstown, Pa., as national president and the selection of Edward T. Cheyfitz of Toledo, Ohio, as national secretary-treasurer, the fifth convention of the National Association of Die-Casting Workers at the McAlpin Hotel in New York City adjourned early this week.

Delegates representing locals from eastern and middle-western states were in session for six days during which time they listened to CIO leaders and discussed outstanding problems facing the union.

The adoption of an extensive organizational program with the objective of 100 per cent organization of the Stewart Co. in Chicago, the Alemite Co. in Woodstock, Ill. and the Precision Co. in Cleveland and Syracuse, marked the high-point of the proceedings.

UNION LABEL VOTED

Delegates gave the Organizational Committee a rousing ovation as they unanimously adopted the plan to organize Stewart, Alemite, and Precision. As an aid to the organization of the unorganized, the use of a union label on tools, dies, and castings was referred to the incoming national officers.

Among the various resolutions adopted was one opposing any amendments to the Wagner Act. Delegates voted to support the the Chicago Newspaper Guild strike and to adopt a Guild striker.

Maritime Strikers Flee Gas

Members of the National Maritime Union flee a barrage of tear gas laid down by Everett, Mass., cops as they broke up picketing at the Beacon Oil plant there. The pickets, pressing the union's strike against four oil tanker lines, later re-appeared at the scene garbed in gas masks. Several children were injured by the police attack.

Engineers Win Poll

Baltimore, May 5—The Marine Engineers Beneficial Assn., CIO affiliate, zipped through to an easy National Labor Relations Board victory among the men employed on the 16 tankers of the Pennsylvania Shipping Co.

Ernest McCallum, assistant business agent for the MEBA local, said that the CIO union had gained 41 votes to 25 for no union and none for the United Licensed Officers Association.

Many CIO Groups Hold Conventions

Pennsylvania CIO Convention Meets; Joins Apex Fight

HARRISBURG, Pa., May 6. — Over 600 delegates, representing miners, steel workers, newspapermen, textile workers and other CIO groups gave added impetus to the industrial organization movement in Pennsylvania here the past three days under the shadows of tory-minded legislation seeking enactment via a machine-controlled state Republican regime. They represented over a half-million CIO workers.

With emasculating amendments, introduced by the score in both state houses, now in session, delegates renewed their faith in the CIO and pressed forward to eliminate and correct the measures boding ill for unions, either CIO or AFL.

ACTION ON APEX

The convention voted to fight the $700,000 Apex decision against Philadelphia Branch 1 of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers.

It sought to block enactment of a measure which would cut by over 20 per cent compensation to injured workmen, fought against abolition of the state's Civil Rights Bureau; condemned legislation aimed at shearing the teeth in the state's "Little Wagner Act" covering intra-state workers; rounded up opposition against the Van Allsburg bill which would throw relief cases back into the maelstrom of county politics and allow publication of clients' names; hit proposed amendments to the Anti-Injunction Law and voiced opposition against "ripper" acts which would again make civil service regulations jokes in Pennsylvania. Dozens of progressive bills, aimed to aid labor, were also endorsed.

Opposition to any and all changes in the Wagner Labor Relations Act were voiced and Congress was urged to pass the "Oppressive Labor Practices Act," introduced by Senators La-Follette and Thomas, banning strike-breaking agencies and tactics.

PROMINENT SPEAKERS

John Brophy, national CIO director; Emil Rieve, president of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers and director of the TWOC; and Paul W. Fuller, international president of the Federation of Flat Glass Workers, flayed William Green and the top AFL hierachy for its anti-labor stand on the Wagner Labor Act and other progressive legislation.

Brophy said the CIO was for unity of labor but that it would be realized only when "more of the AFL rank and file recognize the fact that their top leadership is determined to prevent effective unity." He said the AFL leadership has "long grown callous and indifferent to rights and needs of a larger labor movement."

RIDICULES GREEN

Rieve ridiculed Green's statements that his proposed amendments to the NLRB would not weaken labor's ranks and said it was to the everlasting disgrace of the AFL leaders to join hands with the U. S. Chamber of Commerce and National Association of Manufacturers in seeking to amend the Wagner Act. "The CIO wants unity," he said, "but prefers a divided labor movement to none at all."

Fuller traced the rise of the Glass Workers, told of its compactness and solidity and gave the CIO credit for the position it now holds. He revealed that the union will shortly enlarge its jurisdiction into other glass fields and that the name of the group will be changed to a more inclusive name.

ASK HOUSING DRIVE

John W. Edelman, former regional director of the CIO in Philadelphia and now with the U. S. Housing Authority, spoke on labor's need to solidify its forces to gain proper housing facilities for workers.

The convention also went on record urging passing of the state Thompson Bill, which would construct more schools; against confirmation of Major Lynn Adams as superintendent of State Police due to his alleged labor-baiting in the past; sought more funds for the Wages and Hours Administration to eliminate chiselers.

Father Charles Rice of Pittsburgh, noted liberal Catholic priest, urged all workers to unite to fight the forces of reaction let loose as a result of the last election.

The 1940 convention will be held at Reading on May 4.

Teamsters Get Pact In New Orleans

New Orleans, May 6.—Efforts of the CIO to organize teamsters here, carried on in spite of concerted terror from city, state and county agencies, as well as by AFL goon squads, were rewarded with a union contract won this week.

The contract was negotiated by Arthur Leary and Bob Robertson, organizers from the Intl. Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, who put in months of hard work before the agreement was won.

Last year a strike was met with organized violence by police and employers, who attacked picket lines at will, wounding and forcibly deporting scores of workers.

Council's Position On Apex Case

HARRISBURG, Pa., May 5. — The $711,932.55 damage award won by the Apex Hosiery Co. against Branch One of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, CIO, was based on "an outrageous distortion of the original Sherman Act, passed to control trusts and monopolies."

This was the charge made in a resolution passed by the convention of the Pennsylvania Industrial Union Council here.

The delegates asserted that "the lack of precise definition in the Sherman Act permits anti-labor judges to distort the Act in this fashion so as to make it an anti-labor measure and to include within its terms legitimate activities of labor, particularly strikes which succeed in stopping production."

The Circuit Court of Appeals ruling on which the Apex decision was based was "unequivocably condemned" by the council.

The statement ended with a resolution that the state CIO council "petition Congress to amend the Sherman Law so that it shall be stated in such clear, unequivocal, unmistakable terms that even judges can understand that the Sherman Act shall never again be applied to trade unions."

The council urged "all branches of the labor movement to join with us in supporting Branch One, of the AFHW in its fight to overturn the Apex verdict; and to join us in the fight to amend the Sherman Law so its meaning and intent shall be clearly stated and so that never again shall labor be included in its terms."

700 Delegates Expected At Textile Meet

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 6.—Some 700 delegates from 32 states are expected to attend the five-day national convention of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee scheduled to open here May 15. Main objective of the convention will be the formation of a permanent national union to complete the organization of the 1,250,000 workers employed in the textile industry.

Formed March 9, 1937, by an agreement between the CIO and the United Textile Workers, the TWOC has already brought more than 200,000 textile workers under union contracts and is now negotiating for additional agreements covering 176,000.

709 CONTRACTS

Officers will report to the convention that TWOC now has 709 contracts with employers while negotiations are under way for 520 more.

CIO President John L. Lewis and Frances Perkins, U. S. Secretary of Labor are the principal guest speakers scheduled to address the convention. Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and TWOC chairman, and Emil Rieve, president of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers and TWOC executive director, will direct the convention proceedings.

Both the UTW and TWOC will open their respective conventions May 15. The TWOC is expected to vote to merge with the United Textile Workers, following which the consolidated organizations will proceed with a joint convention.

TO PUSH CAMPAIGN

Extensive plans will be presented at the convention for spreading union activities throughout the cotton, silk, rayon, woolen and worsted, synthetic yarns, carpet and rugs and other branches of the textile industry.

The Hosiery Workers' Federation and the Dyers' Federation, both powerful union groups in their respective industries, will take part in the convention proceedings. A number of important independent textile unions are said to be planning to send fraternal delegates.

SIGNED BIG COMPANIES

Outstanding among the agreements won by TWOC since it was formed two years ago by the CIO in response to an appeal from the UTW, are contracts with the American Woolen Co., the Viscose Corp., the Celanese Corp. and other giants in the textile industry.

At present it is on the point of negotiating agreements with Marshall Field & Co., and other important mill chains.

LIFTED WAGE RATES

TWOC was chiefly instrumental in obtaining the proposed 32½c an hour minimum for textiles, exclusive of woolen and worsteds, under the federal wage-hour act, which will mean wage increases for 120,000 textile workers around July 1. The hosiery workers obtained a 40c hourly minimum in the full-fashioned branch, and 32½c in seamless hosiery under the act.

Final preparations for the unity convention which will be held at 150 Broad Street, formerly Scottish Rite Temple, were made at a joint meeting of the TWOC advisory committee and the UTW executive council.

To Preside

SIDNEY HILLMAN
Chairman Textile Workers Organizing Committee

CIO Council Planned In N. Carolina

Greensboro, N. C., May 5.—Looking forward to the formation of a North Carolina Industrial Union Council, CIO leaders from more than a dozen industrial cities in the state met here and discussed a program of future activities.

E. L. Sandefer of Winston-Salem, CIO director for the Carolinas, presided at the meeting. Delegates told of CIO union activities in all parts of the state, and of major gains in recent months.

Necessity of forming city industrial union councils throughout North Carolina was stressed by the delegates in attendance. Greensboro's CIO unions, it was announced, will meet May 7 to form a city central body.

600 Attend Pennsy CIO Meet

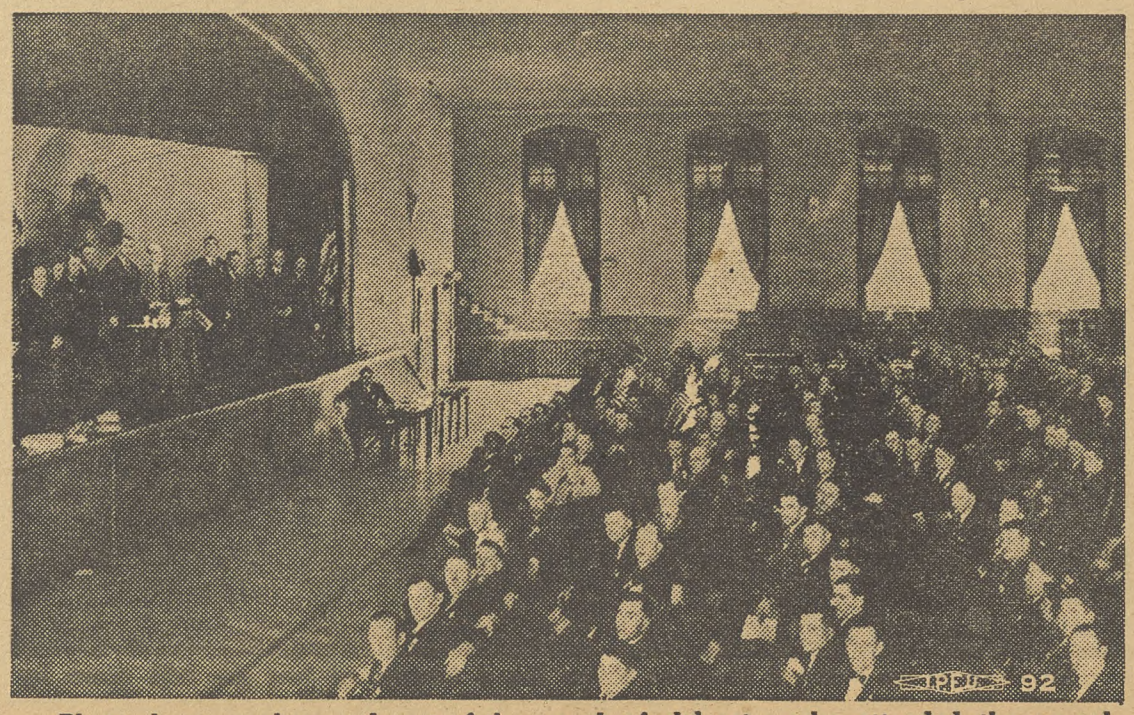


Photo shows speakers and part of the crowd of delegates who attended the annual convention of the powerful Pennsylvania Industrial Union Council at Harrisburg.

Seamen Defend Unions Against Employers' War

NEW YORK, May 6.—Twenty-five CIO seamen, all of them members of the National Maritime Union, got medals for heroism at sea from Mayor F. H. LaGuardia, presented on the front steps of the Marine Building at the World's Fair today, and heard themselves praised as true representatives of the best American marine tradition.

The medals were designed and struck by the National Maritime Union.

Six of the heroic seamen are now on strike against the Standard Oil Co. and other tanker operators, because Standard Oil wants to break the union. These are members of the crew of the S.S. Esso Baytown, who rescued passengers of the unlucky British airliner Cavalier from the cold Atlantic last January.

PRAISED THEN

Standard Oil was full of praise for these seamen then, when their courage and seamanship won the admiration of the entire country. Today Standard Oil joins with the other operators in calling them—and the 5,000 of their fellow workers on strike with them — "un-American," "Moscow agents" and the like because they walked off the tankers to save their union and their living and working conditions and the welfare of 12,000 workers employed in the industry.

Standard dominates the industry, and usually carries on negotiations for the other companies as well as itself. Negotiations for the industry were stalled by Standard until the union approached other companies individually. Most agreed, and are negotiating today. Standard, Socony-Vacuum, Tidewater and C. D. Mallory decided to hold out—and their ships are struck today.

The blank refusal of the companies to negotiate in good faith is described by the NMU as a

Continued on page five

Shutdown Closes All Soft Coal Mines In Nation

NEW YORK, May 6.—A national shutdown of the nation's bituminous coal industry was in effect today, as temporary working agreements in the midwest and south expired and more than 100,000 members of the United Mine Workers joined the 320,000 locked out in the Appalachian fields.

Meanwhile, it appeared likely that a shutdown of the anthracite mines in Pennsylvania would follow on Monday, placing the total number of idle well over half a million.

Pres. John L. Lewis of the UMW had called back into session the union's National Policy Committee, composed of more than 150 representatives, to discuss operators' last-minute proposals. Four attorneys of the UMW and the CIO were on hand to advise the union.

OUTSIDE INTERESTS

The operators have stubbornly refused to grant the union's demand for removal of the penalty clause. Lewis has charged that outside Wall Street influences have been at work to prevent a settlement of the lockout, in order to weaken the UMW and with it the CIO.

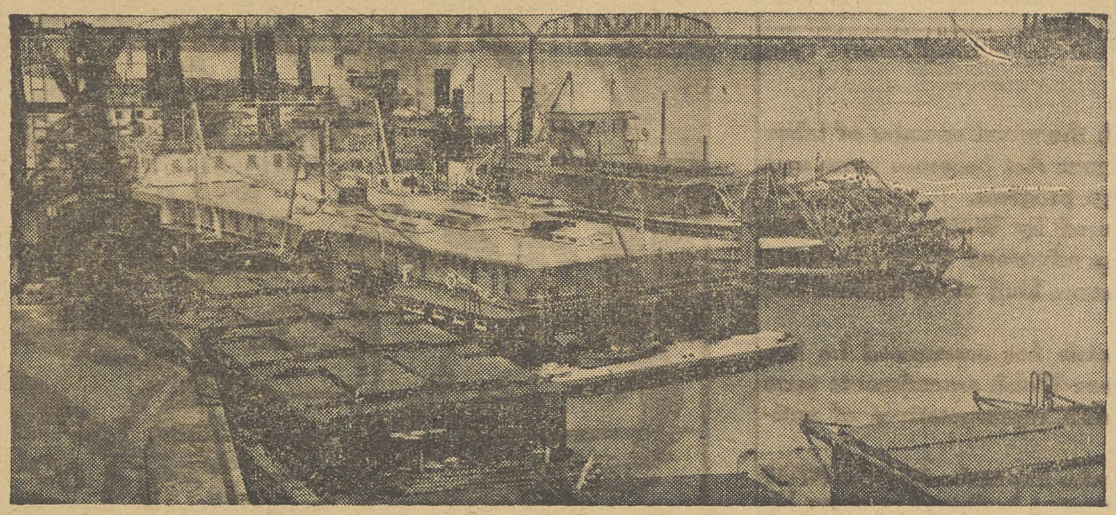
The United Mine Workers Journal, official union magazine, charged this week that "the sinister hand of outside interests" is to blame for the prolongation of the stoppage.

"'Stop labor!' became the battlecry of the opposition," the magazine continued. "They meant to put a stop to the progress that the labor movement has made in the last few years, a degree of progress the like of which never before was seen in the American labor world."

Reports from various sections of the country indicate that the coal supply is reaching the short-

Continued on Page Five

River Shipping Tied Up



That "ole man river" does know something, the song notwithstanding — he knows that Mississippi steamers and tow-barges won't be moving until the Federal Barge Lines in St. Louis agrees to sign a closed shop contract and grant pay raises to the Inland Boatmen's Union, CIO affiliate. Photo shows the boats tied up at the docks.

Green Forgets

WASHINGTON, May 5—Bill Green is still dreaming about the good old days. He slipped for a minute in his testimony before the Senate Labor Committee, and referred to the United Mine Workers as an AFL affiliate. While the audience and the committee roared with laughter, Green stammered, blushed and rushed on to the next sentence.

Leather, Fur Unions To Merge

Atlantic City, May 8—Proposed merger of the Intl. Fur Workers Union and the Natl. Leather Workers Assn., both CIO affiliates, is expected to win the approval of delegates to the fur workers convention, which opened here yesterday.

The union's general executive board, meeting just before the convention opened, voted unanimously to recommend the amalagamation plan to the delegates.

NLWA APPROVED

Previously the membership of the leather association voted in a secret ballot for the merger. The association, which held its convention at Lynn, Mass., last week, has a membership of well over 4,500 in several tanning centers throughout the east. The fur workers have close to 50,000 members.

The new organization will be known as the Intl. Fur and Leather Workers Union of the United States and Canada, and will consist of two divisions, one for each industry.

CIO approval of the merger has already been given to the two unions, which have had the matter under discussion for several months. The action, it is pointed out, will eliminate jurisdictional disputes arising from the overlapping work of tanning fur skins and tanning leather hides, both of which processes are often carried out in the same factory.

The leather workers' union's national committee is headed by James Chenery and its secretary-treasurer is Daniel J. Boyle. Ben Gold is president of the fur workers.

Pledge Aid To Miners

New York, May 6—A resolution pledging full cooperation and support to the United Mine Workers in their present dispute over a contract in the Appalachian field, was voted unanimously by the four regional councils of the Industrial Insurance Agents Union, composed of 300 office chairmen representing 3000 agents in greater New York.

The union is affiliated with the United Office and Professional Workers, CIO.

Akron Cops Attack Strikers, Injure Four

AKRON, May 6.—Striking rubber workers demanding wage cut restorations were savagely attacked by police as they picketed a trainload of goods leaving the Loewenthal Co. plant here.

Police surrounded the pickets, arbitrarily ordered them to disperse, and suddenly swept down on the strikers when they maintained their lines.

Steve Oziomek, president of Local 41, United Rubber Workers, was clubbed to the ground by three policemen and then kicked into a ditch.

Estel Nay, a one-armed striker, was clubbed into a ditch and was unconscious when he was removed to the hospital.

Two others were injured so badly as to require hospital treatment.

LIKE STORM TROOPERS

Oziomek declared that "the actions of the police were more like those of Nazi storm troopers than American guardians of law and order."

"WILL NEVER FORGET"

"The workers at Loewenthal will never forget this morning. Last year we believed the company's statement that it needed a wage reduction to stay in business and keep the workers employed. We granted them the cut—which wiped out all our gains of four years—and then, two weeks later, 30 men were laid off.

"We have tried almost daily in the last two months to get that cut restored. We even offered a compromise on restoration, but the company refused to listen to our proposals.

"Against our wishes we were compelled to strike. We are going to stay on strike until our wages are restored.

"If this treatment is what we get for cooperating with the company, it is going to be a long, long time before we do it again."

25 Awards

Photo shows the medal which will be awarded to 25 members of the National Maritime Union for participating in spectacular rescues at sea last winter. Mayor LaGuardia will present the medals on the front steps of the Marine Bldg. at the New York's World Fair.

To Open Hearings On LaFollette Bill

WASHINGTON, May 5.—Hearings are expected to open within the next week on the Oppressive Labor Practices Act of 1939, introduced in the Senate by the LaFollette-Thomas Civil Liberties Committee.

Based on the committee's findings during the last two and a half years, the bill would post heavy penalties on those who employ and those who hire out labor spies, strikebreakers, industrial munitions and private armies.

Named to the subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, which will conduct the hearings, were Senators LaFollette and Thomas, as well as Pepper of Florida, Hill of Alabama and Borah of Idaho.

Hearings are expected to last only a short time. Union members should send letters to members of the committee asking for an early and favorable report on the bill.

CIO Attacks Concentration Camp Bill

Washington, May 6—The CIO is opposed to a bill just passed in the House of Representatives calling for the arrest of deported aliens who can't get passports from their native lands, according to a letter sent to all Congressmen by Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel.

The result of this bill, Pressman said, "would be that such individuals would be placed in concentration camps for the rest of their lives. This procedure is a violation of the fundamental principles of justice and in contravention of our constitutional guarantees."

THREAT TO LIBERTIES

Pressman pointed out that adequate federal and state police regulations already exist to take care of aliens who have violated the laws of the U. S.

"We feel that the civil liberties of all citizens of our country are menaced when such unconstitutional measures are directed against aliens," he continued, "and we know that frequently alien bills are used to intimidate and threaten workers who are exercising their ordinary rights to join with their fellow workers in the improvement of their living conditions."

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II May 8, 1939 No. 19

Labor Is Yet To Be Heard

The alliance of AFL leaders with the worst enemies of labor in the campaign to amend the Wagner Act becomes more and more obvious as the Senate hearings progress.

The Walsh amendments, sponsored by William Green, are similar in so many respects to those advanced by the National Association of Manufacturers that some kind of an alliance has been long suspected.

Now CIO President John L. Lewis has announced he has documentary evidence that the Green-Walsh amendments were prepared in actual collaboration with representatives of anti-labor manufacturers.

At the hearings, Senator Burke, who has embodied the NAM demands in his own documents, has not hesitated to show his friendliness for Green and his amendments.

The more reactionary Senators act like father-protectors for their little friends, the AFL spokesmen.

And well they may, for the amendments which Green advances would weaken if not destroy the Wagner act, by allowing employers to interfere in many ways with the workers' free choice of union representation.

Green and some of his associates have testified — for the manufacturers. But the true voice of labor is yet to be heard.

Labor's voice will be heard when the opposition to all proposed amendments of the Wagner Act is expressed by CIO, AFL and railroad brotherhood spokesmen.

Apex Case Threatens All Labor

The $700,000 damage verdict won by the Apex Hosiery Company of Philadelphia against Branch 1 of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers represents a threat to every labor union in the country.

If this verdict is upheld in higher courts, no union can feel free to exercise its lawful rights in strikes without danger of possible prosecution and triple damage suits under the Sherman anti-trust act.

The issue involved in the Apex case is not the sit-down strike, nor the claimed damages to the company's plant. It is whether the Sherman act is to be prostituted to union-busting purposes, or to be used as it was intended to curb the predatory powers of big corporations which use monopoly control to prey upon the people. The anti-trust law itself specifically states that it shall not apply to labor unions.

Where corporations are concerned, the courts have frequently held that they must control nearly 100 per cent of an industry to be found guilty under the Sherman act. Yet in the Apex case, which involved only 3% of the industry, the union was found guilty of "restraint of trade."

The CIO has pledged its full support to the Hosiery Workers to aid in winning a reversal of this vicious anti-labor decision. It is launching a movement for amendment of the Sherman act to protect union rights. Every labor union in the country should join in the protest and in demanding protection against such suits which are designed to bankrupt and destroy them.

Heroes And Strikers

When the crew of the SS. Esso Baytown rescued the passengers of the Bermuda air-liner Cavalier, which sank in the sea, the papers were full of accounts of their heroism.

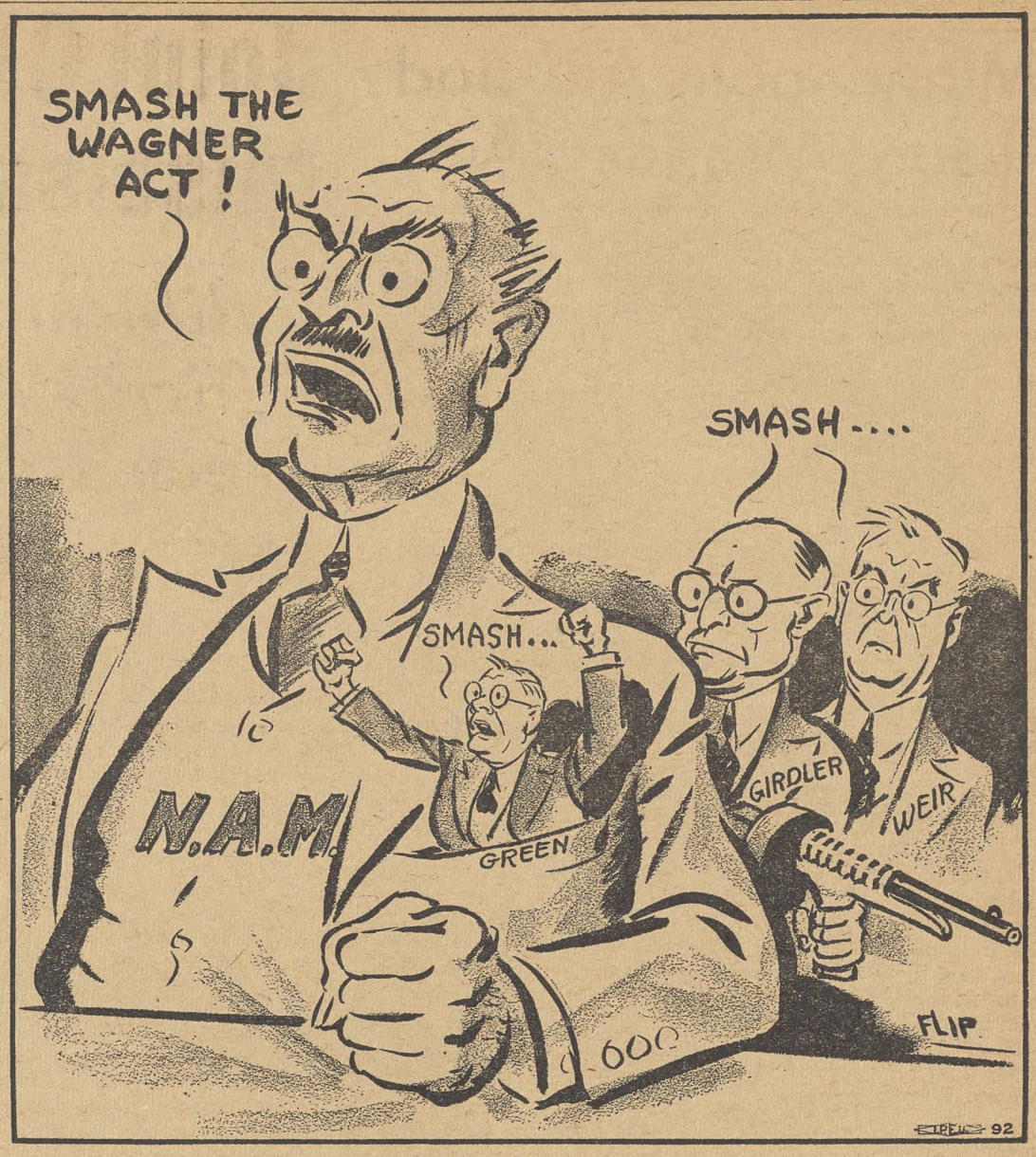
Their pictures were seen in movie newsreels as well as the press, the radio told their story, and the whole world rightly acclaimed their brave deeds.

But when these same heroes, all members of the National Maritime Union, CIO, are compelled to go on strike for their union rights, a veil of silence falls over them.

The Esso Baytown heroes are demonstrating their courage today on the picket line. They have joined with the 5,000 seamen on strike against Standard Oil of New Jersey, Socony-Vacuum, Tidewater Oil and C. D. Mallory.

Standard Oil, their employers, which not long ago acclaimed their heroism, now denounces their activities and seeks to break their union. They picket with banners saying "Heroes Yesterday, Strikers Today," but the business press does not now consider their pictures and their banners newsworthy.

Yet yesterday these heroes saved the lives of but a few persons; today they are fighting to preserve the living standards and the rights of thousands of workers and their families.



Little Sir Echo

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

On the Spot

WILLIAM GREEN was on the spot when he testified before the Senate committee for his amendments of the Wagner Labor Act.

Red-faced and flustered, he was like a small boy trying to recite but not sure of his lines. His attempts at emphasis sounded more than unusually mechanical and misplaced.

The Senators were courteous and friendly. Senators Taft and Walsh made a point of helping him out when he got in a jam. AFL attorney Joseph Padway was there to prompt him. And he had the moral support of organized manufacturers and the reactionary press.

But still Green looked as if he were on the spot—and he was.

He was on the spot, because he knew the CIO had the goods on him when John L. Lewis charged his amendments were prepared in collaboration with anti-labor manufacturers.

He was on the spot, because he knew the rank and file of the AFL were not with him.

Above all, he was on the spot because he knew he had a hopelessly bad case which all his shouting and arm-waving could not conceal.

Lewis had charged publicly, offering documentary proof, that Green's amendments had been prepared with the aid, advice and counsel of the National Association of Manufacturers and of several of the most reactionary and anti-labor corporations of the country."

Green tried to bluster his way out with an attack on Lewis and with a denial that he personally had conferred or counseled with representatives of NAM corporations.

Padway, however, admitted he had consulted "lawyers with employers as clients" and said that some of them had suggested "excellent amendments."

Both tried to offset in advance, by partial denial and partial admission, the documentary evidence which the CIO will produce in support of its charges.

Green claimed that all his amendments, except the proposal for a new five-man labor board, were authorized by the Houston AFL convention.

Yet comparison of the amendments with the convention decisions which Green put in the record, will show a number that are not in any sense covered by the Houston authorization.

In any case, all the convention did was to authorize certain changes in general terms. The specific amendments in the Walsh bill were never submitted to any convention.

Representatives of anti-labor manufacturers were consulted in their drafting, as the CIO will show, but AFL unions like the Machinists have complained they had no opportunity to pass on them.

Even if actual evidence of collusion were not available, the Green amendments are so similar to those of the NAM that they are on their face more a manufacturers' than a labor program.

Senator Burke, bitterest foe of the Wagner Act, whose amendments embody the maximum program of the NAM, did not conceal his fellow-feeling for Green.

When the AFL president said he had heard "my good friend, Senator Burke" was allied with the NAM, Burke replied: "I've heard rumors to that effect. I'm glad to welcome you to the company."

Burke welcomed Green even more cordially to the anti-labor ranks when he shook hands with him after the hearings and said:

"Now that we are laboring in a common cause I want to congratulate you on your fine presentation. I will be glad to support you in any way that is not prejudicial to your cause."

Green waxed more than usually emotional when he sought to deny that AFL unions could play the role of company unions.

For that is what he is actually proposing.

His amendments would allow employers to "interfere" with their employes' choice of a union. They would allow company strawbosses to influence elections. They would forbid the Labor Board to outlaw contracts signed by an employer with an organization which he and not the workers has chosen. And they would remove a number of other protections against company unionism.

What other motive could an AFL leader have in proposing such amendments than the hope that employers will use their new power to pick AFL unions for their company purposes?

Green attempted to deny that there is a widespread revolt among AFL members against his program. But the evidence is increasing daily, and will be submitted to the Senate committee in detail, that AFL as well as CIO workers strongly prefer to choose their own unions, and are opposed to the Green-NAM amendments which would permit employers to tell them which union to join.

Murray On Radio May 9

WASHINGTON. — Vice-President Philip Murray of the CIO will discuss "Why the Wagner Act Should Not Be Amended" in a nation-wide broadcast over the Columbia Broadcasting System on Tuesday, May 9, at 9:45 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Minneapolis AFL Body Lauds Wagner Act

MINNEAPOLIS, May 6.—The Central Labor Union here, representing more than 25,000 members of the AFL, is opposed to any changes in the Wagner Labor Relations Act, describing proposed amendments as acting "in behalf of the employers and not of labor."

The position was taken in a resolution unanimously passed at a recent meeting, which said in part:

"The Wagner Relations Act has proven to be an instrumentality which has definitely aided labor.

"The employers throughout the nation are now seeking to amend the law so as to transform it into an instrument against labor.

"The Minneapolis Central Labor Union goes on record against any amendments to said Wagner Labor Relations Act which will only act in behalf of the employers and not labor."

Principal affiliates of the central body are the Teamsters and the Building Trades Workers.

CIO Asks Nationwide Campaign To Reverse Apex Decision

HARRISBURG, Pa., May 6.—Citing the record of William Green and the top leadership of the AFL in siding against the workers in the Apex Hosiery case, in the Wagner Act fight, in the struggle of the United Mine Workers with the coal operators, and in swallowing Homer Martin, and other renegades John Brophy, national CIO director, charged here that Green and his henchmen "have deliberately tried to hold down the living standards of millions of American workers."

The assertion was made in the keynote speech delivered by Brophy to the second annual convention of the Pennsylvania Industrial Union Council, and was heard by 600 delegates representing more than 500,000 CIO workers in the state.

"This is a serious charge," Brophy said. "It is made seriously, and it is the essence of our criticism of those leaders in the AFL. The record proves the charge."

Green's suspicion and hatred of the CIO go back to 1935, Brophy pointed out, and all his subsequent actions bear out the record. "When the courts lent themselves to tory interests in an effort to stop the march of organized labor," he declared, "we find Bill Green stupidly and blindly exulting over the decision in the Apex case because he thought it was confined to the CIO But it goes much further than that.

"The $700,000 damage suit which was won by the Apex Hosiery Co. against Branch 1 of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers constitutes a threat to the entire labor movement of America.

1,000 Sign Telegram, Laud Act

Cleveland, May 5.—A telegram containing nearly 1,000 signatures of Clevelanders demanding no amendments to the Wagner Act was sent to Senator Elbert D. Thomas, chairman of the Senate Education and Labor committee this week by the Cleveland Union Leader, weekly newspaper of the Cleveland Industrial Union Council.

The flood of signatures poured into the office of the newspaper after it called upon trade unionists to fill out a coupon and mail it along with a nickel to add their names to the telegram.

Not only CIO members, but AFL unionists and small business men added their names and nickels for the sending of the big telegram.

Shutdown Closes Mines

Continued from page three

age stage in many localities.

STATE PAYMENTS

At Baltimore, the Maryland Unemployment Compensation Board released payments of about $85 to each of 1,400 idle miners, with the payments to be made in weekly allotments. The state's action follows similar steps in Pennsylvania and Tennessee, although West Virginia and Virginia have ignored the union's plea that the present idleness is not a strike but a stoppage of work pending the settlement of terms in the new agreement.

Pennsylvania's Republican administration, however, has forced the relief recipients to sign a bond of $5,000 so that, if they have earning power of more than $90 a month, they will be forced to return the money to the state or forfeit the bond.

upon the terms of a new contract. The mine owners have been seeking abolition of the 30-hour week and other improvements won by the union in recent years.

The anthracite shutdown will result if union and employer negotiators are unable to agree

Joint CIO-AFL Action Hits Mississippi Barge Lines

ST. LOUIS, Mo., May 6.—Joint CIO - AFL action on the Federal Barge Lines here is putting up stiff resistance against attempts to return this government owned company to open-shop conditions, as the Inland Boatmen's Union, CIO, and the International Longshoremen's Ass'n, AFL, keep 5,000 dock and river workers on strike along the Mississippi.

The strike, called by the Joint River Workers Council, was provoked by refusal of Major General T. Q. Ashburn, Barge Lines head, to negotiate for contract renewal unless the unions agreed to drop all mention of union hiring and by a flat refusal even to discuss wage increases.

PROVOCATIONS

Other provocations by the management, according to the Joint CIO-AFL Council, include attempts to ship scab crews, refusal to pay agreed scales, firings for union activity, blacklisting workers, promotion of company unionism, and breaking of seniority rules, all in violation of the agreement with the unions.

Signing of the Mississippi Valley Barge Lines by the Council was hailed by Felix Siren, CIO, chairman of the Council and Harold Spies, AFL, secretary, as evidence that the unions will work with the employers when the latter are willing to cooperate.

A letter has been sent to Louis Johnson, assistant secretary of war, outlining the situation and demanding the removal of the reactionary Major - General and other anti-union officers of the lines.

California Labor Official Attacks Green's Proposals

San Francisco, May 5—George G. Kidwell, California commissioner of industrial relations and longtime leader of the AFL Bakery Wagon Drivers Union of this city, is on record today as flatly opposed to all amendments to the Wagner Act.

Kidwell made it plain that the changes suggested by the AFL's top leadership are included in his denunciation of the suggested changes in the Act.

MEMBERS OPPOSED

"I do not believe that the changes sought by the Federation will meet with the approval of the members of the unions affiliated with the AFL," the commissioner wrote to the Commonwealth Club, liberal organization here.

"I believe these amendments were conceived in a fit of anger during what I consider to be an abnormal state of mind in the labor movement.

"They are sought in order to kill a rival labor movement. I believe that a calmer view and a more comprehensive view of the labor movement in its relations to America should and will prevail.

"Nothing I have read or seen inclines me to the view that the National Labor Relations Act needs an amendment."

Defend Union

Continued from page three

frontal attack on the life of the union. Chief issue involved is the preferential hiring system and wage increases. Preferential hiring has been in effect for some time in all ports except New York.

Preferential hiring gives the union a voice in the way men shall be hired—it isn't the closed shop, as the companies try to claim. It does protect the union, and this is why the companies had to eliminate it if their attack on the union was to succeed.

"It was therefore absolutely necessary for the union," according to a recent statement of the NMU," in order to halt this contemplated attack to get preferential hiring firmly planted in the proposed contract. We could not retreat from this position, although we did agree to certain exceptions in the preferential list. The crews demanded that the negotiators stand fast."

So Standard, that had nothing but praise for its workers when they rescued the passengers of the Cavalier, has nothing but scabs and police clubs and tear gas for the same men when they go out on strike to protect their union and their livelihood.

In Boston, Mass., Republican police opened fire with tear and vomit gas and started swinging billies on NMU pickets. Dozens of men were hurt, more arrested, and a playground full of kids in the neighborhood put to flight.

Unions Kids Do Their Stuff

They're lusty singers, these children of members of the CIO Transport Workers Union in New York City. They're performing at a recent union party.

Push 'Baby' Wagner Act

Providence, R. I., May 6.—Aided by joint action with the state AFL, the CIO Industrial Union Council here is pressing hard for enactment of a state "baby Wagner Act" in the Rhode Island General Assembly, according to Joseph Mayo, CIO subregional director.

The bill has already passed the lower house, and labor is working to get it out of the Senate Finance Committee where it is now under consideration.

CERTIFY UAW

Washington, May 6—Based on cards signed by the employes naming as their desired union, Local 80, United Automobile Workers, CIO, the National Labor Relations Board has certified the union as sole bargaining agency for hourly rated production employes and gang leaders of the Germer Manufacturing Co., Detroit, Mich.

Ohio Typo Union Raps Amendments

MANSFIELD, Ohio, May 6—Delegates to the semi-annual Ohio Typographical conference held here recently, representing practically every Typographical local in the state, went on record in favor of disregarding the wishes of AFL President William Green, and voted to oppose any change in the Wagner Labor Act.

Green Defends AFL's Stooge Unions, Has Poor Case Against Act

WASHINGTON, May 5.—Pink-cheeked President William Green of the American Federation of Labor, wound up a two-day assault on the Wagner Labor Relations Act with a spirited defense of AFL company-unionism and a plea that Congress change the labor law to help the federation's leaders continue more effectively their flank attack upon industrial unions.

Green's testimony was pleasing to foes of the Act. As he concluded his speech, Sen. Burke of Nebraska, most outspoken foe of the Wagner Act, whose amendments embody the program of the National Association of Manufacturers, rushed over to the AFL president to shake hands.

"Now that we are laboring in a common cause I want to congratulate you on your fine presentation," he said. "I will be glad to support you in any way that is not prejudicial to your cause."

Green had just finished reading a lengthy reply to charges by CIO president John L. Lewis that the Walsh amendment, which Green sponsored, were "prepared with the aid, advice and counsel of the Natl. Association of Manufacturers and of several of the most reactionary and anti-labor corporations of the country."

Green's reply was an attack on Lewis and a denial that he personally had conferred or counselled with NAM representatives. Joseph Padway, AFL counsel, who followed Green on the stand, admitted that he had consulted with "lawyers with employers as clients" and that some of them had suggested "excellent amendments."

OFTEN FLUSTERED

Green proved an uncertain champion of his amendments. While he stuck to the text of his 38-page statement, he seemed on reasonably safe ground, but when peppered by questions from Senators Thomas and Ellender, Green often appeared to be badly confused and very much on the defensive.

Frequently, Sen. David Walsh of Massachusetts, who introduced the Green amendments, was forced to rush to his rescue and to place the answers to questions in Green's mouth.

TAFT HELPS GREEN

It was Sen. Ellender of Louisiana who most frequently embarrassed Green with his questioning about AFL company-unionism. Sen. Robert Taft, Ohio tory Republican, several times sprang to the AFL president's defense.

Green was particularly weak in his attempts to defend his amendments which would permit employers "to interfere" in their employes' choice of a union and would permit foremen to use their influence to sway the workers' votes. Some of the senators were frankly skeptical of Green's claims that foremen who campaigned for one particular organization could not unduly influence the workers on the employers' behalf, since there is a secret ballot.

LaFOLLETTE TAKES ISSUE

Sen. LaFollette took issue particularly with Padway, when he followed Green, on the Green-Walsh amendment that would remove the word "interfere" from the list of actions forbidden to employers.

"Congress must guard against taking any steps which will play into the hands of that powerful but recalcitrant minority of employers who have refused to accept in good faith the principles of the Act," LaFollette said.

"It seems to me that the net effect of your amendment would be to free an employer to use his influence where employes are faced with the choice of two unions. Because of their past experience, employes often feel that is is best for them to do what the employer prefers they should do."

Affidavit By Lewis Hits Martin

Detroit, May 5.—Charges by Homer Martin that CIO leaders entered into a conspiracy against the former leader of the United Automobile Workers were described as "untrue and perversions of facts" in an affidavit filed in Wayne County court here by attorneys acting for John L. Lewis.

The affidavit is part of the proceedings in the injunction suit brought by Martin against the UAW-CIO. Court action has been postponed until May 9.

REVELATION

Lewis makes a hitherto unpublished revelation in the affidavit when he stated that it was Martin, who asked him to appoint an administrator over the union to cure internal troubles. Martin made the request, Lewis charged, in his hotel room at Lansing, Mich., on April 6, 1937. The CIO leader said he replied that he would be glad to consider any request from the UAW board.

He likewise made it clear that he intervened in the union's affairs only on request from its leaders, and that he attended the Milwaukee convention of the UAW in 1937 at Martin's invitation.

Times Head Refuses To Sign Pact

New York, May 5—Like the girl who would rather die than say "yes," Publisher Arthur Hays Sulzberger would rather sell his New York Times than recognize the American Newspaper Guild.

Hearings ended this week, in their second month.

As one of the paper's three trustees, and committed to preserving its "impartiality," Sulzberger told a National Labor Relations Board hearing of his opposition to a Guild agreement.

COSTS $750 A DAY

The hearing, now in its 57th day, is based on a Guild complaint of discrimination against union members, and the firing of two of them. During the almost daily sessions, which are costing the Times an estimated $750 in fancy legal fees, charges of espionage and firm opposition to unionization of the editorial staff have been heard.

The Times staff has taken a position that it would show "bias" towards labor by signing a Guild contract. This argument, frequently used by publishers in the early days of the Guild, has been heard in diminishing frequency in recent months.

FIRED MEN LISTEN

"We've never opposed unionism," Sulzberger said, while only a few feet away sat Fred Jaeger and Leonard Goldsmith, both of whom have charged that their discharge from the paper was due to their union activities.

Though the paper claims it prints all the news fit to print, no story on the NLRB hearing has appeared in its columns.

Assail Act's Foes

Elmer Brown (left) vice-president of Local 6, Intl. Typographical Union, AFL affiliate, and Allan S. Haywood, CIO director in New York, shown during a recent demonstration against Wagner Act amendments. Brown attacked the position taken by Pres. Green of the AFL.

Chicago Typo Union Offers Strike Mediation

CHICAGO, May 6. — The Chicago Typographical Union, AFL affiliate, moved today to bring about a settlement of the five-month strike of the American Newspaper Guild against the two Hearst papers here.

President Ralph Fischer of Local 16, ITU, invited representatives of the Guild and the Hearst management to avail themselves an offer from the printers' union to cooperate in "any way" to settle the strike.

Guild leaders immediately accepted the printers' offer.

The action followed a stormy meeting of the ITU local in which it over-rode demands of AFL Pres. William Green and John Fitzpatrick, head of the Chicago Federation of Labor, that it condemn the Guild and declare the Herald-Examiner and Evening American "fair" to organized labor.

On motion of Henry Rosemont, a printer employed on the Hearst papers, the membership voted down a resolution prepared by its local executive board and substituted one merely "deploring the prolongation" of the long Hearst strike.

The typographers and other mechanical workers on the American and Herald-Examiner, respecting their contracts, have continued to work on the two papers, but in almost every case have indicated sympathy for the Guild's strike for job security.

GREEN RESENTED UNITY

The fact that three members of the typo union are members of the "AFL Committee to Aid the Guild Strikers" infuriated Green and Fitzpatrick, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor. In refusing to repudiate the action of its members, the typographical local—second largest in the country—is risking expulsion from the city AFL body.

The Chicago Teachers Union, which had taken similar action in the face of Green-Fitzpatrick threats, has already been ex-expelled.

AFL big-wigs have tried to pass the Guild strike off as a "jurisdictional dispute" with a fake company-dominated AFL editorial workers organization, but few bona fide AFL unions in the Chicago area have heeded their arguments.

ADVERTISING SLIPS

In his attempt to help the management fight the Guild, Fitzpatrick lent his name to an advertising promotional circular prepared by the Hearst management. The letters, addressed to prospective advertisers, denies the existence of any bona fide labor dispute on the papers and declares that AFL unions have no dispute with the Hearst management.

Advertising space amounting to 2,826,798 agate lines has been lost by the two struck papers since last December, the Guild's Strike Committee estimates, with an estimated drop in revenue of $1,130,719.

Poll In Oregon AFL Area Shows Amendments Unpopular

PORTLAND, Ore., May 6.—A poll on the question of revising the Wagner Labor Relations Act conducted here by the News-Telegram, showed that two out of every three persons voting were opposed to any changes being made in the law.

Taken in a county where the membership of AFL unions outnumbers that of the CIO, the poll showed 66.7 per cent of the voters in favor of keeping the Labor Act as it is, to 33.3 per cent in favor of changing it, indicating that the majority of the AFL rank and file is definitely opposed to amendments.

Added significance is given to the poll from the fact that a vicious anti-labor initiative law was passed last November in Oregon, while in California and Washington, similar measures were defeated.

Spokesmen for labor point out that the newspaper which conducted the poll cannot be considered friendly to the Wagner Act, as "it has consistently published the usual misstatements about the Act and the National Labor Relations Board," in its attempt to influence its readers against the law.

INFORM COMMITTEE

Results of the poll were called to the attention of Senator Elbert D. Thomas, chairman of the Committee on Education and Labor, by Lee Coe, editor and manager of the Labor Newdealer. In a letter sent to the Senator, Coe said that it was his considered opinion the people of the United States want the act left as it is.

Some of the reasons for preserving the law listed by participants in the poll were:

"The Wagner labor act is the first national labor legislation ever enacted in the interest of wage earners."

"It was inevitable when this enlightened piece of legislation was passed that the forces of reaction would muster their ranks for an attack upon the law."

'NO TINKERING'

"No tinkering with the Wagner Act. The 'big boys' have had things their own way long enough."

"The figures of the National Labor Relations Board recently submitted to the Senate committee examining the act are sufficient argument for no revision at the present time."

"Amendment would take teeth from the Act."

"AFL amendments are based on partisan disgruntlement rather than on principles of justice."

"Testimony"

WASHINGTON, May 6—Representative Fred Hartley, Jr., of N. J., one of the sponsors of the AFL amendments to the Wagner Act in the House, was the first witness in House hearings on the Act.

His testimony consisted almost entirely of letters from anti-union manufacturers.

Mr. Dooley:

On The Open Shop

"'What's all this that's in the papers about the open shop?' asked Mr. Hennessey.

"'Why, don't ye know,' said Mr. Dooley. 'Really, I'm surprised at yer ignorance, Hinnissey. What is th' open shop. Sure, 'tis where they kape the doors open to accommodate th' constant stream av min comin' in t'take jobs cheaper than th' min what has th' jobs. 'Tis like this, Hinnissey. Suppose wan av these freeborn citizens is workin' in an open shop f'r th' princely wage av wan large iron dollar a day av tin hours. Along comes anither son-av-a-gun and he sez t' th' boss, "Oi think oi could handle th' job nicely f'r ninety cints."

'"Sure," sez th' boss, and th' wan dollar man gets out into th' crool worould t' exercise his inalienable roights as a freeborn American citizen an' scab on some other poor devil. An' so it goes on, Hinnissey. An' who gits th' benefit. Thrue, it saves th' boss money, but he don't care no more f'r money thin he does his right eye.

"'It's all principle wid him. He hates t' see men robbed av their indipindence. They must have their indipindence, regardless av anything else.'

"'But,' said Mr. Hennessey, 'these open-shop min ye menshun say they are f'r unions if properly conducted.'

"'Shure,' said Mr. Dooley, 'if properly conducted. An' there we are; an' how would they have thim conducted? No strikes, no rules, no contracts, no scales, hardly iny wages an' dam few members.'"

—From Finley Peter Dunne

H. Martin's Democracy

Pontiac, Mich., May 5.—Add to Homer Martin's concept of democracy:

Speaking at a freak Martin mass meeting in Pontiac recently, Pat McCartney, Martin goon leader and notorious Dies Committee witness, shouted, shaking his fists:

"Any man in this hall who disagrees with our president, Martin, will be kicked out of here."

FLANKED BY FLAGS

McCartney was flanked by three American flags—symbols of free speech! Discredited Homer Martin, sitting on the platform, smiled his approval of McCartney's inflammatory language.

One unionist was chased out of the hall and threatened with bodily harm because he tried to ask why Martin had changed his views on the AFL.

Gotham's Wholesale Employes Keep Their Union Activities Moving At A Merry Clip

NEW YORK, May 6.—The history of the CIO is essentially a story of workers' actions, of workers' initiative, of workers' capabilities.

The spot where these equalities can best be seen is in the local unions themselves — and Local 65 of the United Retail and Wholesale Employes of America is as good a demonstration as any of a livewire CIO local in action.

To show what it has been doing, the local's educational department has just issued a well-designed pamphlet called "Local 65 In Action," which tells the story in words and pictures of the union's growth from 84 members in January, 1934, to 4,017 members in January, 1939.

The United Wholesale and Warehouse Employes—as the union calls itself—is proud of the fact that its membership constitutes an "army of volunteer organizers" which carries the message of unionism "through the wholesale and warehouse industry of the New York area."

EVERYBODY ORGANIZES

It continues: "Led by a general staff of six business agents, more than 300 rank and file leaders—the shop stewards—are steadily at work in the wholesale centers, bringing to unorganized workers the message of Local 65. . .

"But that tells only half the story. Behind this company of organizers stands the membership, 4,000 strong, practiced pickets, most of them, ready to volunteer their service in crucial times when contracts hang in the balance. At the call of the union, in their free time, from hundreds of offices, stock rooms and shipping rooms pour these minute men on the picket line—the most potent argument any employer knows for signing a contract with his employes."

Organizing and protecting gains is naturally the most important phase of Local 65's work—but it's by no means the only one.

A BIG PROGRAM

An educational program based on the motto of "study and play in the organized way" reaches just about every member. Take a look at some of Local 65's extra-curricular activities:

1. A school where members can bone up on labor history, learn how to improve their union.

2. A weekly dance class, with a paid instructor, for jitter-bugs, would-be jitter-bugs and just plain wall-flowers.

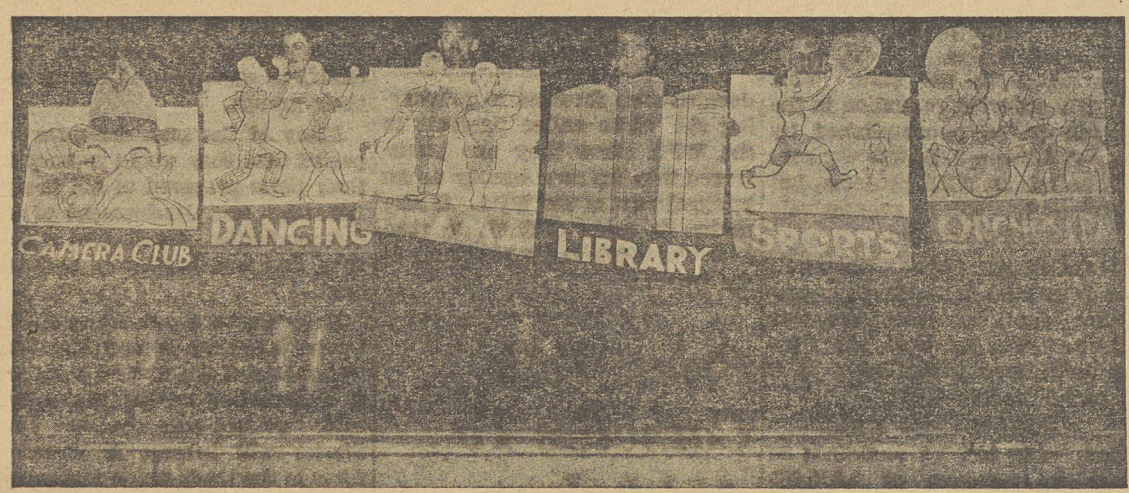
3. A dramatic group which brings to the members some well-produced presentations of skits and short plays.

4. A library where Mr. Unionman can browse in best-sellers or old classics.

5. A lively monthly newspaper. "New Voices," which gives a picture not only of the union's work, but the whole pattern of national and international events.

You think that's enough for one union? You're wrong. For you're forgetting about the Local 65 camera club, about the Local 65 orchestra, about the Local 65 sports program—basketball, swimming, baseball, ping-pong, bowling.

Parts of the Program



Above: Members of Local 65 hold placards showing their union's many-phased activities. Below: Local 65 mermen and mermaids prepare for a dive into the briny deep.

YOUR WPA JOB

By Ralph Hetzel, Jr.

Secretary, Committee on Unemployment

The Reorganization Order

The President's first order under the Reorganization Act of 1929, sent to Congress on April 25, is a very important one for the unemployed. Among other provisions, it sets up two coordinating agencies which deal directly with their problems.

The first is the Federal Security Agency, which is to consolidate the activities of the Social Security Board with those of the United States Employment Service. It will also have supervision over the National Youth Administration, the CCC, the Office of Education and the Public Health Service.

The second is the Federal Works Agency, which will include the PWA and the WPA, as well as the United States Housing Authority, the Bureau of Public Roads and the Public Buildings Branch of the Procurement Division.

CIO FAVORS MOVE

The CIO is decidedly in sympathy with this attempt to coordinate and make more efficient the activities of the various agencies created to alleviate unemployment. A resolution calling for such consolidation was part of the general unemployment program adopted at the CIO Convention.

Moreover, since this order calls for the transference of all the functions of the WPA to the new agency, it is decidedly superior to the Byrnes' Bill which it has replaced. The Byrnes' Bill would have seriously limited the functions of the WPA.

The reorganization order is a decided step forward in preserving the non-construction projects on the WPA, since they are transferred into the new agency as an integral part of the WPA. When the appropriation for the WPA for the next fiscal year comes up, it will be more difficult to dislodge them, since they have been recognized in this manner as being necessary for the full functioning of the work relief program. The new name of the WPA is the Work Projects Administration. It is a name which promises a broad program of projects.

HELPS FEDERAL PROGRAM

The reorganization order will also make it more difficult to turn over the work relief program to the states, as was suggested in the Byrnes Bill and various other similar bills which have been introduced this session. The present system of administering work relief through the Federal Government seems to have beeen considerably strengthened by this consolidation of the two largest work relief agencies.

As soon as it becomes more clear in detail how the reorganization order will affect the unemployed and the present WPA program, we expect to prepare a pamphlet which will explain it in detail.

As a solution of the problems of the WPA and the unemployed, however, the reorganization order is inadequate in itself.

STILL MUST FIGHT

Under the provisions of the Reorganization Act of 1939 the President cannot continue any activities or agencies beyond the limit set for them by law. The appropriation—and therefore the life—of the WPA ends on June 30, 1939. And the fight to gain an adequate appropriation for the WPA for the next fiscal year and to continue it in its present form is still to be fought.

At the present, however, there does not seem to be any substantial change in the function of the WPA. And the necessity for fighting for an adequate appropriation for the next fiscal year is, if anything, more urgent at the present time than ever.

The order enables the government to establish a coordinated long-time program. The blueprints are drawn. It is now necessary to create such a program by adequate appropriations.

Plan Drive In Cleveland

Cleveland, May 5.—An organizing drive which will concentrate all the best organizing forces of all CIO unions on certain key plants was being prepared here today by the Cleveland Industrial Union Council.

Under the plan all full-time organizers and volunteers from various unions will make up one large committee. This city-wide committee will be divided into districts near their homes. Subcommittees will be responsible for visiting unorganized workers in their particular district.

In addition, union members of various nationalities will hold city-wide mass meetings for workers of their particular nationality in a drive to get them all organized.

Papers Stuck with Yarn As Unions Stay in CIO

NEW YORK, May 5 — Incipient efforts to take a section of the organized barbers and beauticians in New York out of the CIO and into the AFL, boomeranged into a movement strengthening CIO organization and inaugurating a new unionization drive here recently.

Following newspaper reports headed "BARBERS READY TO QUIT CIO" a conference of representatives from each of the nine Barbers and Beauty Culturists local industrial unions in New York was held at the office of CIO Regional Director Allan S. Haywood.

The conference pledged unswerving fealty in the CIO, decided to set up a new joint council and a special organizing committee, headed by Haywood, to launch a new drive in the city. All locals were fully and officially represented.

New York newspapers failed to acknowledge receipt of a story detailing failure of the secession movement.

Big Rayon Firm Signs TWOC

New York, May 6.—The Duplan Silk Corporation, one of the largest rayon weaving and silk throwing concerns in the country, signed an agreement this week with the Textile Workers Organizing Committee, covering 3,500 workers in its plants at Hazleton, Wilkes-Barre, Berwick and Kingston, Pa.

The pact was signed on behalf of the union by Emil Rieve, executive director, and George Baldanzi, assistant director, following its ratification by the workers involved. It provides for a preferential union shop, an eight-hour day, 40-hour week, time and a half for overtime, and machinery for settling disputes.

Haling the agreement as being a substantial improvement over the previous contract which it replaces, Rieve said: "We have obtained a preferential union shop after a year's contractual relation with the Duplan Silk Corp., where previously we were simply the sole collective bargaining agent."

Nab Pay Law Chiseler In Baltimore

Baltimore, May 5—The first detected wage-hour law chiseler in Maryland, Leon J. Mogel, operator of the Eastern Shore Hosiery Mill at Berlin, has been permanently restrained from violating the law by a United States District Court injunction issued here.

The order, signed by Judge W. C. Chestnut, provides that Mogel must restore some $1,400 to his 45 underpaid employes. Mogel consented to the decree. He was also told to pay one worker fired for complaining of wages as low as 10 cents an hour, some $39.

Leo H. McCormick, Maryland wage-hour division representative, told the court that employes of the hosiery mill had been working as long as 50 and 60 hours a week, and that time-and-a-half for overtime, as required by the law, had not been paid.

Chemists Get Pact

San Francisco, May 5.—The first union contract in San Francisco for workers in chemical laboratories has been signed by the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists & Technicians, CIO affiliate, and the Pacific division of the Consolidated Chemicals Co.

It gives a 5-day, 40-hour week, 2-week vacation, 15-day annual sick leave, a month's dismissal pay, seniority and a union shop.

Support LaFollette Committee

Washington, May 6 — Prompt action to allot additional funds to the Senate Civil Liberties Committee was asked today by E. L. Oliver, executive vice-president of Labor's Non-Partisan League.

In a letter to the Senate Audit and Control Committee, which is now holding a resolution giving the LaFollette-Thomas subcommittee $100,000 to continue its investigating work, Oliver wrote:

"Our democracy has no greater protection than the right and duty vested in the Congress to pursue such investigations. They are our best means of safeguarding the welfare of our people from damage or destruction by powerful forces that do not or will not reveal their methods of operating to the public sight."

CIO Wins Oliver Plow Poll

CHARLES CITY, Ia., May 6 —A big victory was won by the United Farm Equipment Workers local here this week in an election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board among 1,000 Oliver Plow employes.

Negotiations for a contract, postponed until after the poll, were resumed this week with the union now in a strong position to win a good agreement.

150-VOTE MARGIN

With almost every eligible worker casting a ballot — 954 out of 1,003 employes were entitled to vote—Local 115 of the UFEW won out, 551 to 403, in spite of the fact that after the date of the election was announced, it had only one day in which to explain the issues to those still on the fence.

A sound truck and leaflets were used to carry the CIO union's message to all Oliver Plow employes during the few hours available. Local 115, a newcomer to the union field, was organized this year in a whirlwind 60-day campaign.

SEEK CONTRACT

Gerald Fielde, secretary-treasurer of the Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee, and George Eldridge, organizer, aided Local 115's negotiating committee in bargaining for a new contract.

Oliver Farm Equipment plants in South Bend, Ind., and Battle Creek, Mich. are already under CIO contracts. When an agreement is signed covering the Charles City works, all the company's plants will be 100% CIO.

WPA Cuts 200,000: Reorganization Lauded

WASHINGTON, May 6. — Some 200,000 WPA workers will lose their jobs in the next few days.

As a result of the cut in WPA funds engineered by Congressional tories, Col. F. C. Harrington, WPA administrator, sent wires to all state WPA officials ordering reduction in the payroll to be accomplished by May 8. Some 2,600,000 workers will be left on WPA projects, but their number will be successively cut in coming months.

Meanwhile, Pres. Roosevelt has requested Congress to appropriate one and three-quarters billion dollars for work relief for the next fiscal year, most of it to be allotted to WPA.

MILLION LESS JOBS

The sum will be sufficient to keep an average of 2,000,000 workers on WPA jobs during 1940—about a million less than the average for the 1939 fiscal year.

As a result of the President's reorganization plan, WPA will be brought into the new federal works agency, along with the PWA, the U. S. Housing Authority, the Bureau of Public Roads and the Public Buildings Branch of the Procurement Division.

HELPS WPA PROGRAM

In a letter to CIO representatives, Ralph Hetzel, unemployment director, pointed out that "the CIO is decidedly in sympathy with this attempt to coordinate the activities of the various agencies created to alleviate unemployment. . . .

"The reorganization order is a decided step forward in preserving the white collar projects in the WPA since they are transferred into the new agency as an integral part of the WPA. It also makes it more difficult to turn over the work relief program to the states."

Priest Tells Catholics To Aid Labor

Washington, May 6.—Catholics should "get into the parade and go down the road with the laboring man" in the opinion of the Most Reverend Robert E. Lucey, Bishop of Amarillo, Tex., in a statement made public here.

"Our attitude toward labor appears at times to be aloof and detached," Bishop Lucey said. "As organized labor marches down the highway of its destiny, we seem to stand by the roadside, offering comment and criticism. Sometimes we hand the men flowers, sometimes brickbats. In either case, our position is wrong.

"I think we ought to get into the parade and go down the road with laboring men. We should be with them, for them, of them. They belong to us and we to them."

Win Taxi Contract

Heads of the Transport Workers Union's taxi division mapping out plans for discussions with owners of New York City's cab fleets. The union won wage increases in the new agreement, signed shortly before a strike was to start.

Labor Board Moves Against Bethlehem

SAN FRANCISCO, May 8.—The National Labor Relations Board regional office will open hearings today on a complaint charging the Bethlehem Steel Corporation with violating the Wagner Act in four of its Pacific Coast branch plants.

The company, according to the Board's charges, initiated, supported, dominated and interfered with its "Plan of Employe Representation," the company union at factories in South San Francisco, Alameda and Los Angeles, Calif., and Seattle, Wash.

Some months ago an NLRB trial examiner found the company guilty of Wagner Act violation on much the same charges at its main plant in Johnstown, Pa. The examiner's report is now awaiting formal decision by the Board.

Charges against the company were filed by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee.

West Coast Auxiliaries Growing Fast

San Francisco, Cal., May 6—Activities of the women's auxiliaries in the International Longsoremen's and Warehousemen's Union were spurred up following the second annual ILWU convention held here in April. For the first time, the women's groups were represented at the convention by 12 fraternal delegates.

Auxiliary representatives pointed out to the men the need of supporting the women in their efforts to organize and strengthen their groups.

Many of the men delegates reported that they would go back to their ports prepared to aid in the formation and development of ladies auxiliaries, the need of which they had not previously appreciated.

Ruby Heide, representing ILWU Ladies Auxiliary 9, and Maritime Federation of the Pacific Auxiliary 2, in reporting on the convention said, "we feel sure that the auxiliaries will become a powerful force in the trade union movement and that our trade union brothers will feel there is not one, but two shoulders to the wheel."

ILWU ACTION

San Francisco, May 6.—Resolutions in favor of the social security laws and requesting that James B. McNamara, labor prisoner who has been in Folsom prison for 28 years be transferred to San Quentin, were referred to the national CIO for action at its next convention, by the delegates to the convention of the Intl. Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union which met here in April.

CASKET STRIKE

Erie, Pa. — Members of the United Furniture Workers, CIO, struck the Erie Casket Co. here, when the company refused to negotiate. The plant employs 70 workers.

Hearst Signs Guild Pact In Los Angeles, Lifts Pay

LOS ANGELES, May 5.—William Randolph Hearst's payroll on the Los Angeles Evening Herald & Express zipped up $140,000 a year today as the result of a new contract won by the Los Angeles Newspaper Guild.

The agreement broadened a previous pact covering editorial workers alone, and brought advertising and commercial department workers under Guild protection. Almost 475 workers are covered by the contract.

The five-day, 40-hour work week was established throughout the paper, with a few minor exceptions, while the minimum salary rate for editorial workers with five years' experience jumped from $50 to $55 a week. Display advertising salesmen will receive a minimum of $60 a week—which in some cases means a raise of $25 weekly.

Members of the Guild unit voted to send their first week's raises to the American Newspaper Guild's defense fund.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 20 | May 15, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

MINERS BREAK LONG LOCKOUT, WIN GAINS

The News In Brief

(*See Stories on Inside Pages*)

Alliance

Washington. — Leaders of the AFL have joined with reactionaries in the hope of defeating the New Deal in the 1940 elections, Vice-Pres. Philip Murray of the CIO charged in a nationwide radio broadcast.

Trainmen

Cleveland.—Sharp criticism of all amendments to the Wagner Act was voiced in a resolution passed at an early session of the convention of the unaffiliated Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.

Textile

Philadelphia. — The Textile Workers Organizing Committee has been successful in raising wages $1,200,000 a week, Chairman Sidney Hillman reported to the first TWOC convention here.

Apex Case

Washington.—The Sherman Anti-Trust Act must be amended to protect labor unions from "restraint of trade" damage suits, the CIO declared as it announced formation of a committee to fight the notorious Apex decision.

Packinghouse

Chicago. — The Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee launched a drive to win a contract with Armour & Co. and complete organization of the industry.

Convention

Maritime Federation of the Pacific, Everett, Wash., June 5.

Rhode Island CIO Tells Congress Stand on Bills

Pawtucket, R. I., May 13—The Rhode Island State Industrial Union Council paused in its successful organizing activities at its meeting here to swing all affiliates behind the CIO state and national legislative programs.

The Council urged Congress to appropriate adequate funds for the continuation of WPA, called for the continuation of the La-Follette Committee, opposed all amendments to the Wagner Act and endorsed the United Mine Workers stand in the present coal negotiations.

'As It Was And Ever Shall Be'

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Homer Martin, former leader of the United Automobile Workers who is trying to lead a slender rump of that organization into the AFL, is bumping into expected difficulties.

AFL President Green pointed out here that the charter to be presented to Martin will not be completely industrial, but will be the same as the one against which the nation's auto workers rebelled three years ago.

Thus, Martin's "union" will not be granted jurisdiction over tool and die makers, pattern makers, independent parts manufacturing plants, the aircraft industry or farm equipment plants. The UAW-CIO has almost completely organized most of these industries.

Steel Pacts Help Men In War Service

Buffalo, N. Y., May 13.—Protection of workers' seniority in event of wartime military service is being written into Steel Workers Organizing Committee contracts in this area.

The contract declares in part:

"In the event an employe of the company terminates his employment because of war, he shall retain his seniority and his rights for rehire and same shall be accorded to him on request."

Nathan E. Cowan, SWOC subregional director here, points out that "we deem the provision very important and necessary when one considers present unsettled conditions throughout the world."

Labor Board Report Hits Wilson Line

Philadelphia, Pa., May 13—Recommendation that a company union backed by Wilson Line, Inc., operator of excursion steamers, be ordered abolished was made in an intermediate report issued by a trial examiner for the National Labor Relations Board here.

The examiner also recommended that the company be ordered to stop discouraging membership in two CIO unions—the Maine Engineers' Beneficial Association, and the Harbor Boatmen's union of the Inland Boatmen, and one AFL group, the Masters, Mates and Pilots.

Pres. Lewis Secures Union Shop

(*See Story Page Three*)

NEW YORK, May 12.—The United Mine Workers of America, led by President John L. Lewis, today swept to a mighty victory, smashing a 7-week lockout of 340,000 men and winning the union shop and exclusive bargaining rights.

An agreement providing for the union shop was reached by the subcommittees representing miners and operators, and was awaiting ratification late Friday evening.

Settlement of the lockout came less than 48 hours after representatives of the union and the operators had conferred at the White House with President Roosevelt.

The UMW has demanded the union shop and recognition as sole bargaining agency in order to forestall attempted chiselling by the AFL Progressive Miners, who have sent organizers into eastern coal fields in the hope of creating disruption in the ranks of the country's largest and most powerful union.

Lewis Urges WPA Jobs For Three Million

WASHINGTON, May 13.—CIO President John L. Lewis today called upon Congress to insure an average of at least 3,000,000 WPA jobs during the next fiscal year.

Declaring that this number constitutes "a minimum of safety," Lewis said that "the four million members of the CIO, and, I believe, the great mass of AFL members and of the unemployed will join the CIO in support of such a minimum program."

The Lewis letter was addressed to Rep. Edward Taylor, chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, and requested that that group take immediate action to cope with the problem of unemployment.

'MOST URGENT' TASK

"Reports reaching my office from all parts of the nation indicate that the obligation to provide jobs for America's unemployed is still the most urgent one before Congress," he said.

The CIO leader emphasized that the request for 3,000,000 jobs was a minimum demand, though taking into consideration the effects of other government spending programs.

"Any attempt to establish an effective program fully to meet the need of the unemployed in this country would find itself speaking in terms of far vaster figures," he reminded Rep. Taylor. "We ask for 3,000,000 jobs not as a figure to be reduced by bargaining with those who would destroy the WPA but as figure based upon the real floor of unemployment."

Lewis urged Congress to abolish the "degrading means test" for eligibility to WPA, guarantee jobless workers the right to organize, allow WPA to develop projects suited to the "needs and skills" of all unemployed workers, provide that all projects be "socially useful and productive" and maintain wages at a level high enough to protect the American standard of living set by labor organizations.

Thugs Defended by Green

The men with the guns in the truck are members of the AFL-company union at Westwood, Calif. The truck, as indicated on the door, is the property of the Red River Lumber Co. The unionists shown here were out looking for CIO members, scores of whom they ran out of town last year with their wives and families when they tried to fight a 17½% wage cut.

In Washington, Pres. Green of the AFL and Joseph Padway, its general counsel, defended this union, attacked the National Labor Relations Board for suspecting it of company domination. *(See Story Page Six)*

Montana, Utah CIO Councils Hold Conventions

Montana

GREAT FALLS, Montana, May 13.—Delegates representing more than 10,000 Montana members of CIO affiliates completed a two-day convention at the Carpenters Hall here. More than 50 delegates attended and represented locals of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, United Mine Workers of America, State, County and Municipal Workers of America, Newspaper Guild, Agricultural and Cannery Workers' and a number of local industrial unions.

The convention was presided over by Sylvester Graham, president. Other officers include: Mike Ryan, vice-president; John Clark, secretary; Frank Holman, Paul Fall, Jr., and Randell Carpenter, board members.

The report of the officers showed a substantial gain in the growth of the Council in the past year. Several locals of the State Employe's were established, along with a number of local industrial unions in the smaller communities of the state.

ASK POLITICAL ACTION

The report also brought out the fact that the CIO in Montana would have to step out and take the lead in organizing in the political field for the 1940 elections if organized labor wishes to make any possible gain or even hold what it already has in Montana, for the Chamber of Commerce, Associated Industries and their allies are already laying plans to crush labor in the next elections.

The convention mapped out an organizational drive among the State Employe's and in the oil fields and refineries. The State Employe's have a potential membership of approximately 2,500, and if solidly organized would make one of the strongest organizations in the state.

LAUD WAGNER ACT

One of the resolutions adopted protested against the importation of gas from Canada. Acting on a request from the United Mine Workers, the council delegates authorized efforts to procure the use of coal in public buildings in preference to gas, as a means of aiding the coal industry in the state.

Opposition to change the Wagner Labor Relation Act was expressed in another resolution. Unity of Montana labor so that labor of the state may present a solid front in pressing its own problems and encouraging a similar unity in the ranks of labor nationally was urged in a resolution adopted.

Officers and board members were nominated, with the election to be held in the first week of June. Sylvester Graham is opposed for re-election for president by Glen Zorn and Richard Rodgers of Butte; William A. Boyle of Great Falls, vice-president, and John Clark of Great Falls, secretary, are unopposed.

Utah

PARK CITY, Utah, May 13—The Utah Industrial Union Council ended its third annual convention here after mapping out a legislative program for the defense of workers' rights both in the state and in the nation.

Harmonious discussion marked the three-day meeting, which brought together CIO representatives from every part of the state. The Utah congressional delegation will be informed of the convention's resolutions, one of which called for preservation of the Wagner Act in its present form.

ELECT PETERSEN

Offices of the president and secretary-treasurer were merged, and A. M. Petersen was elected to the new position. Five vice-presidents were named: Stanley Duffing, of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' division of mills; Ed. Scherer, United Mine Workers; Emil Strom, Oil Workers Intl. Union; Ray Leavitt, Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' mine division; and Vern Bullough, representing the miscellaneous trades.

Minnesota Council In Session

DULUTH, Minn., May 13—Representatives from practically every CIO local in the state will attend the second annual convention of the Minnesota CIO Industrial Union Council, which will meet at the Spalding Hotel here May 12 to 14, according to Joe Van Nordstrand, president of the Council.

The Duluth Council has arranged a dance to welcome the delegates and visitors, to be held on Saturday night at the hotel.

Maritime Federation To Meet

Everett, Wash., May 13—The annual convention of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific, made up of CIO, AFL and unaffiliated unions in the West Coast maritime industry, will open here on June 5.

H. F. McGrath, of the AFL Machinists Union, recently became president of the Federation following the resignment of J. W. Engstrom. Bruce Hannon, of the Intl. Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, CIO, is secretary.

The largest union affiliated to the Federation is the ILWU, which has a total membership of some 33,000, a large part of which is on the West Coast. Other CIO affiliates are the Marine Engineers Beneficial Assn., the Inland Boatmen of the Pacific, the Marine Cooks and Stewards, the American Radio Telegraphists Assn., a branch of the American Communications Assn., the Alaska Cannery Workers and the Alaska Fishermen.

Michigan Convention June 29

Detroit, Mich., May 13—An official call to attend the first annual convention of the Michigan CIO Industrial Union Council has been sent out this week to all CIO affiliates in the state. The convention will open June 29 in Grand Rapids, Mich., at the Rowe Hotel.

The Council was set up in April last year, at a convention held in Lansing, at which time Adolph Germer, CIO regional director, was elected president, and R. T. Leonard, of the United Automobile Workers, was elected secretary-treasurer. More than 800 delegates attended the 1938 convention.

Maury Maverick Elected San Antonio Mayor; Liberals Win In L. A.

San Antonio, Tex., May 13.—Maury Maverick, leader of the Congressional liberal bloc in 1938 emerged the victor in a three-cornered race for mayor of San Antonio.

Backed by labor and progressive groups in the city, Maverick polled 3,000 more votes than Mayor C. K. Quin, head of the San Antonio corrupt political machine. With only one exception the fusion ticket headed by Maverick was swept into power in the voting.

Maverick had the backing of the CIO, whose pecan workers' local has several thousand members; the Workers Alliance; the rank-and-file of several AFL unions, who defied anti-Maverick speeches by an AFL southwestern representative, the National Negro Congress and Mexican citizens' groups.

The election may have important effects on future Texas and national politics, for the former Congressman now controls the San Antonio Democratic party. His opposition to Vice-President Garner and other reactionaries in the Lone Star State political machine may seriously impede possible efforts of the Uvalde squire to use the Texas delegation at next year's Democratic national convention as a lever for whipping New Deal forces in the party.

Los Angeles, May 13 — Backed enthusiastically by organized labor, liberal reform groups delivered a body-blow at the reactionary Shaw city machine here electing six progressive members to the City Council and two to the Board of Education.

A definite majority on the Council was assured to support Mayor Fletcher Bowron, reform mayor who was elected last year, and who had been opposed by reactionaries on the city's executive body. As a result of the voting, Brown will be able to continue his fight against graft and toryism in the city government.

The mayor has been ardently attacked by the Los Angeles Times, leading west coast labor-baiting newspaper, and by open shop employers.

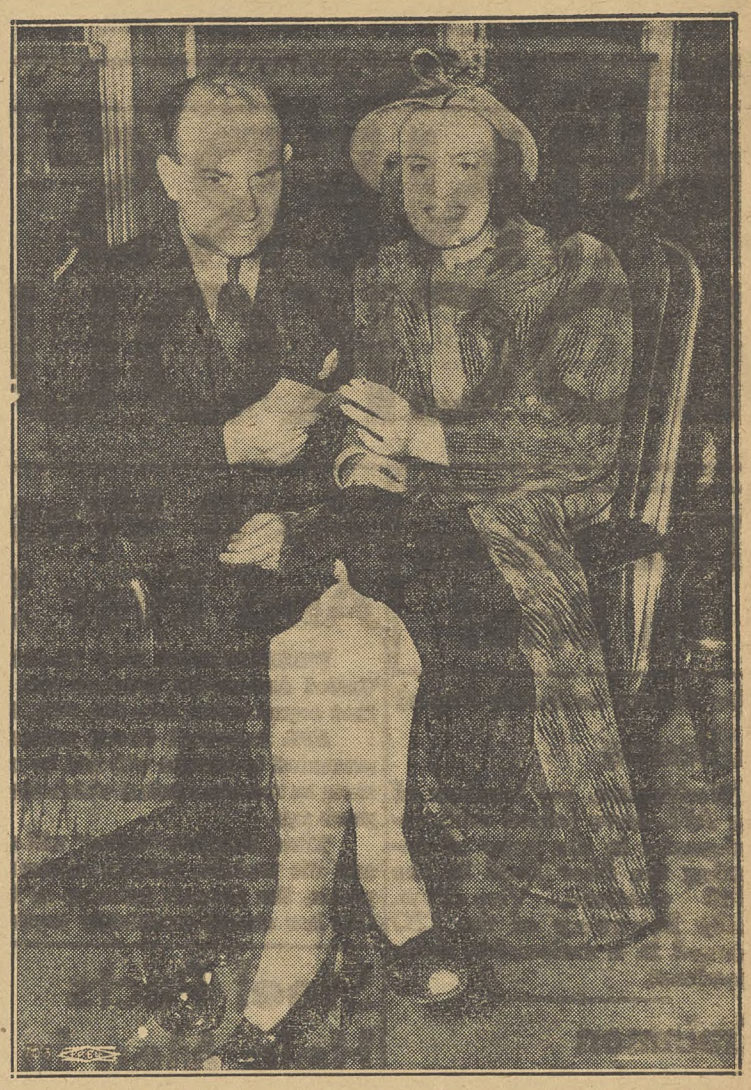
BALTIMORE

Baltimore, May 13—Mayor Howard Jackson, supported by Baltimore unions, won an easy election victory in the city voting here, and will serve another term as chief executive of the city.

WAGES WAY UP

Fairfield, Ala. (FP)—Two years of organizing in the south by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee have lifted steel wages $40,000 a day.

Fair Enough



President Michael Quill of the Transport Workers Union hands a union card to pretty Julie Barry, first "guidette" at the New York World's Fair to join the union. Julie and other guidettes will tell sightsee-ers on Fairway buses about wonders of the big show.

Maritime Heads Rap Stand Of U. S. Commission

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Refusal of the U. S. Maritime Commission to support the Wallgreen Bill, which safeguards union hiring of seamen on Commission-owned ships, was characterized as "ridiculous in the extreme and unsupported to any degree by technical, legal or practical arguments and circumstances" by a delegation of west coast maritime workers who visited this city.

The delegation was composed of Harry Bridges, International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union; R. Meriweather, Marine Engineers Beneficial Assn.; Jack O'Dornel, Marine Cooks and Stewards; William Welsh, Marine Firemen, Oilers and Watertenders; and Bruce Hannon of the Maritime Federation.

West coast maritime unions have frequently criticized the Maritime Commission, which operates a number of commercial steamships, to follow union regulations on hiring of crews and longshoremen.

The delegates said they had used "every effort to find a practical solution to the hiring hall controversy of the U. S. Maritime Commission.

EFFORTS IN VAIN

"All efforts of the delegates have been to no avail. The Maritime Commission has flatly rejected every attempt to settle this matter peacefully.

"We feel confident that the President, if able to hear both sides of the question, can agree with the practical solution offered by the unions, namely that the Maritime Commission operate its ships from the West Coast in the same manner that every other privately or government owned ship is operated on the West Coast, by procuring their personnel from the union hiring halls.

"The attitude of the Commission convinces the maritime unions once again that they are determined to give maritime labor organizations no voice in labor problems of the maritime industry, but we must merely take orders and carry them out, regardless of consequences. This the unions will not do!"

Steel Union Wins Poll

Pittsburgh, May 13—By a vote of 364 to 168 the Steel Workers Organizing Committee won an election supervised by the National Labor Relations Board at the Hubbard & Company plant here.

"We hope the result of the election will cause the company to modernize their labor relations and end the continuous bickering that has been the history there since 1936," said Clinton S. Golden, SWOC regional director.

On May 4, 1937 the company signed a contract with the SWOC, and renewed it on Oct. 24, 1938. In spite of the contract, the company refused to deal with the union in complete good faith and there was an almost unending series of differences.

This condition resulted in the SWOC asking for certification by the Labor Board as exclusive bargaining agent on Jan. 28, 1939.

United Mine Workers Smash Long Lockout, Get Union Shop

Textile Union Lifted Wages $1,200,000 a Week

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 15.—Wage increases totalling $1,200,000 weekly have been won for textile workers under CIO union contracts, according to a report submitted to the first constitutional convention of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee by Sidney Hillman, chairman, and Emil Rieve, executive director. The convention opened here at 150 North Broad St., formerly Scottish Rite Temple, Monday morning, May 15.

The report was also submitted to the United Textile Workers convention, meeting at the same place, by George Baldanzi, president, and James Starr, secretary-treasurer.

About 235,000 textile workers employed by 950 companies are now working under contracts signed by the TWOC, the officers' report states. In addition, 150,000 textile workers have signed membership cards, and agreements covering some 39,000 are being negotiated by the TWOC as sole bargaining agency.

$13,800,000 More

Minimum wage recommendations for the textile industry, under the Wage-Hour Act, will bring an annual increase of $13,800,000 for 181,000 workers, the report states. Vacations with pay have been obtained for 50,000 workers by TWOC.

EMIL RIEVE
Director
Textile Workers Organizing Committee

Contracts won by the TWOC include the following big concerns: American Woolen Co., covering 13,000 workers; American Viscose Corp., 20,000 workers; Bigelow-Sanford Carpet Co., 6,000 workers; J. & P. Coats, 4,000 workers; Cheney Bros., Celanese Corp. of America, Munsingwear, Utica Knitting, Liberty Throwing Co., Duplan Silk Corp. and American Bemberg.

Since it was organized two years ago, the CIO textile union has disbursed $1,780,797, while sister organizations spent an additional $300,000 on its behalf, and affiliated locals and joint boards have spent $350,000, the report states.

Contributions from other CIO unions were received totalling $916,000. The Amalgamated Clothing Workers gave $523,000, the United Mine Workers, $198,000; International Ladies' Garment Workers (no longer a CIO affiliate), $110,000, and the CIO, $85,000.

GREAT GAINS

The report points out that when the CIO made its agreement with the UTW in March, 1937, setting up the TWOC, it had only 25 union contracts and a nominal membership not exceeding 73,877, including 20,702 hosiery workers and 11,094 dyers.

The actual per capita paid membership was 60,446, when Francis J. Gorman, then UTW president, signed an agreement on behalf of the UTW with John L. Lewis, Sidney Hillman and the late Charles P. Howard, CIO secretary, under which TWOC undertook the task of organizing the unorganized among the 1,250,000 workers in the textile industry.

AFL Try For 'Deal' Fails

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Top leaders of the AFL, caught like pigs under a gate by the CIO exposure of their alliance with reactionary employers to emasculate the Wagner Act, cried for mercy this week and attempted a back-door deal with the Labor Board to get themselves out of a serious jam.

The maneuver was scotched by the CIO, which protested sharply against the attempted deals as a barter "to save the faces of these discredited belly-achers."

CIO protests were voiced by Lee Pressman, general counsel, when he said: "If the AFL representatives want to backwater on their amendments, let them do so before the Senate Labor Committee where the public can be fully advised of the whole situation and where matters can be adjusted through the democratic machinery which Congress provides."

AFL EXPOSED

Three brief conferences between AFL leaders and the Labor

Continued on page five

Lewis Leads Organization To Big Gains

NEW YORK, May 12 — The United Mine Workers, led by Pres. John L. Lewis, smashed a seven-week lockout today, winning their chief demands, it appeared as The CIO NEWS went to press.

The union has demanded the union shop and exclusive bargaining rights in the Appalachian area.

Details of the contract will indicate whether it was signed with the entire Appalachian conference of operators, or with individual operators or groups of operators.

The agreement will end chances of the AFL Progressive Miners to chisel their way into the coal industry in an effort to weaken the nation's most powerful union, and with it the entire CIO.

Announcement of the approaching end of the 7-week dispute which caused over 340,000 miners to be locked out, was made by W. L. Robison, Cleveland mine operator and head of the Joint Bituminous Negotiations Committee.

HIS STATEMENT

His statement said: "The joint subcommittee has completed its consideration of the subject matter to go into a new Appalachian contract and has appointed a drafting committee to edit such a new document. This drafting committee will promptly complete its work and report back to the joint subcommittee."

The joint subcommittee, he said, will then take action on the contract.

As he was talking to reporters, John R. Steelman, head of the U. S. Conciliation Service, interrupted to say that all of the miners' chief demands had been met.

The union shop provision will mean that all employes must join the United Mine Workers as a condition of work.

OUTLYING DISTRICTS

A day earlier, on May 11, Pres. Lewis had dispatched telegrams to presidents of all bituminous districts outside the Appalachian area, ordering them to sign contracts as soon as possible, with the stipulation that the new agreements must provide for the UMW as sole bargaining agency and establish the union shop.

Within a few hours, six thousand Kentucky miners were back at work under such contracts.

Mines employing some 126,000 men in the "outlying" districts were shutdown on May 4 and 5, when extensions of the old agreements expired. The mines had been in operation pending the signing of a new contract covering the Appalachian area, where 320,000 men have been idle since the expiration of the last agreement on March 31.

LEWIS TELEGRAM

The Lewis telegram said in part: "Upon receipt of this wire

Continued on Page Six

CIO Asks Change In Sherman Act To Protect Labor

WASHINGTON, May 13. — A campaign to secure amendment of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act for the protection of labor unions, was launched with the appointment by Pres. Lewis of a committee of CIO leaders to rally support for the American Federation of Hosiery Workers in its appeal against the $700,000 damage verdict won by the Apex Hosiery Co. in Philadelphia.

The CIO committee was formed to mobilize a nation-wide protest against the Apex verdict, as a serious threat to all labor organizations. It will also start a move to petition Congress to amend the Sherman law "so that it shall be stated in such clear, unequivocal, unmistakable terms that even judges can understand that the Sherman Act shall never again be applied to trade unions."

COMMITTEE PICKED

The CIO committee includes James B. Carey, secretary of the CIO and president of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers; Emil Rieve, executive director of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee; R. J. Thomas, president of the United Automobile Workers; Heywood Broun, president of the Newspaper Guild; Reid Robinson, president of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers; Bruce Hannon, secretary of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific; Sherman H. Dalrymple, president of the United Rubber Workers; John C. Lawson, secretary-treasurer of the Quarry Workers; John Green, president of the Marine and Shipbuilding Workers; Michael Quill, president of the Transport Workers; and Joseph Curran, president of the National Maritime Union.

In announcing formation of the Committee, John Brophy, CIO national director, declared:

"The verdict of $711,932.55 won by the Apex Hosiery Co. constitutes a threat to the entire labor movement of the country.

"The issue involved is not the sit-down strike, nor the claimed damages to the company's plant, but whether unions can exercise their lawful rights in strikes free from possible prosecution and triple-damage lawsuits under the Sherman Act, regardless of the effect on interstate commerce.

"If this verdict is upheld, no union can feel safe in exercising its right to strike without danger of lawsuits designed to bankrupt and destroy it.

"It is outrageous that the Sherman Act, which was intended to curb the predatory powers of big corporations to prey upon the people, should be prostituted to union-smashing purposes as in the Apex case.

CIO PLEDGES AID

"The CIO committee just appointed will seek to mobilize all unions in the country, whether CIO, AFL or unaffiliated, and to arouse public opinion in such a way that the Sherman Act may be amended and never again used for union-breaking purposes."

Unity Up to AFL, Furriers Hear

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., May 13.—Doubling of the union membership, chartering of 30 new locals and renewals with pay boosts, and a 10 per cent pay increase after a 15-week general strike in New York during the past year highlighted the report of the General Executive Board to the Fur Workers Intl. Union convention here this week.

Commenting on this record, John L. Lewis, CIO president, wired greetings to the 129 delegates, saying that the union had made a notable contribution to the CIO and to the entire labor movement by its accomplishments in spite of a severe depression in its industry.

John Brophy, national CIO director, also complimented the union, pointing out that its record was a symbol of the strength and stability of the CIO. Brophy contrasted this record with the history of the labor movement in depressions before the CIO came into existence, declaring that previously employers had always been able to pass the costs of their economic blunders onto the backs of the workers.

SPEAKS OF UNITY

A portion of Brophy's speech was devoted to the question of unity, in which he said: "Peace

Continued on Page Six

Presides

Pres. Ben Gold of the Intl. Fur Workers Union, CIO affiliate, who presided at the organization's biennial convention at Atlantic City, N. J., last week.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II May 15, 1939 No. 20

Textile Labor on the March

The Textile Workers Organizing Committee of the CIO meets for its first convention in Philadelphia with a splendid record of achievement for one of the most exploited groups of workers in the country.

Chairman Sidney Hillman and Director Emil Rieve can report that in two years the benefits of union agreements have been won for 235,000 textile workers employed by 950 companies, including the giants of the industry. In addition some 150,000 workers have signed up in the union, and the TWOC is sole collective bargaining agency for 39,000 additional workers for whom agreements are now being negotiated.

Wage increases of $1,200,000 weekly, vacations with pay and many other improvements in conditions are among the benefits which TWOC agreements have brought to the workers.

All of this progress is a far cry from the small union membership and general sweatshop conditions which obtained before the United Textile Workers joined with the CIO to form the TWOC.

In the South, through the efforts of its native Southern organizers, the TWOC is playing an important part in the emergence of a new liberalism.

"Cotton textile employers are loosening their hold on politics, church, thought and life in the South," says the TWOC officers' report. "In place of the cotton 'feudal systems', slowly the new liberal South is building genuine democracy founded on a recognition of the rights of the workers."

The TWOC still has much opposition to unionism to overcome. It still has far to go to its goal of a completely organized industry. It has also for the moment to contend with the pitiful sniping of some union-splitters who are trying to mislead a handful of workers into the AFL, which so long and so sadly neglected and betrayed the textile workers.

But the TWOC has now a sufficient record of achievement and a sufficiently solid basis of organization among hundreds of thousands of textile workers, to be able to proceed on its way with confidence until all the workers have joined its ranks and a better era has dawned for the whole textile industry.

An Anti-Labor Commission

The struggle of the maritime workers to protect their union rights against the anti-labor policies of the U. S. Maritime Commission, is one which deserves the support of the whole labor movement and of all others who believe in collective bargaining.

A delegation representing the West Coast marine unions has spent some time in Washington doing everything in its power to arrive at a reasonable and peaceful solution of the hiring hall controversy.

All the union representatives ask is that the Maritime Commission operate its ships from the West Coast in the same manner that every other privately or government-owned ship is operated there, by procuring its crews from the union hiring halls.

The unions' efforts to arrive at a peaceful and practical solution are supported by the Department of Labor, the Department of Commerce, the Maritime Labor Board and the Treasury Department, according to the delegation.

But the Maritime Commission, it declares, "has flatly rejected every attempt to settle this matter peacefully." The Commission seems determined to force a showdown in its fight against union rights long established in the West Coast maritime industry.

It is a public scandal that a government commission should thus use its powers in an attempt to break down union organization and collective bargaining, in defiance of the policy of the United States. And the maritime unions are rendering a public service when they resist such encroachments on labor's rights.

Continued Vigilance Is Needed

All liberty-loving Americans will applaud the statement of Senator Lewis B. Schwellenbach in a recent radio speech, when he said: "I believe the Civil Liberties Committee of the United States Senate should be a permanent institution."

Labor is united in its demand that the Senate Civil Liberties Committee be voted an adequate appropriation to continue its vigilance. It joins with all progressives in urging this action on Congress, and in asking speedy enactment of the Oppressive Labor Practices bill which the Committee recommends to check the liberty-destroying forces which it has already exposed.

But This Isn't Troy

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Labor's Turn to Advance

THE miners have again proved themselves the backbone of the American labor movement. Their successful resistance to the coal lockout should prove a turning point for the whole labor and progressive cause.

Compelled to battle on many fronts at the same time—against an open shop drive in industry, against a campaign to destroy the Wagner Act, and against hostile court decisions, as in the Apex case—labor has recently had all the disadvantages of being on the defensive.

But in stopping the open-shop offensive, the United Mine Workers of America have furnished protection to every genuine union in the country. With its base thus safeguarded, labor can advance once more to new gains.

* * *

The Wagner Act hearings already indicate that the big business foes of the act and the AFL craft leaders allied with them are finding it their turn to be on the defensive. And last week saw an attempt by some of the AFL leaders to run to cover, after a letter from Gilbert H. Montague to Colby M. Chester, head of General Foods and former chairman of the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers, became public.

Montague, a corporation lawyer who has been associated with both the N. A. M. and the U S. Chamber of Commerce, reveals in this letter that even before the Houston AFL convention he was confidentially supplying AFL Counsel Joseph Padway with material on the Labor Act; and that during the convention he "responded to his hurry calls for additional legal memos and data."

Montague then states that Padway had asked him "confidentially to prepare for him draft amendments of the act," covering some points on which he had received instructions from the AFL executive council.

* * *

This exposure and the knowledge that even more damaging evidence was in CIO hands threw panic into the AFL headquarters camp.

On the eve of an executive council meeting, at which they feared the revolt of the AFL membership against the amendments might find expression, Padway and John P. Frey sought and held conferences with the Labor Board in the hope of working out a backstairs deal to save their faces.

The CIO was not consulted on this maneuver and immediately denounced any such attempt to "barter away labor's interests" in private conferences.

"If the AFL representatives want to back water," said CIO Counsel Lee Pressman, "let them do so before the Senate committee, where the public can be fully advised of the whole situation and where matters can be adjusted through the democratic machinery which Congress provides."

* * *

In connection with the Apex case, labor's enemies are also showing alarm at the campaign launched by the CIO for amendment of the Sherman anti-trust act, so that it may be used, as it was intended, against business monopolies and not against labor.

The verdict of more than $700,000 damages against the Philadelphia Hosiery Workers in the Apex case, is shocking the whole movement into a realization that such misapplications of the Sherman anti-trust act are a threat to every union in the country.

So the CIO has had to set up a committee and to launch a nationwide campaign, both to support the Hosiery Workers in appealing this vicious verdict, and to seek amendment of the Sherman act so that it may not again be used for union-breaking purposes.

The big business press has gone to great lengths to confuse the issue thus raised. In so doing, it shows its fear that labor, with its base now protected in industry, will not be content merely with preserving present conditions, but is strong enough to go forward organizing new industries and in demanding a real legislative square deal.

Issue Pamphlet On Apex Case

Washington, May 13—Following the formation of a committee to press for amendment of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act to exempt labor unions and to mobilize public opinion against the Apex verdict, the CIO is publishing a leaflet "A New Blow at Labor" which analyzes the case and discusses it as a threat to the whole labor movement.

"Labor cannot afford to rest until it is made so clear that even judges can understand that the Sherman Act does not apply to unions," the pamphlet says.

"This is not an issue affecting any one section of the labor movement. No branch of the labor movement can afford to sit quietly by until the Apex decision has been reversed, until the Sherman Act has been amended so that it will never again be applied to labor organizations."

MUST BARGAIN

Washington.—The International Shoe Company of Hannibal, Mo., was ordered by the Labor Board this week to throw out its company union known as the Western Brotherhood of Shoe & Rubber Workers, Inc.

AFL Try For 'Deal' Fails

Continued from page three

Board were held, at the end of which it was announced that they had arrived at no conclusion and would be dscontinued.

The CIO criticized this procedure from the beginning, as giving the AFL leaders a chance to run down a rabbit-hole, after the wild charges they had made against the act, the Board and the CIO "have been exposed as ridiculous and lying misrepresentations."

The maneuver came shortly after publication of a letter proving that Joseph Padway, AFL chief counsel, asked for and got advice and aid from corporation attorneys in drawing up the AFL amendments to the act, and interrupted several days of inept testimony by AFL leaders at the Senate Labor Committee.

It also came on the eve of an AFL executive council meeting, where the rank and file revolt of AFL members against the proposed amendments was expected to break through even the iron censorship imposed on council gatherings.

"It is natural they should now whine for mercy," Pressman said. "But we know of no reason why the Labor Board, after the exposures which have already been made, should give them an opportunity to work behind closed doors to avoid the penalties of their treachery.

"We assert that the public interest demands that this whole matter now should be threshed out in open hearings, where Congress and the public can have a full opportunity to decide the merits of the case."

UNFAIR TO CIO

Pressman also wrote to Chairman Thomas of the Senate Committee describing the attempted face-saving as "exceedingly unfair to the CIO," since the AFL had been allowed to testify at length, as well as the Board.

"In other words," he said, compromise is being suggested at a time even before the Senate Committee has heard from the CIO and its many affiliates."

Survey

WASHINGTON, May 13 — Fifty-five senators are opposed to major amendments to the Wagner Act at this time, according to a poll made by Congressional Intelligence, a Washington information service. Only 29 of the senators questioned indicated favor for drastic changes in the Act, while two others were uncertain.

AFL Leaders Join Tories In Hope of Defeating New Deal, Murray Says

WASHINGTON, May 13.—A line-up of reactionary Republicans, tory Democrats and anti-New Deal AFL executive council members looking to defeat of the New Deal in 1940 was described as politically responsible for the drive to emasculate the Wagner Act in a coast to coast radio speech by Philip Murray, vice-president of the CIO and chairman of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee.

The same forces, Murray said, also want to keep labor divided to promote this aim. "The reactionary politicians are fully aware of the effect their amendments will have in keeping the CIO and AFL divided," he said, "but they desire to continue this labor division in the hope that it may lead to a victory for reaction in 1940.

"In this hope they are joined by reactionaries on the AFL executive council who have been constantly trying to throw the AFL weight on the tory side, regardless of the overwhelming pro-New Deal sentiment of the AFL membership."

"There is no reason in the world why the American Federation of Labor should seek to change the Wagner Act, which has brought so much freedom and so many benefits to all working people," Murray said.

"Great gains in membership have been made by both the AFL and the CIO under the act. And if the workers in the mass production industries have voted chiefly for the modern industrial unions of the CIO, when given a choice between them and the craft unions of the AFL, this is certainly not the fault of the act," he said.

"As a matter of fact, there is every evidence that the great majority of the AFL membership are fully as much opposed to amendment of the Wagner Act as are the members of the CIO."

BACKWARD LOOKING

Murray, speaking over a coast to coast network of the Columbia Broadcasting System, pointed out that the demand for amendments to the act comes from big business in alliance with "backward-looking craft union leaders" in the AFL, who are willing to sacrifice the interests of all labor for the sake of their own petty concerns.

"These anti-union industrialists could make little progress in their campaign to destroy the act, if they could not claim some labor support," he said. "This they get from backward-looking craft union leaders who place their own narrow special interests above the general welfare of labor and industry."

Pres. Lewis is prepared, he said, to offer documentary proof that this NAM-Chamber-of-Commerce-Green axis against the Wagner Act is real, and that the "so-called AFL amendments were prepared with aid, advice and counsel of representatives of the NAM and several of the most anti-labor corporations in the country."

"To sum up," he said, "the CIO contends that the present Wagner Act has proved a most effective instrument in giving American workers the freedom to organize and better their conditions through representatives of their own choice.

"It has also benefited fair employers and the general public in many ways; is in line with American traditions of freedom and justice for all; and has made a great contribution to the preservation and expansion of our country's democratic institutions.

Letter on Wagner Act Changes Shows AFL-NAM Ties

WASHINGTON, May 13.—One item in the documentary evidence of collusion between William Green and his associates and anti-labor employers in the attempt to wreck the Wagner Act was disclosed this week with the publication of a letter from one NAM tycoon to another on the subject of the AFL backed amendments.

The letter, published in the Washington Merry-Go-Round syndicated column, shows that Gilbert Montague, NAM attorney, conferred at length with Joseph Padway, AFL chief counsel, on the proposed amendments, and that Padway asked Montague to prepare draft amendments covering the changes wanted by the executive council of the AFL.

"CONFIDENTIAL MATTER"

The letter reveals that Padway asked Montague repeatedly for his advice, and during the Houston convention sent hurry calls "for additional legal memos and data." Montague was of course delighted to help—as the letter, addressed to NAM Pres. Colby Chester, indicates:

"Dear Chester: When can I confer with you regarding the following confidential matter:

"During July, August and September I supplied confidentially to Judge Padway various legal memos and data he requested regarding certain National Labor Relations Act questions, and during the AFL convention in Houston this month I responded to his hurry calls for additional legal memos and data.

"Judge Padway has now asked me confidentially to prepare for him draft amendments of the act covering the following points, on which he has now received instructions from the AFL executive council:

"'First: Jurisdiction shall be granted appellate courts to review the facts as well as the law to determine whether the decisions conform to the weight and credibility of the evidence.

"'Secondly: Separate the administrative functions from the judicial functions of the board, lodging the judicial functions in a tribunal wholy independent from the National Labor Relations Board.'

"I will thank you if on receipt of this you will write or telephone my office when I can confer with you regarding the above.

(Signed)

"GILBERT H. MONTAGUE."

Trainmen Condemn All Amendments

CLEVELAND, May 13. — Repeal of workers' liberties is "the first sign of fascist tyranny and constitutes a threat to a free and democratic America," the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, meeting here in convention, declared in a strong resolution condemning all attempts to amend the Wagner Act.

Enemies of the act, the resolution said, "are those labor-hating, anti-union employers who have never respected labor's democratic rights. They are now engaged in a shameful campaign of false propaganda, designed to discredit the Wagner Act and the NLRB."

UN-AMERICAN

All proposed amendments, the resolution continued, are thoroughly un-American, and would promote company unionism, allow employer interference with unions, and would nullify the whole spirit and purpose of the act. They would, if passed by Congress:

"Promote a nation-wide program of dishonest, un-American and un-democratic company unionism by which the employer, through collusive contracts and union domination, would sit on both sides of the conference table;

CRUSH UNIONS

"Give legal sanction to the concept that employers may be active in crushing labor unions and preventing their formation, as employers are in forming and maintaining them;

"Nullify the purposes of the act and paralyze the Board by schemes to defeat the free choice of employes and impose delay through ridiculous and unprecedented court technicalities."

The resolution was ordered sent to all Congressmen, to Pres. Green of the AFL and Pres. Lewis of the CIO, to Labor's Non-Partisan League, and to Pres. Roosevelt.

CIO Issues Pamphlet On Act

Washington, May 13—"Whose Amendments," new CIO pamphlet on the Wagner Act, discusses the proposed changes endorsed by Green, Woll, John P. of the AFL executive council, and Frey and Co. in the higher circles points out that the amendments are not approved by the AFL members.

"The majority of labor, CIO and AFL, is united against amendment of the Wagner Act," the pamphlet says. "The Green-Walsh amendments are objectionable to labor everywhere and are not approved by many hundreds of thousands of AFL members."

LISTS AFL GROUPS

The pamphlet lists scores of AFL affiliates, internationals, state and city bodies, and locals that are opposed to any or all changes in the act. It also quotes a letter from a big corporation lawyer in the Natl. Manufacturers' Assn. proving collusion between the top leaders of the AFL and anti-labor interests to emasculate the act.

Copies can be obtained from the Publicity Dept., CIO, 1106 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, D. C.

2,000 AT RALLY

Toledo.—More than 2,000 people attended an Americanism rally held under the auspices of the Toledo CIO Industrial Union Council.

CIO, AFL Members Picket

United in the General Council of Rivermen, striking members of the National Maritime Union, CIO, and the International Longshoremen's Association, AFL, picket the Federal Barge Line docks at St. Louis. The 6,000 striking workers, who have tied up river shipping, want the preferential shop and higher wages written into their new contract.

California Official Attacks AFL Company Union

Washington, May 13.—The AFL union at Westwood, Calif., ardently defended by Pres. William Green of the federation, is nothing more nor less than a company union, George Kidwell, California state industrial commissioner told the Senate Committee on Education and Labor this week.

Both Green and Joseph Padway, AFL general counsel, have exhibited pained expressions before the committee at any hint that the Westwood outfit, which ran CIO members out of the company-dominated town and then accepted a 17½% wage cut, is anything but a bona fide union.

RAPS WESTWOOD OUTFIT

"I wish to make it clear, as I have stated, I am and long have been a member of the AFL," Kidwell said. "I am proud of the AFL's glorious record of militant and courageous struggles for the rights of workers.

". . . The union in Westwood which calls itself AFL is in fact a company union. Neither it nor its leadership is in the true AFL tradition."

Kidwell recounted how the Intl. Woodworkers of America, CIO, held a meeting in the town on July 12, 1938, attended by 1,400 of the 2,000 workers employed by the Red River Lumber Co. The next day, he said, "a purge of CIO workers was staged by company agents." The day after that every union member had been chased out of town.

AFL GAVE CHARTER

"During this reign of terror," he continued, "an AFL union charter was installed at the direction of Mr. Vanderleur, secretary of the California Federation of Labor, and the workers who remained, as will later be shown, were coerced into joining this union."

Kidwell defended the action of the National Labor Relations Board in postponing an election among the employes until a peaceful, undominated poll can be held.

Opponents of the Act and "certain misleaders of labor" have seized upon the case in an effort to smear the NLRB, he asserted, adding:

PRAISES WAGNER ACT

"I consider the Wagner Act one of the greatest pieces of social legislation in the history of America, and its administration by the present Board has been an outstanding achievement of integrity and effectiveness."

Other witnesses before the Senate Committee included Padway, the AFL attorney, who droned through a few more pages of his 160-page statement, and William M. Leiserson, recently-appointed but not yet confirmed as an NLRB member.

LEISERSON ON STAND

Leiserson grouped the Wagner Act, the Railway Labor Act and the Norris-LaGuardia anti-injunction act as the cornerstone of labor's rights in this country, and protested against any attempt to whittle away the gains made by labor in the last few years.

He was especially critical of the amendments introduced by Sen. Burke of Nebraska, which are supported by the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers.

HOUSE HEARINGS

Meanwhile, the House Labor Committee studied a 100-page brief against amendments filed by the Labor Board. The NLRB vigorously opposed suggestions for a five-man board—a proposal being pushed by the AFL top leadership.

It levelled considerable fire at the Barden bill, which also has AFL support, and criticized in particular its attempt to allow employers to "interfere" in their workers' choice of a bargaining agency.

WOULD HELP SPIES

"If this proposal is adopted," the NLRB pointed out, "it would become very doubtful whether it would still be an unfair labor practice for an employer to engage undercover operatives to spy upon the union activities of his employes, to bribe union representatives or to circulate 'missionaries' to circulate among strikers false rumors with a view to breaking the morale of the strikers."

Two days earlier Reps. Keller and Fries, both Illinois Democrats, had assailed big business groups seeking amendment of the Act. Keller suggested that the committee might do well to invite "three or four Liberty League lawyers" for questioning to determine whether they had engaged in a "conspiracy" to destroy the Act.

Schwellenbach Asks Funds For Probe

WASHINGTON, May 13.—An investment of $100,000 a year in the Senate Civil Liberties Committee is a small amount to spend for protecting rights guaranteed the American people in the Constitution, Sen. Lewis B. Schwellenbach of Washington declared in a nation-wide radio broadcast here.

"We don't hesitate to spend many times that amount to build a battleship to defend us against a foreign foe," the Senator pointed out. "I consider that the maintenance of this committee is just good insurance to protect us against foes from within. . . . I believe the Civil Liberties Committee of the U. S. Senate should be a permanent institution."

The Senate Audit & Control Committee, headed by Sen. James Byrnes of North Carolina, is now considering a bill to allot the committee $100,000. An investigation of the Associated Farmers, west coast tory group, was halted when the committee's funds gave out.

"There is no place in America for private armies, private spy systems, private arsenals. If eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, now is surely the time when we should know at what points and from what sources our liberties are being attacked.

"When a Senator of the United States frankly confesses upon the floor of the United States Senate that he believes that concentration camps should be set up in this country for persons of whose ideas he disapproves, when a dignified member of the Congress actually introduces a bill providing for concentration camps, the time has come when we should worry about the future of democracy in this country."

Fur Union Told Unity Up to AFL

Continued from page three

in the American labor movement will come when the rank and file of the AFL assert their desire for unity.

"The hope for unity lies with the workers of the AFL, who will force their reluctant leaders to abandon their fight against the CIO, who will force them to break their alliance with reaction. This is the hope for unity, this and our vigilance in building our own organizations and strengthening our own lines."

CAREY SPEAKS

James B. Carey, CIO secretary, told the delegates that the present strength of the AFL is due to the organization of the CIO. "The CIO woke up the AFL," he said. "Organized labor is no longer a dismal swamp. A new day has dawned for labor, both organized and unorganized."

Jacob Potofsky, vice-president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, urged the delegates to carry on political activity, to be "prepared for the test when the time comes."

KNOCKS SPLITTERS

Allan Haywood, New York CIO regional director, said that within the ranks of the CIO there had been one act of disunity—"the act of a man who couldn't stand the gaff, who had his office workers do what he didn't have the courage to do himself, pull out of the CIO and join the AFL."

Other speakers addressing the convention included Louis Boudin, labor lawyer, and Len DeCaux, publicity director of the CIO.

Final major action of the convention was the enthusiastic approval of the merger plant with the Natl. Leather Workers, which will bring a potential membership of 65,000 to the union, 15,000 of whom are already organized.

Mine Union Gets Contract, Beats Lockout

Continued from page three

you are directed to propose to your operators an extension for two years of the old wage agreement, which expired April 1, in all of its terms, scheduled and conditions, with the addition of two sentences in its enabling clause reading as follows:

"'It is agreed that the United Mine Workers is recognized herein as the exclusive bargaining agency representing the employes of the parties of the first part.

"'It is agreed that as a condition of employment, all employes shall be members of the United Mine Workers of America except those exempted classifications of employment as provided in this contract.'"

SENT LETTER

Earlier in the week Lewis had sent a lengthy letter to John R. Steelman, head of the U. S. Conciliation Service pointing out that the union had offered to keep the mines opened, but that the government's attitude had encouraged a minority of the operators to believe they could seek destruction of the UMW.

Lewis has estimated that 80% of the mine operators in the Appalachian area are willing to sign a new contract abolishing the strike penalty clause. However, he has charged that a minority group, backed by corporations, financial combines and utilities, have been trying to destroy the nation's most powerful union.

PENALTY CLAUSE

The penalty clause to which the union has been objecting provides that the union must pay a dollar a day a member for those participating in strikes in violation of the agreement. With the AFL Progressive Miners seeking to spread company unionism throughout the coal fields, the UMW leaders held that in effect their union would be forced to pay through the nose for its own destruction.

Meanwhile, leaders of the three anthracite districts of the union were continuing their negotiations with operators. A threatened shutdown on May 8 was averted when both sides agreed to a week's extension of the old agreement.

Labor Board Issues Complaint Against Mid-Continent Oil

TULSA, Okla., May 13.—A formal complaint issued against the Mid-Continent Petroleum Corporation by the regional office of the National Labor Relations Board here bears out the charges of intimidation and coercion made by the Oil Workers International Union which has been conducting a strike against the company for more than four months.

A Board hearing on the charge has been set for May 15, the same date that Jack N. Hays, president of the local oil workers union is scheduled to go on trial in the district court on a grand jury indictment charging conspiracy.

Hays is now free on $2000 bond, the amount set for each of the 106 strikers who were indicted by a grand jury made up of executives of oil corporations and other concerns.

The complaint against Mid-Continent charges that the company through its foremen from Mar. 1, 1937 to Dec. 22, 1938, tried to keep its employes from belonging to the union; placed armed guards inside the refinery, and after the strike started, started a "back-to-work" movement designed to break the strike.

Following the announcement of the date set for the Labor Board hearing, 143 strikers were jailed. This mass indictment was interpreted as another form of intimidation against the strikers. The Union accuses both county and city officials of collusion with the company.

How You Can Help Preserve Our Civil Rights

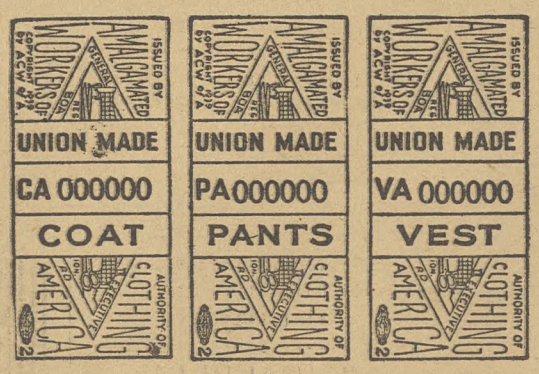
1. Have your local send a resolution to Chairman Byrnes of the Senate Audit & Control Committee asking that the La-Follette-Thomas Civil Liberties Committee be granted an additional $100,000.

2. Tell your Senators and Congressman to support the Oppressive Labor Practices Act, aimed at outlawing strikebreaking, labor spies, private armies and industrial munitions.

BE ON GUARD!

Look for the union label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America when buying men's and boys' clothing, overalls, shirts, undergarments, neckties, lumber jackets, gloves, and all other kinds of men's wearing apparel.

The Amalgamated Label is your guarantee that the articles you buy are of the best workmanship and produced under one hundred percent union conditions by members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.



By insisting on the Amalgamated Label you will help to guard against a return of sweatshop conditions to the industry. By helping the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America you help the labor movement generally.

Ask for the Amalgamated label on each part of the suit, coat, pants and vest. There are different Amalgamated labels for coats, pants, vests, shirts and undergarments, work clothes, neckwear and gloves.

YOUR WPA JOB

By Ralph Hetzel, Jr.

Secretary, Committee on Unemployment

3,000,000 WPA Jobs

The CIO has fired the opening gun in its national campaign to make the WPA adequately serve the needs of the unemployed during the next fiscal year. President Lewis has just written to Congressman Taylor, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, asking for a guaranteed minimum of three million WPA jobs for the next fiscal year.

Such a guaranteed minimum employment is absolutely essential, President Lewis points out, if the WPA is to accomplish the objectives for which it was established. There is serious danger, for example, that if the present trend of reduction continues and an appropriation is passed which will further reduce the rolls to an average of two million jobs, the present, insecure recovery will be wiped out. We will have failed to learn the bitter lesson of 1937. Then a much stronger recovery was blown up by a sharp and unwarranted cut in Federal expenditures for work projects.

NO RELATION TO NEED

Such a guaranteed minimum employment is necessary, also, if we are to avoid a repetition of this year's series of unwarranted and inhumane cuts on the WPA. These cuts have been made without any consideration of the need of the relief workers, without any relation to the extent of unemployment and the huge number of eligible unemployed who had already been certified to the WPA.

The CIO's plan for maintaining such an average, guaranteed employment is quite simple and effective. As President Lewis says in his letter, we ask for a "guarantee that the rolls will not be reduced below three million until there are no further persons eligible for WPA."

He says further, "this type of guarantee provides a device whereby the rolls may be reduced just as quickly and as extensively as the employment situation justifies."

OUTLINES NEEDS

President Lewis also outlines the conditions which are necessary to make fully effective this guarantee of employment on the WPA. They are:

(1) That in order to be eligible to the WPA, workers need only to be out of work and ready and willing to work.

(2) That full rights to self-organization be accorded to workers on the projects and that there be no discrimination for any reason.

(3) That the WPA be empowered to establish such projects as may be necessary to get the kind of employment needed by the unemployed. That means that all workers should be employed on work suited to their needs and skills.

(4) That all projects shall be socially useful and productive. This means the continuation of the present types of WPA projects and authorization to do such work as public housing, slum clearance, flood control, building of schools and hospitals, health measures, cultural and white collar projects, and vocational training.

ESSENTIAL PROGRAM

The adoption of a guaranteed minimum employment of three million people on a program operated under these conditions is an essential prerequisite to full economic recovery and a healthy national life. Its adoption can be assured only by backing up President Lewis' letter with effective local action throughout the nation.

FDR Lauds WPA Culture Projects

New York, May 13.—Endorsement of WPA's projects for white collar and cultural wrokers was contained in a letter sent by Pres. Roosevelt to Pres. Heywood Broun of the American Newspaper Guild.

"In a recent message to the Congress, I expressed my conviction that the program of the Works Progress Administration should, as at present, include some projects of -the non-construction type to meet the needs of those unemployed workers whose training is such that they are not adapted to employment on construction projects."

Fishermen OK New Constitution

Portland, Ore., May 13—A constitution to govern the proposed International Fishermen and Allied Workers of America, submitted to a referendum, has been accepted by the membership of the United Fishermen's Union.

On May 2, the executive board of the UFU met in Seattle for the purpose of taking steps to set up the international union, according to Martin E. Olsen, secretary-treasurer of the Federated Fishermen's Council of the Pacific Coast.

TransitUnion Denounces Wicks Bill

New York, May 13—Passage of the Wicks bill to deprive transit workers of seniority, pensions and collective bargaining rights was denounced by Austin Hogan, president of the Transport Workers Union of New York, CIO, as "an abberant, insidious attack" on the rights of labor, in a letter sent to all 150 members of the State Assembly.

"The Wicks bill," Hogan said, "has been condemned and is opposed by every civic-conscious organization in this state. We have, under separate cover, sent you a list of more than 800 organizations, representing more than 2,000,000 voters throughout the state, which have resolved against the bill.

"These organizations included affiliates of both the CIO and the AFL, the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Catholic and Jewish War Veterans, chapters and branches of the Holy Name Society, Knights of Columbus, and other church, civic, political, labor, fraternal and small businessmen's groups."

BACK HEALTH LAW

New Orleans, La., May 13—The CIO Industrial Union Council here went on record recently in favor of pressing for passage of Senate Bill 1620, which sets up a national health program.

Brophy Calls For Defeat Of Tory Bills

Washington, May 13—John Brophy, national CIO director, told the Natl. Emergency Conference on Repressive Legislation, meeting here this week-end, to rally public opinion against 70 anti-alien bills now in Congress, the source of the bills was :"The same sinister groups that want to destroy American democracy by destroying the labor movement, by destroying the social legislation of the last seven years, by putting the clock of American progress back to the fascist hour set by Hitler and Mussolini."

Other speakers at the meeting included Monsignor John A. Ryan of the Natl. Catholic Welfare Conference, Senator James E. Murray of Montana, and Judge Patrick H. O'Brien of Detroit.

ALL "ALIENS"

Discussing the part aliens have played in building our nation, he said: "All American workers are of alien stock, were at one time foreigners. From the time when the first Negro workers were brought here in slave ships in the 17th century, from the time of the first indentured servants of colonial times, to the present, labor in America has been performed by men and women our reactionaries have been pleased to call 'aliens.' "

The American people have dealt with such moves before, Brophy reminded the conference. "When reactionaries slipped through the Alien and Sedition laws of 1792, the people swept them away as a blot on democracy, as a contradiction of the freedom that America brought to the world," he said.

Hearst Stubborn

CHICAGO, May 13—Publishers of the Hearst-owned Chicago Herald-Examiner and Evening American have ignored a mediation offer by the Chicago Typographical Union, AFL affiliate.

The Guild had previously accepted the proposal.

Summer Will Find Workers Enjoying WPA Play Centers

Recreation used to be a sort of five-dollar word. It represented a luxury to be indulged in only by those with time and money to spare. It suggested expensive country clubs, private golf courses, yachting or riding to the hounds.

Today recreation is beginning to be the working man's word, too. It means play in publicly owned parks and on municipal links. Fresh air, sunshine, exercise—essential fuel for the human engine if it is to function efficiently — this is what recreation means to everyone today. Although we still do not have enough facilities to meet the needs of America's millions, we are making rapid strides in that direction.

EMPLOYERS LEARNING

Employers are recognizing the fact that recreation periods increase the output of their workers. Many provide facilities for healthful recreation as a part of their plant equipment. Some have trained leaders to conduct a regular program of activities.

Practically all employers operating under standard working conditions now grant vacation periods to salaried workers. Since the organization of the CIO, many employers are giving one or two weeks' vacation with pay to wage workers in the large industries.

But in a country of this size employers' efforts alone could not begin to provide adequately for all workers and their families. Federal and local governments have cooperated for many years on a recreation program that has received tremendous impetus during the depression—at a time when it would have been least expected.

THE FIGURES

The Works Progress Administration, cooperating with existing municipal, county and state welfare groups, has constructed in its first three years, 16,851 new recreational facilities of various kinds and restored over 16,859 additional ones to public use by improvements or repairs.

The new play places provided include 5,500 gymnasiums, auditoriums, stadiums, community houses and so forth; 1,067 parks, 1,787 athletic fields, 1,594 playgrounds, 471 swimming pools, 440 wading pools, over 4,582 tennis courts, 1,037 ice skating rinks, 143 golf courses, 41 ski jumps, 73 outdoor theatres and 116 bandshells.

HELPS JOBS, TOO

Playgrounds require the attendance of trained leaders to supervise and instruct; swimming pools need life guards who are also capable instructors, community houses need leaders and teachers of recreation. The WPA has furnished such workers.

MANY ACTIVITIES

The WPA recreation program includes social and cultural features as well as games, sports and other physical activities. In addition to providing outdoor and indoor facilities and leadership, the WPA and other progressive public recreational bodies have expanded the opportunities for dancing, discussion, arts and crafts; all kinds of dramatic work, community pageants, hiking and nature lore, all of which have a wide appeal for young and old alike.

MANY NEW CAMPS

A survey revealed that during the last four years the WPA and the CCC have constructed a number of vacation camps in National Park Service and Recreation Demonstration Areas. These camps are accessible to large industrial centers and are being constantly used by Boy and Girl Scouts and other welfare groups.

In the nation there are now 40,000 recreation leaders employed by the WPA. They aid in solving the leisure-time problems of at least 5,000,000 persons each week. Most of these millions now have a shorter working day and more leisure time than ever before, hence stand in greater need for planned recreation programs and for adequate facilities for carrying out the plans.

While the WPA cannot provide all that is needed, it can and does take the lead in both planning and providing more abundantly for the recreation needs of all American workers.

LOCAL MERMAIDS cluster around the new WPA-built swimming pool at Carbon Hill, Alabama, while at right a couple of spectators watch tennis matches on WPA-constructed tennis courts in Byrd Park, Richmond, Va. This summer hundreds of thousands will get similar enjoyment from WPA projects in every corner of the nation.

(Pictures Courtesy of WPA)

Struck Oil Tanker Lines Meet With Union

Strike Cripples Firms' Sales In Many States

NEW YORK, May 13.—Negotiations between the National Maritime Union and the four oil companies whose tankers were struck by the NMU in April are being reopened. The Standard Oil of New Jersey, Socony-Vacuum, Tidewater and C. D. Mallory agreed this week to resume conferences, the union announces.

Picketing of gas stations operated by three of the companies has cut sales drastically throughout the eastern states, NMU leaders revealed.

At Everett, Mass., a tear-gas attack on the sailors failed to halt picketing at an Esso (Standard Oil of New Jersey) plant. A few hours later union men re-appeared, wearing gas masks.

'SCABS' STICK COMPANY

Efforts of the company to enlist strikebreakers in the middle west are also proving unsuccessful. At Toledo, Ohio, 11 NMU members, keeping their identities secret, signed up as scabs, received cash advances, deluxe meals and private Pullman car transportation to New York. There they confounded the company by refusing to work, and instead reported to Pres. Joseph Curran of the NMU, volunteering for strike activity.

Their jaunt cost the company close to $500.

Joseph Curran, president of the National Maritime Union has asked Secretary of Commerce Harry L. Hopkins to take away from the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation the power to suspend and revoke seamen's certificates for activity in strikes or other labor disputes.

Curran charged in his letter that the bureau had intervened in labor disputes on the side of the operators, using its power to suspend certificates in an attempt to deny seamen their right to strike. Every case of certificate suspension and revocation, all of which grew out of a labor dispute, he said, was outlined in the prepared memoranda.

Characterizing the use of this power by the bureau as a "sort of refined strike-breaking," Curran said that in every case the vessel involved was tied to a dock in a safe harbor.

WPA Lauds Longshore Work Plan

Washington, May 13—A work-rotation system set up for longshore work in San Francisco in 1935 to lessen interruptions in employment, is proving remarkably successful, according to a report of the WPA National Research Project made public recently by Colonel F. C. Harrington, Works Progress Administrator.

The International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union is given the right to appoint the hiring hall officers who assign the men jobs under this system, which developed as an outgrowth of the award made by President Roosevelt's arbitration board in the West Coast longshoremen's 1934 strike.

WAGES HIGHER

The report, a 157-page booklet called "Decasualization of Longshore Work in San Francisco," shows that during 1937 the weekly earnings of longshoremen averaged $37.50, and that irregularity of employment has been greatly lessened.

Traditionally, the report explains, a large part of the labor force had been dependent on work too intermittent to give the men an adequate income.

FEW NEED RELIEF

In a letter of transmittal, Assistant Administrator Corrington Gill points out "that few longshoremen now apply for emergency relief in San Francisco and the longshoremen will probably represent a relatively light burden on the California unemployment compensation fund."

Declaring that "the underlying problem of insecurity due to intermittency and casualness of work is one which is characteristic of many American industries," Gill adds that the study should be of interest not only to other ports but also to other industries.

Pact Raises Pay $17,000

Waterbury, Conn., May 13.—Seventeen thousand dollars is going into the pocketbooks of 65 CIO workers at the main plant powerhouse of the Scoville Manufacturing Company here as result of a contract signed by the Brass Workers local of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers with the company.

Packinghouse Union Maps Big Campaign

CHICAGO, May 13.—Plans outlined by Don Harris, director of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, CIO, indicate an intensive drive to bring 100 per cent organization to the packing industry within the next few months.

"A series of moves, plus the addition of several new organizers, have paved the way for sweeping PWOC gains in a dozen key cities throughout the midwest," Harris declared. "As a result, we can look forward to increased membership, new organizing triumphs and general progress in the next few months."

SIX-POINT DRIVE

The drive will be centered on six main points, Harris explained, covering:

1. Increased organization at Wilson in Oklahoma City and Kansas City.
2. Filing of a Labor Boad petition for certification at Wilson's big Chicago plant.
3. An increased drive at Cudahy in Wichita, Kans.
4. A drive on Cudahy at Newport, Minn., aided by two new organizers.
5. A drive on Cudahy at Omaha, Neb.
6. A drive on all major Swift and Co. plants in Illinois, Missouri, Iowa and California.

OVER THE TOP

"This is a major campaign," Harris said, "one that will need the cooperation of every packinghouse worker in the industry. With the mighty strength of the CIO behind us, we should soon go over the top—with a bang that will be heard around the nation."

Chamber of Commerce Runs Wild, Attacks Wage, Wagner Act

WASHINGTON, May 13. — The U. S. Chamber of Commerce went on a rampage at its annual convention here, slashing out at a half-dozen pieces of New Deal legislation.

When the smoke had cleared away, the embattled businessmen had demanded:

1. Outright repeal of the wage-hour law.
2. Drastic amendments to the Wagner Labor Relations Act.
3. Sharp reductions in government relief expenditures.
4. Revision of federal tax policies to aid business.

The chamber's actions seemed to indicate that a government "business appeasement" program must be based on a complete return to Toryism if it is to satisfy the industrialists.

The dual attack on the wage-hour act and the Wagner Act showed that the Chember is less interested in how the laws are enforced than in the statutes themselves. While the National Labor Relations Board has been criticized for its vigorous enforcement of the Wagner Act, the Wage-Hour division has been extremely cautious in its first few months of operation.

Administrator Elmer F. Andrews has taken the position that employers should be given time to familiarize themselves with the new law, and has only recently announced more strict enforcement plans.

C of C Prexy Has Record Of Reaction

Washington, May 13 — Nature must have intended W. Gibson Carey, Jr., to be president of the reactionary U. S. Chamber of Commerce.

Highlights of the new C of C executive's career, as shown in reports of the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee, show that Carey has done just about everything you'd expect a C of C executive to do.

Head of the Yale & Towne Manufacturing Co., he was a director of the National Assn. of Manufacturers in 1935-36-37. In addition, he served on the National Industrial Information Committee, an NAM offshoot which raised a slush fund of $750,000 to influence public opinion along NAM lines of thought.

EMPLOYED SPIES

Yale & Towne is a member of the National Metal Trades Assn., which has been exposed by the LaFollette Committee as one of the major employers of spies and strikebreakers. The corporation had two metal trades spies working in its plants between April, 1935 and July, 1936. One of them managed to become vice-president of Local 1557 of the International Association of Machinists (AFL) and won the unenviable distinction of helping to cut the local's membership from 243 to 21 during his term of office.

While Carey was thus using the labor espionage service, he obtained U. S. government contracts from the treasury, war and navy departments totaling close to $1,000,000.

List of Union Shoes Printed

Washington, May 13—A revised issue of the listing of shoes made by CIO members has just been released by the United Shoe Workers of America, affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

In addition to the "brand names of shoes made by members" of USWA, CIO, the booklet contains a list of all shoe firms under contract with that union.

Copies have been distributed to locals containing over 2,000,000 members and an increasing demand for these shoes has already been felt. Additional copies may be obtained by writing to: Research Department, United Shoe Workers of America, CIO, 917—15th St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Germer Raps Tory Foes Of Wagner Act

Detroit, May 13—Amendment of the Wagner Act will destroy worker's rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, Adolph Germer, CIO director here, declared in an address broadcast by Station WXYZ.

"There is irony in the oft-repeated claim of after-dinner speakers at employers' banquets that the interests of labor and capital are identical, that the coupon clipper, the stock gambler, the dividend grabber and the humble working man are business partners," Germer said.

"What a humbug such claims are in the light of constant conflict forced upon labor by union-hating employers. What an insult to the intelligence of thinking people.

"The Wagner Act must not be amended unless we as a nation are willing to return to the guerilla warfare of the past."

Prepared

Members of the National Maritime Union, striking against four oil tanker lines, showed up on an Everett, Mass., picket line prepared for any eventuality after police had used tear-gas the previous day. Several children were injured during the police attack.

Gold Workers Vote to Join CIO

VANCOUVER, B. C., May 13—Workers of Pioneer, second largest gold producer in British Columbia, voted three to one to join the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, CIO.

Plan Meetings In Cleveland

Cleveland, May 13—A series of meetings designed to appeal to this city's Hungarian workers is being sponsored by the Cleveland Industrial Union Council.

A group of prominent Hungarian CIO members from the auto and steel unions will be in charge of the meetings.

The series is part of a program now being started by the Council to build and strengthen the CIO movement in Cleveland. Meetings for other nationality groups are being planned.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 21 20 MAY 22, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

NEW CIO TEXTILE UNION FORMED; MAPS BIG DRIVE

The News In Brief

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

Merger

Atlantic City, N. J.—Merger of the Intl. Fur Workers Union and the Natl. Leather Workers Assn., both CIO affiliates, was given a final o.k. at the furriers' convention here.

'Moronic'

Indianapolis, Ind. — "Moronic" is the word for the AFL leadership's attack on the Wagner Act, according to an article written for the typographical workers magazine by Woodruff Randolph, secretary-treasurer of the powerful AFL international union.

Memorial

Chicago.—This city's workers will once again pay tribute to the ten Little Steel strikers brutally killed by Chicago police in the Memorial Day massacre of 1937.

$50,000

Washington.—Fines amounting to $50,000 have been levied on struck oil tanker lines for violations of "safety-at-sea" laws, Sec. of Commerce Harry Hopkins revealed. The operators had been using scab crews.

Textile Union Wins

New York, May 20.—Two outstanding victories in the carpet industry have been won by the CIO textile workers.

In Yonkers, N. Y., the Textile Workers Organizing Committee won an election conducted among 5,000 employes of the Alexander Smith & Sons Carpet Co. by an overwhelming vote. In addition it signed an agreement with the Bigelow-Sanford Carpet Co. covering the firm's big plants at Amsterdam, N. Y. and Thompsonville, Conn., and affecting some 6,000 workers.

The election at Yonkers, held by the National Labor Relations Board resulted in 2,682 votes for the TWOC; 1474 for the Independent Smith Workers, called a company union by the CIO union, and 439 for no union.

PREDICTS CONTRACT

Emil Rieve, executive director of TWOC at the time of the election, predicted that an agreement would soon be negotiated with the company, which is one of the largest in the carpet and rug industry.

As Mine Workers Won Union Shop Conditions

Two stages in the smashing victory of the United Mine Workers struggle to win the union shop for the bituminous industry and prevent AFL company-union dual outfits from gaining a foothold.

TOP: Pres. John L. Lewis signs the new two-year agreement, as Charles O'Neill (left), operators' representative, and John R. Steelman, U. S. conciliator, look on.

BOTTOM: White House conference which helped break deadlocked negotiations. Left to right: Pres. Lewis, O'Neill, Van Bittner, UMW negotiator, Vice-Pres. Philip Murray, and W. L. Robison, operator who headed the joint wage conference. Picture was taken after a long meeting with Pres. Roosevelt.

Lewis Hits Chandler's Treachery

(See Stories Page Three)

PHILADELPHIA, May 20.—Unity of all the country's 1,250,000 textile workers in a single CIO industrial union, was the goal set by the 750 delegates who met in Philadelphia to form the Textile Workers Union of America.

Formed through a merger of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee and the United Textile Workers, the new CIO union already has contracts with 1,014 companies covering 274 thousand workers, and an additional 150,000 have signed membership cards.

Highlight of the convention was a speech by CIO President John L. Lewis, who told of the great victory of the United Mine Workers in winning union shop agreements covering 435,000 soft coal miners.

Lewis told the story of Governor Chandler's treachery to the Kentucky mine workers, and denounced his attempt to drive the Harlan county miners back to work at the point of the bayonet.

Insurance Firm Signs Agreement

New York, May 20—Signing of a nation-wide contract with the Sun Life Insurance Co. of America was followed two days later here by an announcement that the United Office and Professional Workers, CIO affiliate, would start negotiations with the Unity Life Insurance Co.

The Sun Life Pact, signed in Philadelphia, marked the first contract of its kind for the industrial insurance agents' division of the union.

TO BE EXTENDED

Only the Philadelphia district offices of the company, employing about 120 people, are covered by the agreement at the present time. Union and company negotiators agreed, however, to extend its provisions "to any city or area in which the union represents or shall in the future represent a majority" of the employes. The firm operates in ten states.

Vacations with pay, arbitration of dismissals and establishment of grievance systems are established in the contract.

7% RAISE

Philadelphia—Wages are raised seven per cent as a result of a new city-wide contract signed by the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers covering tool and die workers in this city.

Transit Union Gets Contract; Fights Bill

NEW YORK, May 20. (FP) — The Transport Workers Union today was working under a new two-year, closed shop contract with the Third Ave. Railway System, covering 3,500 street-car workers and increasing their pay an average of $100 per man per year.

The agreement is retroactive to April 1, expiration date of the 90-day extension of the previous contract.

The $350,000 wage boost came in the form of hourly increases running between two and four cents an hour. Other gains include the granting of four paid holidays a year and extension of sick leave benefits from one to two weeks.

Negotiations are still under way for renewal of contracts covering 29,000 workers on the two privately operated subway lines.

FIGHT WICKS BILL

Working on another front, the TWU demanded that Gov. Herbert Lehman veto the Wicks Bill, which would rob several thousand workers of seniority and other union benefits when the city acquires title to the IRT and BMT subway systems under the transit unification program.

Pres. Michael Quill charged in a wire to the governor that the bill had been jammed through both houses of the legislature by Republican and Tammany Hall leaders in the hope of embarrassing Mayor LaGuardia of New York City. He cited a letter written by the mayor describing the Wicks measure as ill-advised and premature.

Representatives of some 800 civic and fraternal organizations which have endorsed the union's fight against the bill, met at TWU headquarters and discussed plans for the continuation of the fight until the governor's veto is secured.

Winner

Maury Maverick, fiery liberal and a leader of the progressive bloc in last year's Congress, who was elected mayor of San Antonio, Texas, with the help of labor and liberal forces.

$6,500 Job

Washington, May 20 — Applications are being accepted by the U. S. Civil Service Commission for the $6,500-a-year position as regional director of the Social Security Board in the seventh region, the SSB announced here.

Applications, which are obtainable from the Civil Service Commission in Washington, are limited to people whose legal residence for the past six months has been in the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina and Tennessee. Requirements include five years' experience in the field of social welfare, industrial relations or labor legislation.

Mine Union Backs Bill to Probe Deaths, Accidents

WASHINGTON, May 20—Provision for annual government inspecton of health and safety conditions in the nation's coal mines with the aim of giving a more complete picture of mine hazards, is made in bills filed today with the House of Representatives and the Senate.

The bills, sponsored by Rep. Kent Keller, Illinois liberal Democrat, and Sen. Neely of West Virginia, longtime friend of labor, have the backing of the United Mine Workers. The bills are numbered H. R. 6352 and S. 2420.

TO GET INFORMATION

They provide that the Secretary of the Interior be authorized to obtain information relating to health and safety conditions in the mines, the causes of accidents involving bodily injury or loss of life and causes of occupational diseases originating in the mines.

The government studies would be employed to determine the best methods of using public funds to prevent such conditions, for publishing reports, studies and statistical exhibits, for use by the Bureau of Census and by Congress in considering health and accident legislation.

Studies by the statistical department of the UMW have shown that mine fatalities are 10 times more frequent than those in manufacturing industries, permanent disabilities twice as frequent and temporary disabilities four times more frequent.

Since the U. S. Bureau of Mines was established in 1906 down to the end of 1937, mine fatalities totaled 58,600, and the number of injured is conservatively estimated at 3,516,000.

SHOW HIGH RATE

Other facts brought out by the union:

1. The American mine fatality rate exceeds that of Europe.
2. Larger mines have greater death rates than small mines.
3. The rate of mine fatalities is decreasing only in the Appalachian area, rising in other regions.
4. Anthracite accident rate exceeds that in bituminous.
5. Fatalities caused by dynamite and explosions is decreasing, with the rate of deaths due to mechanization, transportation and electricity showing a great increase.
6. No progress has been made in cutting the rate of deaths caused by falls of coal and roof structures.
7. The cost of mine accidents exceeds a half billion dollars annually.

BAN NAZI GOODS

Toronto—Toronto's city fathers have just voted three to one to ban all Nazi-made goods in future city purchases. The ban is retroactive to April 1.

CIO Asphalt Union Gets Pact For 250

Louisville, Ky., May 20—A contract covering 250 workers of the Kentucky Rock Asphalt Co. was announced this week by Peter Campbell, CIO regional director in this area.

Signed with the United Asphalt Workers Local Industrial Union 430, the contract provides for a 2½c hourly wage increase for 90 per cent of the workers, and a five to ten per cent for the other ten per cent.

As conditions improve, Campbell said, some 500 men will ultimately be given employment in the firm's quarries and will be covered by the terms of the contract.

Picket For Wage-Law Enforcement

San Antonio, Tex., May 20—CIO pecan workers here started picketing wage-hour law chisellers today in a drive to force them to obey the law of the land.

The workers, members of the Pecan Workers Union, an affiliate of the CIO Cannery and Agricultural Workers, put lines around two plants that have consistently violated the law and the orders of Administrator Andrews.

These two firms, both small ones, have been paying their workers four and five cents an hour — a fraction of the 25 cents they are entitled to under the law.

Renew 44 Steel Pacts

CHICAGO, Ill., May 20—Forty-four contracts with steel corporations located in the midwest area have been renewed in the last two months, according to Van Bittner, regional director for the Steel Workers Organizing Committee.

In addition, nine new contracts have been secured, and more than a half a dozen others are now in the process of negotiation.

Seek Canadian Pact

A delegation representing the Inverness, Nova Scotia, local of the United Mine Workers, which is seeking the first union agreement covering employes of a government-owned mine. Picture shows, front row, left to right: Silby Barrett, Intl. Board Member for UMW District 26; John A. MacNeill, president of the Inverness local, and Moses Coady. Back row: D. J. McNeill and Inverness Sub-District Board Member D. C. MacLeod.

Phoney Compensation Bill Attacked By Maryland Unions

CUMBERLAND, Md., May 13.—Organized labor in Maryland is launching a signature campaign to prevent enactment of an occupational disease bill described by John T. Jones, President of the Maryland - District of Columbia Industrial Union Council as "calculated only to protect insurance companies." The announcement was made after the last quarterly meeting of the State Council.

Jones, who is also president of District 16 of the United Mine Workers, warned Maryland labor that it "takes a great responsibility if it accepts this law without a fight."

SEEK REFERENDUM

The Maryland legislature has already passed this bill and it now awaits the governor's signature. Under terms of Maryland law, however, 10,000 signatures are sufficient to force the submission of any law to statewide referendum before it may become a statute.

Pointing to some of the harmful results labor may expect from the bill, Jones said: "Workers who get diseases which on first reading seem to be covered in this law will find themselves getting very little if anything out of it. The proposed administration by a group of doctors from whose findings of fact there is no appeal is not a very comfortable prospect.

"Enlightened employers should join with labor against this bill. Management will find itself paying high premiums under the illusion that they are protecting the working people."

PETITIONS READY

"We are getting our petitions ready and are sure that we can obtain 10,000 signatures within a week after we start getting them," Jones said.

The state CIO organization also voted support to the National Maritime Union in its strike against the Standard Oil Company; endorsed H. R. 5909 in the U. S. Congress to liberalize the unemployment compensation system in the District of Columbia and voted full endorsement of the movement in Washington for an elected city council.

AFL Official Gets $5,000; Little Work

Cumberland, Md., May 20. — Meet Joe McCurdy, the multiple job man who "allegedly represents the Maryland-District of Columbia Federation of Labor," is the subject matter of the leading editorial this week in the "Voice of Labor," union paper of Western Maryland.

McCurdy, the editorial explains, holds down a $5,000 job on the Maryland Unemployment Compensation Board, supposedly a full time affair. He is also a paid business agent for the United Garment Workers in Baltimore.

He is president of the state and D. C. AFL federation. He also heads the Baltimore AFL body.

WASTE OF MONEY

And now, says the editorial, McCurdy has just been re-appointed by Gov. O'Conor to the compensation job for another six years, during which time he will take $30,000 of the taxpayers' dough for supposedly full time work.

"May we ask by what authority state officials pay McCurdy $5,000 a year for full time service when he already holds four other jobs," the editorial says.

Canada Passes 'Wagner Act'

Ottawa, Canada, May 20 — Canadian workers, after months of persistent struggle, have pushed a national labor protection act through Parliament that guarantees the right to collective bargaining and provides penalties for employers caught violating it.

The act is an amendment to the Dominion criminal code, and sets fines up to $1,000 for any individual or corporation refusing to employ or firing workers because of union membership.

Seven of the nine Canadian provinces have similar laws, and the present Dominion act will reinforce them. Big business in Ontario, which has no provincial act, is already contending that the new law does not apply to them, and are laying lines for a court fight on "provincial rights."

Leaders in the fight against the labor protection act are the big industrialists in the Canadian Manufacturers Assn., counterpart of our NAM, and the big mining barons dominated by English and American capital.

Coal Union Fights Harlan Operators; Textile Workers Form New CIO Union

Plan Big Drive For Members; Elect Rieve

PHILADELPHIA, May 20.—A giant new CIO textile union, with hundreds of thousands already in its ranks, laid plans to push forward organization of the country's 1,250,000 textile workers, at the first constitutional convention of the Textile Workers Union of America.

The new union was formed by a merger of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee and the United Textile Workers of America. At separate conventions on May 15 both groups voted unanimously to merge and thereafter met in joint session. About 750 delegates, representing all textile centers of the country, attended the five-day convention.

Highlights of the convention were the keynote speeches of CIO Pres. John L. Lewis and TWOC Chairman Sidney Hillman, who were accorded resounding ovations.

TELLS OF VICTORY

Lewis told of the great victory just won by the United Mine Workers and brought the greetings of the whole movement to the textile workers. Pointing to the destructive competition that ravages the textile industry and impoverishes and exploits the workers in it, he said that the industry sorely needs "the stabilizing and benificient effects of modern collective bargaining."

"The law of the jungle obtains in the textile industry, the law of tooth and fang," Lewis said. "The only protection you have against continued exploitation is your union."

RAPS APEX VERDICT

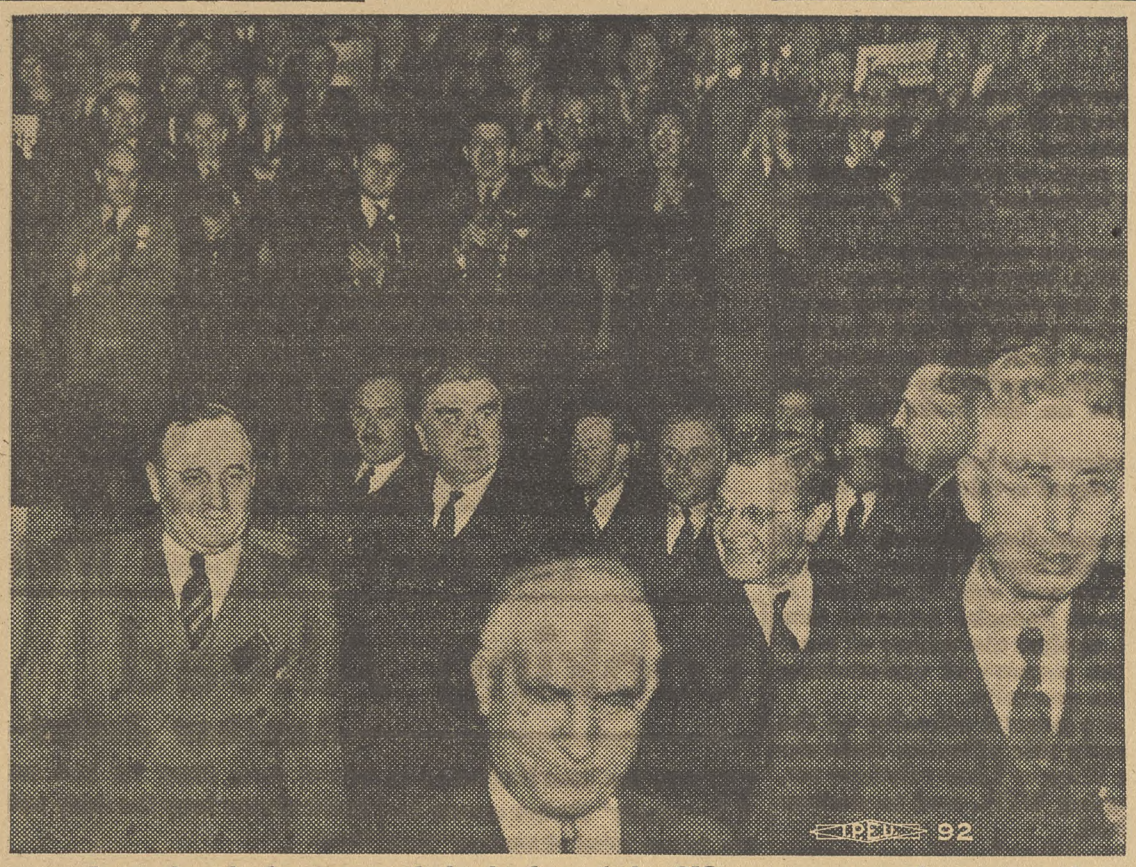
Lewis denounced the use of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act to destroy unions, as in the Apex Hosiery Company verdict, on the grounds of interfering with interstate commerce, as "a fantastic absurdity."

"If decisions of this character are to be sustained by our judicial tribunals," he said, "then labor must demand of Congress that it be relieved from the strictures of an act that was intended to restrain the rapacity of great combinations of capital that were exploiting the people."

He told the story of Governor Chandler's betrayal of the Kentucky Miners, and called for federal action to prevent his misuse of the national guard. "It will take more than a Chandler, or an ungrateful governor," Lewis

Continued on page six

Textile Workers Union Meets



Lots of enthusiasm greeted the leaders of the CIO movement as they appeared at the textile workers convention in Philadelphia. Picture shows delegates applauding John L. Lewis as he appears to address the convention. With him are, left to right: Emil Rieve, head of the newly-formed Textile Workers Union of America, Thomas MacMahon, onetime head of the United Textile Workers, Chairman Sidney Hillman of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee and James Starr, TWOC secretary-treasurer.

Mine Workers Overcoming Last Holdout

NEW YORK, May 19. — Harlan County, Kentucky, coal operators, supported by a governor who doublecrossed the state's workers and called out the National Guard for anti-union activities, today were the sole holdouts against the union shop contract offer of the United Mine Workers.

Efforts to herd the miners in the county were bearing out assertions by UMW Pres. John L. Lewis that "machine guns won't mine coal."

Pres. John L. Lewis of the UMW called for an investigation of the use of troops in a county where a LaFollette Committee probe two years ago showed unparalleled disregard for civil liberties and close ties between the mine operators and the law enforcement agencies.

"Those troops are armed with equipment furnished by the federal government," Lewis pointed out, "and part of their pay as soldiers comes from the federal treasury, and I believe there is an obligation upon the federal government to ascertain what Happy Chandler is doing with those troops in Kentucky. And I believe there is an obligation upon the federal government to ascertain what suppression of civil liberties is taking place in those mining camps behind the cordon of troops."

TREMENDOUS VICTORY

Events in Harlan temporarily obscured the magnitude of the mine union's tremendous victory at the end of the seven-week lockout. The UMW was granted sole bargaining rights throughout the entire Appalachian area, and later in other bituminous fields, as well as the union shop. Under this provision, every worker in mines covered by the contract must join the UMW as a condition of work.

Thus the nation's most powerful union emerged from its weeks of negotiations and from the operators' lockout, stronger than ever before in its history. The agreement spelled doom for efforts of top leaders of the AFL and anti-union interests to inject dual or craft unions as a wedge to disrupt the UMW.

FIVE BOLTERS SIGN

Six operators' groups bolted from the conference when the employers accepted the terms of

Continued on Page Six

Fur Workers OK Merger With Leather Union

ATLANTIC CITY, May 20. — Merger of the Fur Workers International Union and the National Leather Workers Assn., together with election of Ben Gold, president, and other officers, were the final major actions of the 13th convention of the CIO union here this week.

The new union, formed with the approval of the CIO and with the overwhelming support of the membership of both groups, will be known as the Intl. Fur and Leather Workers Union of the U. S. and Canada. It has a potential membership of 125,000, of whom more than 65,000 are already enrolled in the CIO.

MUCH IN COMMON

Speaking to the convention before the merger vote, Pres. Gold told the delegates: "This is a great moment for both unions, for both the Leather Workers and the Fur Workers have much in common. The merger will be of benefit to the entire membership of the international.

"Our organizers have a great deal of ability, knowledge and experience. Together with the fighting leather workers we will in no time organize the unorganized sections of the leather industry.

"If you are ready and willing to make your union stronger and larger, give the Leather Workers your cooperation financially, morally and organizationally."

PROUD TO JOIN

Daniel Boyle, secretary-treasurer of the Leather Workers Assn., told

Continued on Page Five

Seek Steel Pact In Nova Scotia

Halifax, N. S., May 20 — Regional CIO Director, Silby Barrett, is leading negotiations on behalf of 3,500 steel workers at Sydney to secure a signed wage agreement with the Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation.

Belief that a satisfactory contract would soon be signed was expressed by Mr. Barrett just before his departure from Halifax recently to arrange a conference to discuss terms.

Address Meeting

CIO Pres. John L. Lewis appearing at the Textile Workers Union convention, flanked by Vice-Pres. Sidney Hillman (left) and Pres. Emil Rieve of the new TWUA.

Lewis Discusses Apex Case

PHILADELPHIA, May 20.—Discussing the Apex Hosiery damage suit case at the Textile Workers Union of America convention here, CIO Pres. John L. Lewis said:

"Here in Philadelphia, the hosiery workers have been judicially attacked in the courts, and the U. S. court here has handed down a decision in the Apex case assessing hundreds of thousands of dollars of damages against the local union under the theory that the strike in which those men engaged was intended to be and was in fact an interference with the interstate commerce.

BROKEN PROMISE

"When the Sherman law was enacted in this country, labor was promised by the Congress that the Act would never be used as an instrumentality to destroy labor unions. It was presumed to be directed at the great combinations of capital, openly and obviously undertaking to combine, to fix prices and establish monopolies in essential commodities. It is indeed a sad commentary that now the Sherman Act is to be used as an instrument of oppression against labor.

NEED AMENDMENTS

If decisions of this character are to be sustained by our judicial tribunals, then labor in this country must organize, and labor in this country must demand of the federal Congress that it be relieved from the strictures of an Act that the nation knows was intended to restrain the rapacity of great combinations of capital that were exploiting the people."

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II May 22, 1939 No. 21

The Miners' Triumph

The United Mine Workers of America has won one of the most sweeping victories in labor history, in its new agreements with the soft coal operators of the country.

Every unionist knows that the strength of his labor organization is the basic factor which will determine all improvements in conditions which he can win.

The union shop clause written into the new contracts establishes the basic power of the UMWA beyond challenge and beyond dispute. It insures against the employers promoting dual unions to divide and destroy the miners' united strength. It provides that every miner employed shall join the union, so that all alike pay their fair share for the benefits the union wins and non-unionists do not ride free on the backs of dues-paying members.

In defeating the long lockout, designed to break their union, the mine workers have rendered a signal service to the whole labor movement.

They have broken the back of an open-shop drive which, had it succeeded in the coal industry, would have threatened every other labor organization. For it was well established that it was outside anti-union industrial and financial interests that caused and maintained the lockout, against the wishes of most of the operators themselves, for the purpose of undermining the whole CIO and labor organization generally.

The coal lockout was but part of a general offensive on the part of anti-labor reaction. Politically this offensive finds expression in the drives to amend the Wagner labor relations act, to starve the unemployed by strangling WPA, and to destroy the social legislation of the New Deal.

The success of the miners is a major defeat for this reactionary offensive. For organized labor is the backbone of the whole liberal and progressive cause.

The miners have turned the tide of battle. They have placed reaction on the defensive. They have rallied the labor and liberal forces, lending them new courage and confidence. Now it is our turn to advance.

The CIO Spirit

The great convention in Philadelphia which combined the Textile Workers Organizing Committee and the United Textile Workers in the new Textile Workers Union of America, furnished living testimony of the validity and vitality of the CIO program for organizing the unorganized.

Hundreds of thousands of textile workers have been brought into the union ranks in the last two years, and have won the benefits of union agreements. The 750 delegates came from north and south, from east and west, from every textile center in the country. Such a large and representative convention was never before possible in the whole history of the industry.

The week before, the International Fur Workers Union met in convention to ratify a merger with the National Leather Workers Association. One of the main purposes of this merger is to throw the full weight of a long-established and well-organized union behind organization of the unorganized in related fields, just as has been done by such unions as the United Mine Workers and the Amalgamated Clothing Workers in the cases of the steel and textile industries.

Both of these conventions manifested the spirit of the CIO—the will to organize, the willingness of older unions to help new organizations, and the realization that the organization of the unorganized is the main job to which all unions must devote themselves in their own interests as well as in those of the whole movement.

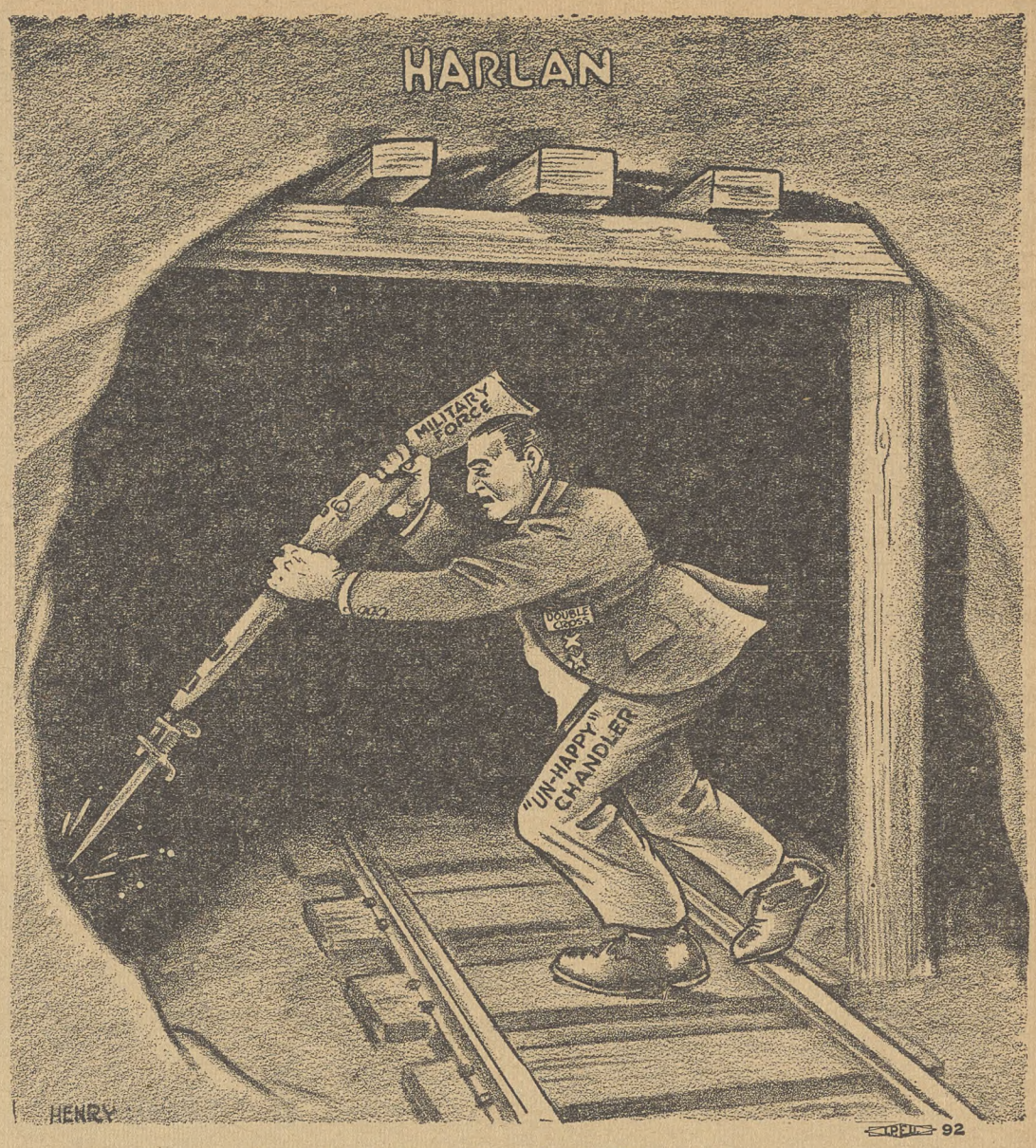
A Minimum of Safety

In calling for an average of three million jobs on the WPA for the next year, Pres. John L. Lewis of the CIO described this as a "minimum of safety."

The present tory drive to throw large numbers of unemployed off WPA, and to strangle the whole program through reduced appropriations, is not only callous in the extreme but it is playing with dynamite.

Business recovery, Lewis says, "will not come if federal investment in the form of WPA expenditures is seriously cut at the present time. Not only does the reduction of WPA employment at this time threaten economic reversals but it also carries with it political dangers."

In pressing for useful work for all unemployed at wages "sufficient to maintain an American standard of living," the CIO is following the course of true patriotism. The tories who oppose such a program are as much enemies of their country as were the tories of 1776.



You Can't Dig Coal With Bayonets

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Another Judas

WHAT has been happening in "bloody" Harlan county today, brings to mind another "field of blood."

The Bible relates that when Judas Iscariot repented and took his thirty pieces of silver to the temple, the chief priests would not put them in the treasury because they were the "price of blood."

Instead they bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in; "wherefore that field was called the field of blood unto this day."

Bloody Harlan has its Judas today in the person of Governor Chandler.

Alongside the miners killed in the fight for unionism, whose memory and whose living fellows he has betrayed, Chandler has dug his own political grave in Harlan's "field of blood."

The slow, deliberate words of John L. Lewis at the textile workers' convention were the soil thrown over the remains of Chandler's political career. He left only a double cross to mark the spot.

A Night of Betrayal

The huge audience listened breathlessly while Lewis told the simple, sordid story of Chandler's betrayal of the miners.

Like Judas, "Happy" Chandler broke bread with and swore his loyalty to those he was to betray, on the very evening he was planning a deal with their enemies. Like Judas, he betrayed them with a kiss.

Lewis related how Chandler pledged himself to give a square deal to the miners and to all labor, at a meeting of 35,000 miners in Pikeville, Ky. That night he came to Lewis' hotel room, and when he left at three o'clock in the morning, with tears streaming down his cheeks he swore that he would never forget what the miners were doing for him and would always keep the faith with them.

Chandler must have heard the cock crow in that early morning after he left Lewis' room, just as Judas heard the cock crow on the morning of Christ's betrayal.

For at half-past eight that very morning he left the hotel on his own Judas mission. "It was several months after," Lewis said, "before I found out that when he left the hotel that morning he drove to a secret rendezvous to meet a committee of Harlan county operators with whom he made a dishonorable deal."

Doublecross Chandler

While Lewis was speaking, the newsboys outside edged in to hear what he was saying.

And when the audience left the hall, they were greeted with the newsboys' cry: "Read about Doublecross Chandler! Doublecross Chandler sends more troops!"

More troops—that was the only answer that the grinning "madman of Kentucky" could make to the exposure of his treachery.

The artificial smile must have cracked on his face when he read of Lewis' speech.

The man who unsheathed the sword where peace prevailed—who sought to drive the Kentucky miners back to work with bayonets on the eve of the nationwide coal agreement—must have seen in the newspaper headlines the handwriting on the wall.

The now unhappy Chandler must know his political days are numbered. For the political Judas, like the scab, is despised by those who use him as well as by those he betrays, and is scorned by all honest men.

Little Men in Office

The United Mine Workers of America, fresh from the greatest triumph in its history, has little to fear from the Chandlers and other "dishonorable little men in office," as Lewis called them. The potters field of politics is strewn with their bones.

The miners of Kentucky will know how to deal politically with their Chandler, just as the West Virginia miners will know how to deal with their Rush Holt at the polls.

But each such story of labor betrayal deserves repeating and remembering, for the lessons it teaches of the need for union and political organization, so that the workers may not have to "depend upon the whims and the caprices and the mad impulses," as Lewis put it, of the Chandlers and their ilk.

To Honor Massacre Victims

CHICAGO, May 20—Chicago workers will once again pay tribute to the ten Republic Steel Corp. employes who lost their lives in the Memorial Day massacre of 1937.

Van A. Bittner, midwest regional director of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, will be principal speaker at the exercises, to be held on Sunday, May 28, at 2 p. m. Thousands of workers from the city's steel plants and from other important industries will be present and will observe a minute of silence in honor of the victims of police brutality.

Typo Leader Brands AFL Attack 'Moronic'

WASHINGTON, May 20.—AFL "alleged labor leaders" allied with employers to amend the Wagner Act are bluntly described as "moronic" and accused of seeking special privilege or trying "to defeat the purposes of the act" in the leading editorial of the May Typographical Journal, organ of the AFL Typographical Union, issued today.

The editorial, signed by Woodruff Randolph, Journal editor, defends the Board from the charge of unfairness repeated ad nauseam by AFL top leaders, and declares:

FAIR AND ACCURATE

"In protecting the rights of workers to organize and bargain collectively it was found necessary to designate some authoritative body to rule as to the appropriate collective bargaining unit.

"In the main, the Board has no doubt done as fair and accurate a service as has been possible. Perfect justice and perfect wisdom can only be expected when we have passed beyond this vale of strife and tears."

Pointing out that the record of the Board shows only five per cent of cases coming before it for final decision, the editorial says; "The decisions of the Board can only be enforced through court action, which can only delay and defeat the purposes of the act."

MORONIC

Board decisions have been upheld by the Supreme Court on every vital issue, the editorial declares.

"Therefore those who would defeat the purposes of the act are resorting to amendments. It is moronic for alleged labor 'leaders' to join the employer campaign for amendment.

"Neither the AFL, the CIO nor both combined can control any governmental agency either appointed or elected to administer any law. Fair and impartial administration is all we can hope to get.

OUR DUTY

"Those who seek amendment to the Wagner Act are either seeking special privilege or they are trying to defeat the purposes of the law. Either course is inimical to the welfare of the millions who must work for wages and who can protect themselves and advance their own interests only through unionism."

Sen. Wagner Opposes AFL Amendments

WASHINGTON, May 20—Sen. Robert Wagner is staunchly opposed to all the AFL-sponsored amendments to the National Labor Relations Act, he told the House Labor Committee. He also specifically opposed the proposal for a new five-man Labor Board.

The Walsh-Green bill, as well as other proposed changes to the labor relations law, appear to him "inadvisable" at the present time, the veteran New York liberal told Chairman Mary Norton of the committee.

Only change he would consider, Wagner added, would be to permit employers to petition for a Labor Board election in certain limited cases. But this, he made clear, requires no amendment to the Wagner Act, being easily possible through a change in the NLRB's regulations.

BARGAINING UNIT

Wagner slashed into another AFL proposal that bargaining units be limited to one employer, thereby outlawing geographical units such as that of the west coast longshoremen, who were certified for all ports on the Pacific.

Citing how the clothing workers and other established unions deal with more than one employer in their bargaining, the Senator said that to limit the Board's authority in this respect would be "undesirable."

Employer Finds Wagner Act OK

Chicago, May 20—Sewell Avery, chairman of the J. P. Morgan-controlled Montgomery, Ward & Co., feels that objectives of the Wagner Act are "sound and must prevail," he said here.

Voice of the AFL

Waukesha, Wis., May 20 — AFL Machinists local 1377, largest union in this city, today called on the AFL executive council and Joseph Padway, AFL attorney, to "cease their attacks" on the Wagner Labor Relations Act.

Stating that we "have had an example in Wisconsin of what happens to liberal labor laws when labor-haters have an opportunity to change them," the union accused the AFL council of joining hands with the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers and the U. S. Chamber of Comerce in a campaign to "emaciate" the Act "because in that way they are convinced they can destroy a rival labor organization."

Pres. Emile Jacquet of the local pointed to Padway's lack of "consistency" in attempting to save Wisconsin's "baby Wagner Act" while at the same time "he turns right around and tries to change the National Labor Relations law to conform with those vicious Wisconsin laws."

Five Locals

San Francisco, May 20 — Five more AFL locals here were on record today against amending the Wagner Act.

The unions: Electrical Workers Local 6; Machinists Local 68; Cooks, Pastry Cooks and Assistants, Local 44; Lumber Clerks and Lumbermen Local 2559 and Brewers and Maltsters, Local 7.

SIGN PACT

Indianapolis, Ind.—The Philco company has signed a contract with the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers covering employes at its new refrigerator plant in this city.

Mediation Chief Criticizes AFL Amendments

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, May 20. — Practically every amendment suggested for the Wagner Act is unnecessary or inconsistent with federal labor policy, William Leiserson, National Mediation Board chairman and a prospective member of the National Labor Relations Board, indicated in his appearance before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor.

Leiserson vigorously criticized the aims of the Burke bill and others endorsed by reactionary manufacturers' groups.

Efforts to take away the workers' property rights in their jobs would leave them helpless before the onslaught of anti-union employers, he pointed out.

"The fact that the Labor Relations Act deals only with employe's rights does not take away the protections that employers already have under existing statutes and court procedures," he told the committee. "But if the Act is amended as proposed by S. 1264, there would be no law or court to protect the legal rights of the employes.

WOULD HURT WORKERS

"Employers would again be in a position to punish and discharge employes for exercising their right to organize and bargain collectively. They could do this arbitrarily and without a hearing. The employer would be prosecutor, judge and jury, and no court would be available to hear the employes' case or to review the employers' judgment.

Leiserson revealed himself in disagreement with the AFL top leadership over its demand that interference on the part of employers with their workers' choice of a union no longer be considered an unfair labor practice.

"The railway labor organizations, most of whom are also affiliated with the AFL, have always insisted to the National Mediation Board that employers' opinions when stated to their employes . . . are in fact intimidating and coercing since they come from men who have the right to hire and discharge employes," Leiserson said.

"Such expressions of opinion, they have insisted, interfere with the freedom of employes to form and to participate in labor organizations and make a free choice of representatives by the employes impossible when elections are held.

"The labor organizations have argued that just as many states prohibit employers from telling their employes what candidates or parties to vote for in political elections, so the employers should be prohibited from telling employes what organizations or candidates to vote for in elections or representatives for collective bargaining."

CRAFT UNION PROPOSAL

The newly-appointed member of the Board also took a whack at another AFL sacred cow — the demand that the NLRB be required by law to set up craft bargaining units in every case.

Under the Railway Labor Act, catering as it is to an industry filled with craft unions, the majority of workers in any "craft or class" have the right to select representatives for that group.

Fur Union OKs Merger With Leather Union

Continued from page three

the delegates that he was proud to have joined the leadership of the new international.

"We hope that plans will be devised where we may be helped to organize the thousands of unorganized leather workers who are looking to all of us for leadership," he said.

"Ours is the greater responsibility to you fur workers. We pledge ourselves to live up to the confidence which you have shown us. We are mighty proud to become a part of this organization."

LEADERS ELECTED

The merged union will be divided for organizational purposes into two sections, one for fur workers and the other for leather workers. Ben Gold, elected president of the entire union, Pietro Lucchi, secretary-treasurer and 16 vice-presidents will also head the fur division.

James Chenery, chairman of the Leather Workers Assn., and Daniel Boyle, secretary-treasurer, will serve in the same capacities as leaders of the leather section of the international.

The first meeting of the international executive board ordered a fund of $20,000 to be set up as a starter for the drive in leather. The drive will begin as soon as all locals have ratified the merger formally.

FEATURES OF THE DRIVE

Features of the drive in addition to the campaign to organize the unorganized, will include establishment of uniform rates and hours, a standardized union label, a credit union loan fund for members, a rest home of workers in the New York area, vigorous prosecution of the health program, and other points designed to advance the welfare of workers in the fur and leather industry.

The joint executive board will meet every six months.

Down The Boardwalk

Down the boardwalk at Atlantic City, N. J., swings this band of the Intl. Fur & Leather Workers Union, led by a smartly attired drum major. Inset shows Pres. Ben Gold of the union and CIO Director John Brophy discussing problems at the union's convention, which wound up its sessions at the resort city last week.

Textile Union Plans Big Campaign

Continued from page three

said, "to stop the onward progress of the mine workers and organized labor in this country.

HILLMAN SPEAKS

Hillman told the delegates that "in the very near future you will be representing every worker in the textile industry." He denounced the dumping policy of the dictator nations of Europe and Asia and demanded government action to tighten the barriers against an invasion of goods "made by countries which have become national prisons."

Hillman also called for the establishment of a national economic council, with government, industry, labor and agriculture participating, to increase purchasing power at home and to raise 12,000,000 Americans now out of jobs above "starvation or bare subsistence level."

Referring to the gains made by the CIO textile union within two years, Hillman said that 274,000 workers employed by 1,014 companies have been placed under union agreements and an additional 150,000 have signed membership cards.

FRATERNAL DELEGATES

Evidence of the increasing movement to bring all organized textile workers into a single union was brought to the convention by a fraternal delegation representing the Independent Textile Union of Woonsocket, Rhode Island, an unaffiliated organization of some 10,000 members.

Lawrence Spitz, secretary of the organization, told the delegates that he hoped his union would soon affiliate with the Textile Workers Union of America.

Among the resolutions passed was one presented by the UTW delegates approving the agreement signed with the CIO in March, 1937, endorsing the expulsion of Francis J. Gorman, and extending "warmest thanks and appreciation for the splendid assistance" rendered by the CIO to the textile workers.

The convention went on record opposing all amendments to the Wagner Labor Relations Act and denouncing the conspiracy of "certain officeholders in the AFL" with "the most notorious open shop reactionaries."

RIEVE OUTLINES PLANS

Emil Rieve, executive director of the TWOC, who was later elected president of the union, laid before the convention a plan for a consumers' group retail trades department within the CIO, through which clothing, textile, foodstuffs, footwear and retail employes could combine for such purposes as eliminating the sales of goods manufactured in sweat shops and non-union establishments.

The convention went on record endorsing the proposal of the CIO for unity with the AFL in a united trade union movement, condemning the tactics of those AFL leaders "who place their personal advantages and success over the most vital needs of American labor," and calling for the negotiation of an honorable peace between the CIO and the AFL.

Strikebreaker

A Kentucky National Guardsman stands on duty outside a Harlan County mine as Gov. A. B. 'Happy' Chandler tries to force men back to work in face of refusal of Harlan operators to sign up with the United Mine Workers.

Form Defense Group In W. Virginia

Parkersburg, W. Va., May 20—CIO unionists in this city formed a Wagner Act Defense Committee and have launched a big telegram drive to get their sentiments registered with Congress.

Several hundred signatures will be affixed to a wire addressed to Sen. Elbert Thomas, chairman of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, telling of the unions' opposition to all amendments.

Harlan Mine Owners, Militia Fight Union

Continued from page three

the union's demands. Within less than a week, however, five of these had reversed their earlier decisions and signed. They are: the Virginia Coal Operators Assn., the Southern Appalachian Coal Operators' Assn., the Hazard Coal Operators' Assn., the Southwest Virginia Coal Operators' Assn., the Big Sandy-Elkhorn Assn., and the Kanahwa Associated.

As a result only the small group of Harlan County employers continue to fight the union. Of the 450,000 bituminous miners locked out, about 425,000 are now working under contract.

Anthracite operators and union representatives are still negotiating a new agreement at meetings in this city.

Only a handful of workers had trickled back to work in the mine pits of Harlan's valleys. William Turnblazer, president of UMW District 19, estimated that less than a thousand men—including bosses and maintenance workers—were back in the mines, leaving the ranks of the union's 25,000 members in the area holding fast against a return to their jobs except under a union shop agreement.

1,200 GUARDSMEN

Gov. A. B. 'Un-happy' Chandler increased the number of militia on strikebreaking duty to more than 1,200. Bridgadier-Gen. Ellerbe Carter, in command of the National Guard detachment, announced:

"The troops are under orders to shoot, and shoot to kill, when necessary. There'll be no pushing around of soldiers on this duty."

TITLER RESIGNS POST

George Titler, secretary-treasurer of the UMW district, resigned from the Kentucky Unemployment Compensation Board in protest against Chandler's actions.

"I do not want my 30 years as a labor leader contaminated by your administration," he wired Chandler.

Judge C. E. Ball, who relayed the operators demand for use of troops to the governor — after Sheriff Herbert Cawood had previously refused to make the request —is a large Harland landowner and holder of stock in two of the affected mines, it was revealed.

LEWIS GIVES WARNING

Speaking in New York at the final session of the bituminous negotiations, Pres. Lewis warned that "he who thinks the mine workers are going to be starved back into the operation of these mines on a non-union basis or on the terms of the operators is a fool. . . . The time has gone by in the United States of America when the coal miners can be shot back into the mines."

10 FREED

Newton, Ia., May 20—Ten CIO workers, members of the Electrical and Radio Workers, were acquitted here on charges of kidnapping growing out of last year's strike against the Maytag Washing Machine Co.

Intl. Vice President Sentner was held, however, on charges of "criminal syndicalism."

Lewis Attacks Gov. Chandler's Doublecross

PHILADELPHIA, May 20—Following is the section of the speech delivered at the convention of the Textile Workers Union of America, CIO, by Pres. John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers, in which he referred to the use of the Kentucky National Guard against strikers:

"You men and women from Kentucky know about Harlan County. So do I. There is nothing wrong in Harlan County, except that there is a group of operators there who do not want their men to enjoy collective bargaining.

"The operators have found themselves a Governor who is willing to carry out their orders and use military power of the Commonwealth of Kentucky to try to drive the miners back to work. But they will not succeed, and 'Happy' Chandler will not be able to destroy the United Mine Workers of America in Kentucky.

"I know 'Happy' Chandler. When he decided to run for Governor he came to Washington to see me.

ASKED SUPPORT

"He told me he believed in collective bargaining, against the suppression of civil liberties in Harlan County by the Harlan operators, through their employment of gunmen and deputy sheriffs, suppression of public assemblage, or their exploitation of the mine workers; and if the mine workers would give him some support and he could be elected Governor of that Commonwealth, he would see that the mine workers of Harlan County had just the same rights of citizenship that any other citizen of Kentucky enjoyed, and we asked no more than that.

"So 'Happy' Chandler said that his uncle had been killed by falling down a coal mine when he was a small boy, because the operators did not have proper safety devices and that burned deeply in his soul and he would never forget it. He said he had been an orphan boy, and knew what it was to work for a living and that his heart beat in sympathy with the toilers of the country and mine workers of Harlan County.

"So we believed 'Happy' Chandler because we did not know that he talked with his tongue in his cheek. He invited me to come down to Kentucky with him and open his campaign in the coal fields, in great public meetings. He said he knew if I came down there that our miners would come to the meeting and he would make a lot of votes.

PLEDGED SQUARE DEAL

"So, I went down to Pikeville, Ky., in the heart of the coal fields, and 35,000 mine workers came to that meeting. 'Happy' Chandler came to that meeting, and standing with me upon the platform he pledged himself to give a square deal to the impoverished miners of Kentucky and to all labor in Kentucky.

"He said he was the champion of the common people. We did not know at that time that he was lying. That night after the meeting was over 'Happy' Chandler came to my room in the hotel. Various people came in and it was 3 o'clock in the morning before they left my room.

"With tears streaming down his cheeks he swore to me that he would never forget what the miners were doing for him and that, come what may, no representative of special interests would ever cause him to fail to do the right thing by those citizens of Kentucky who worked for a living, regardless of who they may be.

"It was several months after that before I found out that when he left the hotel that morning he drove to a secret rendevous to meet a Committee of Harlan operators, with whom he made a dishonorable deal.

"So the time went on and 'Happy' Chandler became a friend of the Harlan County operators, and became known as the enemy of the mine workers of Kentucky. When he ran for Senator last year the mine workers of Kentucky did not vote for 'Happy" Chandler. They voted for Senator Barkley. Senator Barkley won and 'Happy' Chandler is angry. As he has a lust for vengeance he is using the power of the State to appease his lust for vengeance against the mine workers of Kentucky and the UMWA.

FEDERAL EQUIPMENT

"He has ordered out the militia to block the highways in Harlan County and today the highways are blocked away from five mining communities.

"I said in New York to the coal operators of this nation but a few days ago that soldiers and guns and troops will not mine coal in America. That the time has gone by to shoot men back into the mines, and if this madman in Kentucky, who happens to hold for the moment a position of power, is unable to restrain his capacity for vengeance, then I think there should be some authority in this country that will restrain it for him.

" 'Happy' Chandler says that he does not want people coming from other states into Kentucky telling Kentuckians what to do. 'Happy' Chandler did not believe that when he invited me to come down to tell Kentuckians to vote for him. And he didn't believe it last year when he was running for Senator when he sent his confidential lady lobbyist to see me in Washington to beg me to support 'Happy' Chandler. And I refused because Chandler had betrayed us once and he will never have an opportunity to do it again.

"He has been unfaithful to his promise. He has been unfaithful to the obligation of his office. He has ordered out the troops in Kentucky in advance of any breach of the peace, or necessity for their utilization. And Chandler must be responsible before the people of this country and the people of Kentucky for his actions.

"But it will take more than a Chandler, or an unfaithful Governor, to stop the onward progress of the mine workers and organized labor in this country. These Chandlers, these Girdlers and others of their ilk are simply living demonstrations before the people of this country of the necessity of organizing to protect themselves so that they do not have to depend upon the whims and the caprices and the mad impulses, nor the unhealthy reactions of little men or dishonorable men in office."

Several thousand Harlan, Ky., miners defy Gov. Chandler's double-cross attack on their union and rally to demand that operators sign a union shop agreement.

NEW HOMES FOR OLD

A department dealing with the need for better housing and how to obtain it, conducted by the CIO Committee on Housing.

By THOMAS HUMPHRIES

Legislation is now being considered by Congress which, if passed, will double the $800,000,000 low-rent housing program which is now being carried on under the wing of the United States Housing Authority.

S-591, introduced by Senator Wagner, and H. R.-288, introduced by Representative Steagall, propose to authorize an additional $800,000,000 in loans and an additional $45,000,000 in annual rent contributions. These new loans and contributions would enable local housing authorities to build a grand total of about 350,000 or 375,000 dwellings for use by low-income families now living in the slums.

But that is not all. Housing also means jobs.

The passage of S-591 and H. R. 2888 means reemployment for thousands of unemployed workers and steadier employment for thousands of part-time and seasonal workers.

JOBS FOR WHOM?

Occasionally, I have heard CIO members complain that public housing was no interest of theirs. And why? Because it didn't mean any jobs for them.

There is no excuse for such an attitude. First of all, low-rent housing would deserve our support even if it didn't provide employment for the CIO unions. Second, the public housing program IS providing jobs for workers in the CIO organized industries, far more jobs than it provides for the building trades workers.

The real job of building a house goes on behind the scenes, often hundreds of miles from the actual site of construction. The real job of building homes goes on in the forests where timber is cut and the mills where it is processed, the steel mills where nails and girders are produced, the kilns where bricks are baked, the factories where glass is poured. . . .

Under the present $800,000,000 housing program about 1,500,000,000 board feet of lumber are being used. Also—

about 250,000 tons of reinforcing and structural steel.

—about 6,000,000 barrels of cement.

—about 600,000,000 bricks.

—about 20,000,000 square feet of window glass.

If S-591 and H. R. 2888 become law, all of these figures will be doubled.

Under the present program it is estimated that enough jobs will be created in the building materials industries to keep 220,000 men steadily at work 40 hours a week for an entire year. If the housing program is doubled, this figure will become 440,000—a sizeable figure, indeed!

NO COMPROMISE!

Since labor is in dire need of both the new jobs and the new homes that would be provided for by S-591 and H. R. 2888, it is important that these bills be passed in their present form.

No sums less than an additional $800,000,000 in loans and an additional $45,000,000 in annual rent contributions!

And no crippling amendments—such as further restrictions in cost or prohibitions against use of vacant land!

The CIO unions and individual members should all let their Senators and Congressmen know the importance of having S-591 and H. R. 2888 enacted without being whittled down and without having jokers attached to them.

Picketing In Portland

Oregon's anti-picketing ordinance hasn't dimmed the spirits of union members and their wives. When the Luckenbach steamship company refused to obey an NLRB order to reinstate three members of the Intl. Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, workers refused to load the ship, took to the picket line. In retaliation, operators closed down the entire port.

Portland Lockout Defeated

By LEE COE

Portland, Ore., May 20—(FP)— The Waterfront Employers Association, which locked out 1,500 members of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union on May 11 after charging violations of contract, backed down five days later when West Coast Arbiter Wayne L. Morse ruled that it was the employers who had broken the contract by ordering the lockout.

The port has been reopened, but the controversy is not yet settled. Key to the difficulty is the Luckenbach Steamship Co., which for more than a year has ignored an NLRB order for reinstatement of three men.

When George Cron, member of the Maritime Office Employes, an ILWU affiliate, maintained a one-man picket line to protest the steamship company's violation of the law, the dock workers refused to go past him to their jobs.

Chicago Guild Leaders Negotiate With Hearst

CHICAGO, May 20 — Negotiations between the Chicago Newspaper Guild and the management of the two Hearst newspapers here, looking towards a settlement of the six-month long strike of 500 newspapermen, started here May 15.

The conferences followed offers by Pres. Ralph Fischer of the AFL, International Typographical Union local 16, and Miss Charlotte Carr, head of the world-famous Hull House, to help mediate the dispute.

No announcement has yet been made of the progress of the negotiations.

Previous meetings between Guild officials and the publishers broke up some time ago when the union accused the employers of offering a "settlement" denying all Guild demands.

Further aid from liberal church groups came to the Guild, meanwhile, as the Christian Register, official national paper of the Unitarian Church, declared that "any liberals who can aid the strikers in any way will be doing a real service to society . . . seldom have we heard of a strike where public opinion was more solidly behind the strikers."

'SOCIAL JUSTICE'

A similar pledge of support came from Dr. Herman Sander, professor of philosophy at the Elmhurst Evangelical College. Speaking at a strike meeting, he said:

"You're not only helping yourselves, but you are helping all others in labor, both organized and unorganized, and advancing the cause of social justice."

Salary figures released by the U. S. Treasury Department for the year 1937 have provided the strikers with some juicy reading material, the Guild committee revealed.

The Ladies Talk

Mrs. Alice Belester of Chicago, secretary of the United Conference Against the High Cost of Living, tells the government's anti-monopoly committee of some of the difficulties faced by Mrs. Public in her effects to get best quality goods at the best possible prices. It's a hard job, she told the committee.

Minnesota CIO Maps Campaign

DULUTH, Minn., May 20.—Laying chief stress on a united, well-functioning state body for coming struggles with reaction, the Minnesota CIO Council concluded its convention here today with the election of Buford Easton of the Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers as president and Joe Van Nordstrand as secretary.

Resolutions passed urged a third term for President Roosevelt and a vigorous campaign for unity of farmers with labor to carry the state for the New Deal and progress in 1940.

Other actions included resolutions urging CIO-AFL unity on the basis of the American Congress of Labor Plan outlined by Pres. Lewis and the CIO committee which met with the AFL earlier in the year, defending the Wagner Act and sharply attacking the reactionary Governor Stassen.

Speakers pointed out that Stassen's first use of the new anti-labor state law was against the farmers who had supported him in 1938, when it was invoked against farmers picketing cut-rate mill plants.

Next convention will be held at Austin, Minn., which was described as a 100 per cent union town.

Ask Protection For Workers In U. S. Aircraft Program

Washington, May 20—Suggestions to train a force of 60,000 new mechanics for aircraft production were criticized here by Ralph Hetzel, Jr., CIO unemployment director, unless proper safeguards for skilled workers already available are included.

The plan, suggested by a government committee on aircraft production, would ignore the claims of thousands of skilled workers who are unemployed or at work on unskilled and semi-skilled jobs, Hetzel pointed out.

Hetzel urged that labor be guaranteed participation in the defense program on three points: (1) recruitment of workers; (2) wages and working conditions; (3)collective bargaining guarantees in all contracts.

He pointed out that several concerns receiving fat government contracts were consistent violators of the Wagner Act, and demanded provisions requiring compliance in all contracts.

"We are opposed to the government creating a vast pool of aircraft mechanics to be used by anti-labor manufacturers in order to bring down wage standards in industry," he concluded.

Struck Tanker Lines Fined $50,000

Violated Laws By Using Scab Crews, Is Charge

WASHINGTON, May 20. — Fines totalling more than $50,000 have been levied against strike-busting owners of scab-operated oil tanker fleets, the Department of Commerce revealed to a National Maritime Union delegation today.

The penalties were based on violations of the "safety-at-sea" laws, Allan D. Jones, acting director of the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation said. Principal reason for the fines, he explained, was the signing on of crews as able-bodied seamen when applicants held only ordinary seamen papers.

Announcement of the Department's action came after a delegation of several hundred strikers had picketed the mammoth Washington building for several hours in protest against inaction on the part of the federal officials.

The master of one of the scab operated tankers will be asked to show cause why his master's papers should not be revoked by the government, Commerce Dept. executives said, in order that his case may serve as an example.

FIVE LINES INVOLVED

Companies involved in the strike which have had to pay at least $200 for every violation of the law include Standard Oil of New Jersey, Socony-Vacuum, Tidewater-Associated Co., C. D. Mallory and Maltsen Co. The two Standard Oil firms have had to pay about 85 per cent of the fines.

Pat Whelan, NMU official from Baltimore, told the federal officials that U. S. inspectors are handing out certificates of inspection "like leaflets," and demanded that the "bureau force the inspectors to enforce the law or remove them from office for negligence."

The government's action is expected to cripple the scab-herding practices of the struck lines, and help force a speedy settlement of the strike.

Settle River Barge Tie-up

St. Louis, May 20.—An agreement signed by the Federal Barge Lines today ended the three-week strike of 5,000 barge and riverfront workers that tied up Mississippi River shipping from New Orleans to Chicago.

The agreement provided that questions of wages and hours would be settled by conference with the Department of Commerce. The strike was called by the Joint Council of River Workers, composed of CIO Inland Boatmen and AFL Longshoremen's unions.

Present Play About Drug Store Union

New York, May 20 — "Professional Men"—a play dealing with conditions in a chain drug store and the events leading to organization of its employes—will open a three day run here next month.

Charles Shillet, one of the playwrights, is a member of Retail Drug Store Employes Union, and members of the local are members of the cast.

Because of the working conditions in the drug store field, rehearsals have been taking place at midnight, but despite the awkward hours, the cast's enthusiasm and spirit have kept up.

Plan Picnic

Youngstown, O., May 20. — The second annual picnic sponsored by SWOC Lodge 1418 at the Campbell plant of Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. will be held Sunday, June 4 at Berkley Woods here.

John Burns, chairman of the union picnic committee, has arranged a full program of sports, dancing, music and speaking, and predicts a bigger and better affair than the 1938 picnic.

Gov. Olson Backs State Label Week

SACRAMENTO, Calif., May 20.—Union label week in California got off to a good start with a proclamation signed by Governor Olson which declared in the preamble:

"Inasmuch as the union label is the consumers' best assurance that the article so marked is made in America, under fair working conditions, by adult workers receiving the American standard of wages," and then proclaimed the week to be observed throughout the state.

Condemn Anti-Alien Measures

Washington, May 20—Leaders of organized labor, church, education, science and culture, and progressives of all groups united in an emergency conference here to condemn the series of vicious anti-alien bills now in Congress or in preparation by reactionary Congressmen.

Over 60 such bills are now in the mill, the conference learned, and all of them are aimed at harassing and persecuting workers of foreign birth and extraction in the U. S.

John Brophy, CIO national director and one of the principal speakers, pointed out that such repressive laws were prompted not by patriotism, or even so much by a hatred of national or racial minorities as by a deliberate design to injure the organized labor movement.

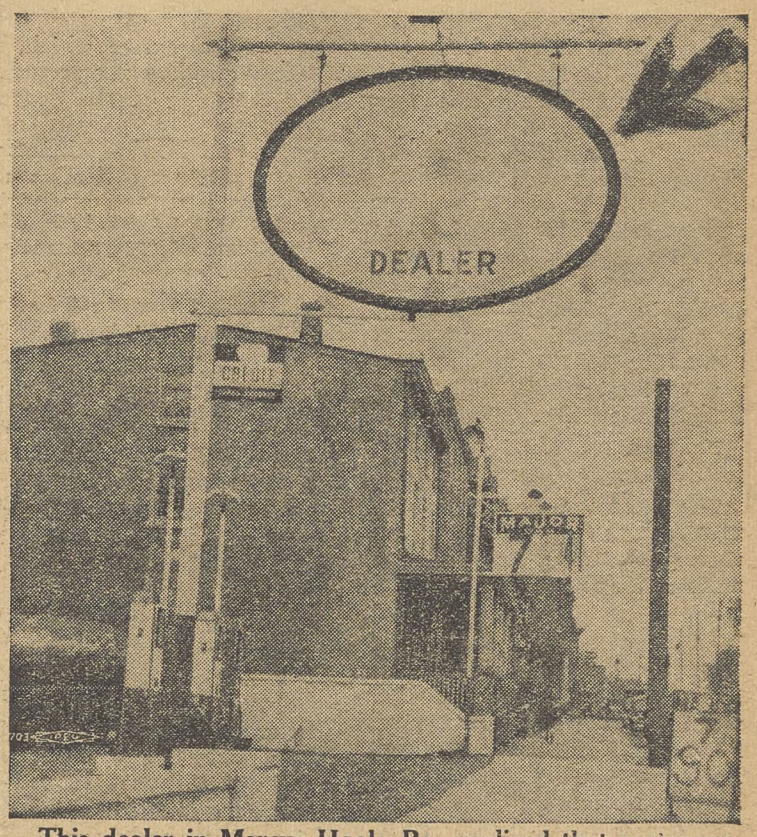
AIMED AT WORKERS

"As we defend our racial and national minorities, so do we defend ourselves," he said. "The cause of freedom is indivisible. Lincoln said a long time ago that a nation cannot live while one part of it remains in slavery.

"We cannot live as a free people while we permit the oppression of any group, whether a fraction or a section of our population. That is why the labor movement defends the rights of all men and women, whatever their race or color or belief or national origin."

Msgr. John A. Ryan of Catholic University compared the present series of bills to the anti-alien witch-hunting madness that seized the country shortly after the war, when the notorious Mitchell Palmer tried to climb into the presidency on the backs of persecuted aliens—and citizens, too, as Msgr. Ryan pointed out.

Esso Blotto



This dealer in Marcus Hook, Pa., realized that customers wouldn't care for Esso products because of the National Maritime Union tanker strike affecting Standard Oil of New Jersey and three other companies. So he blotted out the Esso sign, switched to another make of gasoline which is on labor's "fair" list.

New Pact Protects Workers From Job Loss By Machines

NEW YORK, May 20.—Loss of jobs through the introduction of new machinery, one of the most serious problems facing workers, is one of the points taken up in the new contract signed last week between the American Communications Association, CIO, and RCA Communications, Inc.

The contract extends the previous one by covering all the company's employes, numbering about 1320, instead of "live traffic" department workers and messengers only. The new agreement becomes effective after it is ratified by the employes involved. It is being submitted to a referendum by the union.

A clause in the contract aimed to protect workers against loss of their jobs when new machinery is introduced, provides that the company shall notify and confer with the union before making any technological changes that will throw employes out of work, in an effort to eliminate this wherever possible.

Employes are to be notified six months in advance when it is found necessary to do away with their jobs, and opportunities provided for them to train themselves for other clasifications before the change goes into effect. They are to retain their seniority rights for appointment to new jobs.

SEVERANCE PAY

In cases where workers are laid off permanently due to technological changes, they are to receive severance pay on the basis of their length of service with the company. Employes with five or less years service are to receive one weeks' pay for each year of employment; those with more than five years, will receive two weeks for each year.

A reduction of hours of work is also provided for in the new agreement. Live traffic employes will have a 40-hour week, while other departments will have a 37½-hour, five day week. Employes with five years' service record will receive three weeks' vacation with pay; those with ten years, four weeks.

Union officials also announced the signing of a new contract with the French Telegraph Cable Company, covering some 85 employes in New York City.

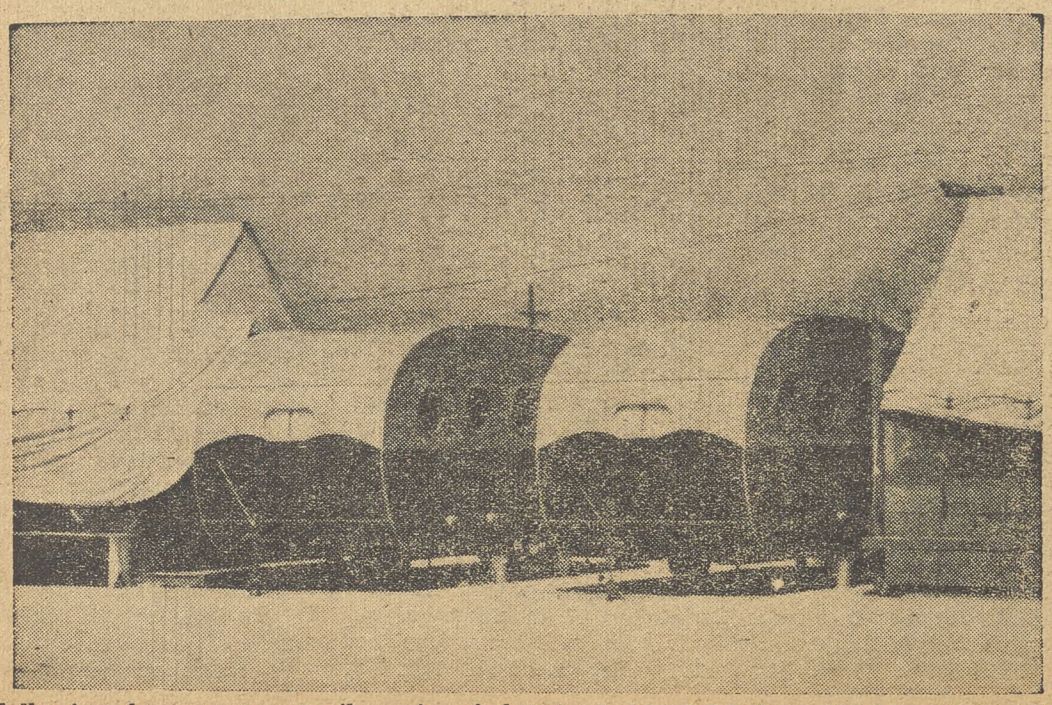
Certify CIO Steel Lodge For 2nd Time

Chicago Heights, Ill., May 20.—For the second time the National Labor Relations Board has certified Lodge 1027 as sole bargaining agency for all production employes of the Calument Steel Co., Borg-Warner division.

Negotiations for a new contract will start in the near future.

The lodge's organizing committee announces that with 270 members already signed up, the lodge hopes to have a 100% union shop by July, in spite of opposition encountered in a few departments where the bosses have tried to stop the union's progress by intimidating the workers.

Hospitals On Wheels



Following the crops, two trailer units of the Agricultural Workers Health and Medical Association arrive at a migratory workers' camp near Fresno, Cal. The trailers carry drugs and medical supplies for the treatment of general ailments and minor surgical cases.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 22 | MAY 29, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

CIO BACKS CASEY BILL FOR 3,000,000 WPA JOBS

The News In Brief

(See Stories Inside Pages)

Textile

Philadelphia. — Pledges to complete organization of the entire textile industry were cheered as delegates to the first convention of the Textile Workers Union of America returned to their homes.

Harlan

Harlan, Ky. — Resistance to the United Mine Workers' demand for a union shop contract was crumbling here. Nine operators, employing 6,000 workers, have already signed agreements, and the Harlan County Coal Operators Assn. is soon expected to follow suit.

Civil Rights

Washington. — Passage of the Oppressive Labor Practices Act was urged by Sen. Robert LaFollette at Senate committee hearings as a method of protecting democracy.

Wagner Act

Washington. — At least one million members of the AFL oppose Wagner Act amendments, the CIO charged in a new leaflet. Latest AFL international union to oppose Green-employer tactics was the United Hat, Cap and Millinery Workers, which called for defense of labor's Magna Charta.

President

Pres. Samuel Wolchok of the United Retail and Wholesale Employes, which is celebrating its second anniversary as a CIO international union.

Alaska Mine Signs Pact

Juneau, Alaska, May 27.—First contract signed with any union by the Alaska-Juneau Gold Mining Co. went to Local 203 of the CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers here.

The contract, won after months of hard organizing work against bitter company opposition, covers time and a half, double time for holidays, new wage classifications, and pay bonuses for 260 days or over of employment.

DISTRICT MEETING

Henryetta, Okla., May 27 — The Federation of Flat Glass Workers will hold a District Conference here on June 2 and 3, District President Robert McVay announced.

Trust Law Campaign Growing

(See Stories Page Six)

Washington, May 27.—The CIO's campaign to amend the Sherman Anti-Trust law to protect organized labor gained additional support here, following the $7,500,00 suit filed against the CIO and the Steel Workers Organizing Committee by Tom Girdler's Republic Steel Corp.

Sen. Elbert Thomas, head of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, and Rep. Mary Norton, chairman of the House Labor Committee, both expressed belief that the anti-trust law was being perverted by anti-union employers into a weapon to be used against labor.

Previously, Sen. Norris had called for amendment to the act in a letter to Labor's Non-Partisan League. The veteran champion of liberal causes was caustic in his comment on the Apex Hosiery Co. verdict of $711,000 levied against the American Federation of Hosiery Workers.

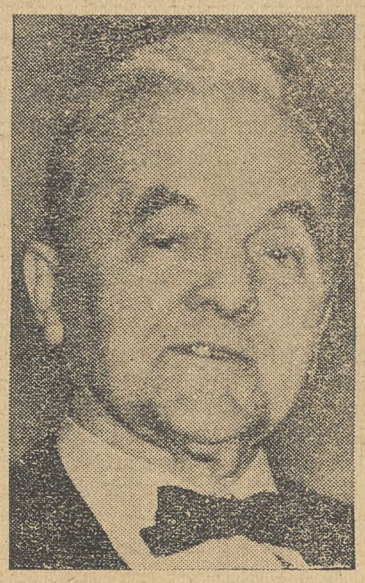
A pamphlet appealing to all unions, regardless of affiliation, to join the campaign against the Philadelphia court's verdict, was sent out by the CIO this week.

Insurance Union Wins Poll

Pittsburgh, May 27. — Gaining another victory in its drive to organize the insurance field, the United Office & Professional Workers scored a hands-down win in a State Labor Relations Board poll of Eureka Maryland Assurance Corp. employes.

All 44 active employes voted for the UOPWA, while nine ex-workers entitled to vote did not cast their ballots.

Protests



Sen. George W. Norris, dean of Capitol liberals, who attacked the circuit court decision in the Apex case, under which the American Federation of Hosiery Workers was found guilty of violation of the Sherman anti-trust act and held liable for damages amounting to $711,000.

Nip Michigan 'Baby Dies Bill'

Detroit, May 27.—Organized labor in Michigan prevented passage by the state legislature of a "baby Dies bill" which would have given a commission of five almost unlimited powers to investigate allegedly "subversive" activities.

In a wire to the State Senate, Pres. Adolph Germer of the Michigan Industrial Union Council called the bill itself "unAmerican and subversive" and warned that "it makes it possible for every bigot and fanatic and Black Legionnaire to have honest and respectable citizens annoyed."

The legislature has passed a state labor relations act, which, though far from satisfactory in the opinions of union leaders, is nevertheless better than a previously offered bill.

Map Drive To Secure Enactment

(See Story Page Three)

WASHINGTON, May 27.—Support for the Casey Bill, H. R. 6470, which calls for appropriation of $2,250,000,000 to provide three million WPA jobs during the 1940 fiscal year was pledged by the CIO today.

Sec. James B. Carey and Unemployment Director Ralph Hetzel said every possible means of backing the measure would be put forth by CIO unions.

"This bill does not contain everything that is necessary to provide a real program for the unemployed," a statement by the two CIO officials said, "but it does establish the WPA on a much sounder basis than it has ever had before."

Elimination of the degrading "means test", under which prospective WPA workers must declare themselves paupers in order to get jobs, is eliminated in the proposed statute.

Rep. Joseph Casey of Massachusetts introduced the bill in the House.

Auto Strike Hits Body Plant

Detroit, May 27 — Fifteen thousand striking workers at the Briggs Body Co. today held the upper hand in a strike which closed down all seven plants of the big auto body corporation here.

Faced with a solid front by the members of Local 212, United Automobile Workers, CIO — largest unit in the international — the company made no effort to resume production. As the strike ended its first week, the plants were as deserted as on the first day of the walkout.

The strike was brought about by refusal of the corporation to consider serious grievances which have accumulated in the plant. Spokesmen for the employers also insisted on blocking discussion of a new contract which has been demanded by the membership of Local 212.

55,000 AFFECTED

By Wednesday, the company's stand had forced 55,000 employes of Chrysler and Ford, to whom Briggs supplies bodies, out of their jobs. Worried by the unemployment brought about by the corporation, the U. S. Department of Labor sent James F. Dewey, its chief conciliator, to the scene.

Support from other UAW and CIO locals, as well as from the AFL teamsters union, has been pledged to the union

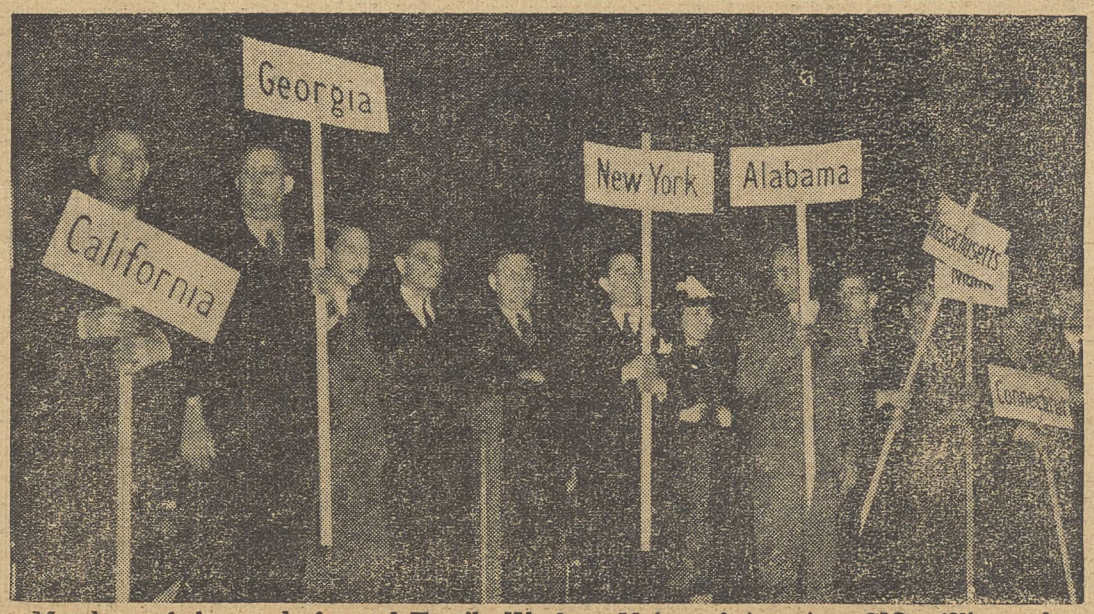
CIO Officials Warn Of Wire Monopoly

WASHINGTON, May 27. — Testimony revealing the attempts of the telegraph companies to form an unregulated monopoly at the expense of their workers and of the public was given before the Interstate Commerce Committee of the Senate by Lee Pressman, general counsel of the CIO, Mervyn Rathborne, president of the American Communications Association and various government departmental officials here.

The hearing was held on SR-95 proposing an investigation of the telegraph industry, introduced by Senator Burton K. Wheeler. Senator Wheeler was the first witness to testify on the bill. He read letters from Secretary of Commerce Hopkins and Attorney-General Murphy favoring the ACA sponsored investigation.

WORKERS SPEAK

Following the government witnesses, nine ACA workers, employed by Western Union and Postal Telegraph, told about terrible wages and working conditions in the industry and the sweatshop and anti-labor policy of Western Union which ranks as one of the worst labor hating outfits in the country.



Members of the newly-formed Textile Workers Union of America, CIO affiliate, cheer heads of the organization—Pres. Emil Rieve and Sidney Hillman, chairman of the executive council—who are shown in center on stage. The TWUA convention at Philadelphia mapped plans for a militant organizing drive to unionize the industry's 1,000,000 workers.

Stooge Blames CIO For 'Assault'; Doctors Call Him Drunk!

NEWARK, N. J., May 27.—Attempts to smear the CIO and discredit the Wagner Act by the anti-labor Congressman F. A. Hartley of New Jersey were defeated when New York City and Bloomfield, New Jersey police refuted statements that Joseph Donnelly, president of the Westinghouse company union at Bloomfield, N. J. could not testify in Congressional Wagner Act hearings because he was beaten by CIO members.

CONGRESSMAN AGREES

Joseph Donnelly's wife informed Rep. Hartley that Donnelly could not testify because he was in the hospital suffering from a beating and Hartley then issued a statement implying that CIO members were responsible for Donnelly's condition and gave this as a reason why the Wagner Act must be amended.

However, a check with Detective Brady of the Eighth Precinct, New York City Police revealed that Joseph Donnelly of Lake Hiawatha, N. J. was picked up by the police Saturday night, May 13th at MacDougal and 3rd Sts.

He was taken to Columbus Hospital where he was treated by Dr. Diacara for injuries described as follows, "positive fracture of the skull and acute alcoholism." Due to his intoxicated condition Dr. Diacara had him sent to the psychiatric ward at Bellevue Hospital and authorities there reported that he was suffering from a hemorrhage brought upon by acute alcoholism.

FELL ON HYDRANT

Eye witnesses reported to police that they saw Donnelly fall and smash his head against a fire hydrant.

Donnelly has been active in organizing company unions at the Weiss Cutlery Co., Standard Oil of N. J. in Bayonne and the Western Electric Co. in Kearny.

Steel Contract Brings Wage Increases

Oakland, Calif., May 29—Wage boosts, vacations, strict seniority, sole collective bargaining rights and a minimum of 65 cents an hour are the results of 100% organization by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee in the California Wire Cloth Co., here.

These gains, plus time and a half for overtime and double time for holidays and other benefits were won when the old contract was renewed by Lodge 1798 SWOC.

Lumber Union Files Charge On Minnesota

Cass Lake, Minn., May 27—After the strike-bound Rathborne, Hare & Ridgeway Company here had flatly turned down all proposals to negotiate the dispute which closed down the firm's box factory here early in April, Local 173-M of the International Woodworkers of America filed formal charges of unfair labor practices with the National Labor Relations Board.

On May 15, the Grinois Implement & Fuel Co., brought court action against the union, following several unsuccessful attempts to send trucks through the picket lines to haul from the plant premises a stack of logs and tie bolts which were bought after the strike started.

50% LESS WAGES

The timber workers' local in a statement issued to the citizens here, charges that the Cass Lake box company is paying wages nearly 50% lower than box factories in Minneapolis.

"With the wages the company is paying in Cass Lake, it is impossible for us to buy the simple necessities of life," the statement read. "If we continue to work at these miserable wages, we will be in debt to every merchant in town, which in time will not only bankrupt the merchants and ourselves but will leave another ghost town in northern Minnesota."

Mechanics Win Strike In Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh — A 24-week strike involving auto mechanics at the Pittsburgh - Chrysler Company came to an end recently when the company agreed to recognize and deal with Local Union 521 of the United Auto Workers. The firm is a Pittsburgh subsidiary of Chrysler Company.

Hearst Thugs Assault Guild Strikers

Chicago, May 27 — As negotiators discussed a possible settlement of the Chicago Newspaper Guild's strike against the Hearst papers here, union officials charged that the publishers had launched a new wave of terror against the 500 striking newspapermen.

Hearst goon squads are once again roaming Chicago streets, damaging strikers' cars and threatening attacks, the Guild said. Notices assuring scabs and strikebreakers that no settlement will endanger their jobs have been posted in the Herald-Examiner and American offices.

Radio time formerly used by the union has been refused by the stations involved, and is now devoted to management blasts against the Guild.

SEEK TO BREAK STRIKE

"All these methods are being mobilized by the management in a further effort to break the strike," CNG leaders charged.

Negotiations were stalled, reports indicated, by the unwillingness of the management to accept the Guild's three major demands:

1. Discharge of all strikebreakers.
2. Full back pay for all strikers.
3. Job and union security.

Guild Strikes In Chattanooga

Chattanooga, Tenn., May 27—(FP)—All but a handful of the approximately 50 editorial, business and circulation workers on the Chattanooga News were on strike today to win a Guild shop contract and reinstatement of three members.

The walkout was voted by the News unit of the local Guild when negotiations for a contract renewal were complicated by the dismissal of two active union members. A grievance committee protested the discharges, the result being dismissal of one member of the committee.

Picket lines have been thrown around the News building.

Co-Op Mill Signs Pact

Kenosha, Wis., May 27 — A three-year contract was signed here recently between Branch 6 of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers and the Kenosha Full Fashioned Mills, a cooperative run by the workers.

The contract provides for arbitration by a three-member committee consisting of a representative of the union, another for the firm, and a third chosen jointly by both parties.

The firm which was set up cooperatively by the workers after Allen-A went out of business here last Spring, has three of the union members on the board of directors. The employes are paying off loans negotiated to launch the cooperative venture which employs 533 workers.

DISTRIBUTION COSTS

New York, May 27 — Less than one-fifth of the total cost of distributing goods from producer to consumer goes to the "middleman," according to figures released this week by the Twentieth Century Fund as the results of its study just completed of the costs of distribution in the United States.

Harlan County

Mother and wife (left) comfort Eugene McLaughlin, member of the United Mine Workers in Harlan County, Ky., who was shot in the thigh by the driver of a company truck bringing scabs to the Tway Coal Co. mines. A national guardsman was riding with the scabs when McLaughlin, who was unarmed, was shot.

Packinghouse Union Knocks 'Corned Beef War'

CHICAGO, May 27.—Necessity for Pres. Roosevelt buying Argentine canned corned beef for the Navy was blamed on "big American meat packers" today by Henry Johnson, assistant director of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee.

The President's action brought forth criticism from certain groups in the cattle-raising states, but the reason for his action is "very simple," Johnson said.

"There just isn't any good corned beef packed in the United States. The packers moved their meat-canning plants to South America when they found that they could make higher profits because of the extremely low wages paid there.

HUNDREDS LOST JOBS

"We packinghouse workers ought to know, because in Armour & Co. alone, hundreds of us lost our jobs when they took the corned beef plant to South America.

"Neither the President nor anyone else," he added, "can buy corned beef made in the United States in any large quantities. We suggest that some of the people who have been attacking the President go to their corner grocery store and try to buy American-made canned corned beef.

"They will se the familiar brand names on the cans, but in small type at the bottom of the label, they will see 'Made In Argentina.'"

INDUSTRY MOVED

Chicago was once the world's largest meat-canning center, the PWOC official pointed out, but now canning here is restricted entirely to the use of third-grade beef, with the first-grade meat being sold as fresh meat.

Packinghouse workers join with farmers in resenting the loss of markets and jobs, he added, "but we know who is to blame. And it is not the President.

"By their removal of their business to South America, the packers seem to show that they care nothing about the American worker or farmer. I think it is a little unfair to attack the first President ever to have an operating farm program over something for which the packers are responsible."

Strike Shuts Allis-Chalmers

West Allis, Wis., May 27 — A strike by the United Automobile Workers Local 248 at the Allis-Chalmers Co. plant here started this week, as union negotiators and management representatives failed to reach an understanding on terms of a new contract.

The steward body of the big local, whose membership runs in the thousands, recommended the taking of the strike vote and set up a strike committee to prepare for eventualities.

REFUSED DEMANDS

The demands call for the union shop, a joint agreement covering the plant here as well as the Pittsburgh and Boston plants, wage increases and adjustments and an increased vacation-with-pay plan. Company officials turned down the first three and offered an unsatisfactory compromise on the fourth.

Local 248 leaders maintain that the union shop clause is necessary to prevent the company from utilizing Wisconsin's new anti-labor laws to chisel away the union's strength in order to institute speed-up, wage cuts and mass layoffs.

Wisconsin CIO Plans Convention; To Fight State Anti-Labor Law

MILWAUKEE, Wis., May 27.—Official call for the second annual convention of the Wisconsin Industrial Union Council, to be held at Danish Brotherhood Hall in Racine on June 23, was sent out today from state headquarters.

Plans have been worked out for "installment paying" of back per capita in order to allow small locals to send accredited delegations to the meeting, it was announced.

The convention will have added importance this year because of the passage by a Republican legislature of a vicious anti-labor bill aimed at crippling the activities of unions throughout this state, which for years has led the nation in social reform legislation.

To discuss methods of dealing with the new bill, which received Gov. Julius Heil's signature a week ago, the state executive board of the CIO council has called for an emergency meeting of CIO local leaders and their attorneys.

The state CIO executive group pointed out that no matter whom Heil appointed to the new board, no appointee could function with justice toward labor since the law under which the board functions is a 100 per cent anti-labor instrument.

New Textile Union Names Officers

PHILADELPHIA, May 27. — Officers to head the newly merged CIO textile union were elected unanimously at the concluding sessions of the constitutional convention of the Textile Workers Union of America which closed here the end of last week.

Emil Rieve, executive director of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee and president of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, was elected president, and Sidney Hillman, TWOC Chairman, was chosen chairman of the general executive board.

George Baldanzi of the Dyers' Federation is the new executive vice-president, and William Pollock, manager of the Philadelphia joint board of the union, is secretary-treasurer. Baldanzi succeeded Francis Gorman as president of the United Textile Workers until the UTW voted at the convention to merge with the Textile Workers Organizing Committee to form the new TWUA.

19 VICE PRESIDENTS

In addition to these four officers, 19 vice-presidents were elected at the convention. The 23 officers will compose the general executive board.

The vice-presidents are: Alexander McKeown, Rollo Wallace, William Leader, Joseph Knapik, Carl Holderman, William Gordan, Milton Rosenberg, Joseph White, Joseph Salerno, James Kelly, Horace Rieviere, Edward Dolan, Herbert Paine, Sander Genis, John Peel, Virginia Browning, Roy Lawrence, Elizabeth Nord and Paul Christopher.

WANT MILLION MEMBERS

Achievements of the convention were summarized by Hillman, who called in his concluding remarks for "a million members by the next convention." Referring to the contracts already signed numbering more than a thousand, Hillman said, "let us determine that by our next convention there will be 6,000 contracts."

An outstanding event of the closing sessions was a "Southern Day" demonstration staged by more than a hundred delegates from eight southern states. The program included songs, cheers, and a series of short talks by a number of outstanding union leaders from the South.

Four resolutions dealing with southern problems were adopted unanimously by the convention. They called for organization of the south as the union's "No. 1 problem"; support for the anti-lynch bill; abolition of the poll tax, and a fight against the stretch-out system.

Leader

Pres. William Turnblazer of District 19 of the United Mine Workers, who is leading the fight for a union shop contract in Harlan County, Kentucky, only hold-out area in the nation against the agreement.

Lewis Calls Juarez 'Great Film'

Washington, May 27.—"This is a most magnificent production, masterfully executed by great artists, which will assuredly promote the bonds of unity and affinity between our two republics," John L. Lewis, CIO president, declared after seeing the new moving picture, "Juarez," just released by Warner Bros. throughout the nation.

The picture, in which Paul Muni stars as Juarez, concerns the struggle of the Mexican people for freedom from domination by the foreign Emperor Maximilian, whose power rested on French bayonets in the middle of the 19th century.

Juarez, leader of the Mexican workers and peasants, has been compared to Lincoln as an emancipator of his people and a builder of democracy.

CONFESSIONS

Another Hollywood movie, also just released, and titled "Confessions of a Nazi Spy" also puts in a strong word for democracy. According to critics, it names names, shows German Nazi methods in this country, and does a thorough job of exposing anti-democratic, un-American methods employed by Hitler's agents in the U. S.

Sign Nine Pacts In Harlan

HARLAN, Ky., May 27 — Nine new contracts lifted to 6,500 the number of United Mine Workers members back to work in troubled Harlan County, as Gov. A. B. Chandler and his state militia fought a losing battle to help the Harlan County Coal Operators Assn. avoid signing a union shop agreement.

Latest to sign the UMW contract was the Black Mountain Coal Corp., operating two bituminouns mines. Other agreements have been won with the U. S. Coal and Coke Co. and the Black Star mines.

Negotiations have been proceeding between the union, led by President William Turnblazer of District 19, and the operators' association.

Turnblazer said that only a handful of men were working in the association's mines.

U. S. OFFICIALS PRESENT

Harlan was a veritable beehive of activity, however. Twelve hundred National Guardsmen called out by the Governor, patroled roads throughout the area and prevented miners from exercising their normal civil liberties.

Brien MacMahon and Henry Schweinhaut of the U. S. Department of Justice are here observing the situation. MacMahon, who led the government's legal staff in its conspiracy case against 42 operators last week has indicated that another trial will soon be forthcoming. A split jury ended the first attempt to convict the operators of conspiracy against the workers' rights. Schweinhaut heads the recently-created civil liberties division of the Department.

Representatives of the Labor Department's Concilliation Service are also on hand, as are WPA officials who have been distributing food to the locked out miners.

Frank Hall, UMW field representative and Kentucky Industrial Union Council vice-president, declared:

"I am of the opinion that the coal operators would have signed a contract with the UMW as the other operators have done, had it not been for the statement of Gov. Chandler that he would give the operators protection if they wanted to reopen the mines without a union contract."

3,000,000 WPA Job Demand Backed by CIO

WASHINGTON, May 29.—Support for the Casey Bill, providing for three million WPA jobs during the next fiscal year, was pledged by the CIO today.

The bill, H. R. 6470, was introduced by Rep. Joseph E. Casey, Massachusetts Democrat, and follows out recent demands by President John L. Lewis that Congress establish "a minimum of safety" in handling national relief problems.

James B. Carey, secretary of the CIO and chairman of the CIO Committee on Unemployment, and Ralph Hetzel, CIO Unemployment Director, announced today that every facility of the CIO would be put behind the bill. The statement said: "The enactment of this bill would be the greatest step forward in the provision for the unemployed since the establishment of the WPA itself.

"This bill embodies most of the important points set forth by President John L. Lewis in his letter to Chairman Taylor of the House Appropriations Committee.

The statement pointed out further that: "The Casey Bill is a sound, practical bill, fully in accord with the aims and principles of the New Deal. The appropriation of $2,250,000,000 carried by the bill is no more than was spent by WPA last year."

"This bill does not contain everything that is necessary to provide a real program for the unemployed," the statement went on, "but it does establish the WPA on a much sounder basis than it has ever had before.

"It will give the WPA an opportunity to provide the kind of program that is really needed. The sound principles which have been established previously under the WPA are retained and certain new principles of great importance are added in this bill."

THREE POINTS

The statement called special attention to several points in the bill:

(1) The provision whereby employment on the WPA should not be reduced below three million until such time as there were less than three million eligible for such work.

(2) Workers who are out of work and able and willing to work should be certified as eligible without being forced to pauperize themselves.

(3) It provides that the Commissioner of Work Projects shall be directed to make such upward revisions in the monthly wage rates as may be necessary to give some kind of a decent living to WPA workers.

Pact Raises Pay $50,000

New York, May 27 — Pay increases amounting to $50,000 a year were gained by the United Wholesale & Retail Employes in a closed shop contract signed with Cushman's Sons., Inc., New York's largest chain bakery.

The pact covers 850 retail employes in 200 stores throughout New York City and nearby New Jersey and Connecticut. With 82 per cent of its agreement. The company's bakers and teamsters are covered by an AFL union agreement, won after a bitter 14-week strike in 1935.

Rubber Strike Near End

Kitchener, Ont., May 27—Early settlement of the strike of 750 employes of the B. F. Goodrich Rubber Company plant here was predicted as United Rubber Workers' Union negotiators continued their conferences with the management.

The strike was called April 25 when shoe department employes walked out for a 3.2 cents wage increase. A sympathy walkout in other departments brought the number on strike to 750.

THREE MONTHS OF TALK

Employes walked out after conferences held over a period of three months with the management failed to result in the demanded concessions.

Departure of M. S. Campbell, federal labor conciliator, for Ottawa was considered here as indicating that most of the points had been ironed out and a settlement was in the offing.

EXPECT REPORT

Meanwhile, the arbitration committee conducting hearings into the five-cent wage raise demand of the Dominion Tire and Merchants Rubber Company employes was expected to issue a report shortly on its findings.

The employes of the two factories were on strike during February and March. They won all their demands but the wage raise, which was referred to a three-man committee headed by Prof. Norman MacKenzie of the University of Toronto.

Sing For Their Union

Delegates to the Textile Workers Union convention in Philadelphia exercise their lungs with lusty singing of labor songs. Zylphia Horton of Highlander Folk School in Tennessee (left) leads the singing. Enthusiasm ran high at the sessions.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II May 29, 1939 No. 22

Factory Fortresses

"There are still factories which stand like fortresses, bristling with machine guns and modern chemical weapons. There are still private armies which are drilled and trained by certain corporations for active combat during industrial disputes. There are still large industrial centers, like urban Harlans, where the constitutional rights of citizens are trampled down by selfish powerful interests."

These are the words of Senator LaFollette, describing conditions which still obtain in the United States in the year 1939, despite all the progress that has been made in extending industrial freedom, collective bargaining, and democratic principles generally.

Testifying on behalf of the Oppressive Labor Practices Bill, which he and Senator Thomas of Utah have introduced, LaFollette spoke with authority on the subject of violations of civil liberties. For the Senate committee which he heads has made the most thorough and extensive study of this subject that has ever been attempted.

The bill on which hearings are now being held was drafted by the Senate civil liberties committee to right some of the most glaring wrongs which it uncovered.

It is designed to prohibit: (1) the use of labor spies and labor espionage; (2) the use of strikebreakers and strikebreaking agencies; (3) the use of privately paid armed guards off the premises of an employer; and (4) the possession and use of industrial munitions such as tear gas and sub-machine guns.

Such anti-labor practices, LaFollette pointed out, "spring from an unyielding hostility both to freedom of association for employes and to the principle of collective bargaining."

The LaFollette-Thomas bill merits the active support of everyone who believes in collective bargaining, industrial peace, civil liberties and democratic principles.

A Sound Program for WPA

At least three million WPA jobs will be needed during the coming fiscal year to prevent the plague of unemployment from wreaking havoc in the homes of America's jobless workers, according to CIO estimates presented to Congress by President John L. Lewis.

Rep. Joseph E. Casey of Massachusetts has introduced a bill which provides for this many jobs, under an appropriation of $2,250,000,000, which is no more than was spent by the WPA last year.

The CIO is giving its full support to the Casey bill, not because it represents all that a rich country like the United States should do for its unemployed, but because it embodies the minimum program which Congress should be expected to pass.

The Casey bill also provides that WPA jobs should not be reduced below three million until such time as there are less than three million eligible unemployed; that the unemployed who are able and willing to work should be certified as eligible without having to pauperize themselves; and that upward revisions in WPA monthly wage rates be made where necessary to maintain a decent standard of living.

But against even such a modest program to provide for the jobless are lined up all the tory forces who are pushing the drive to "soak the poor." That is why the CIO is having to urge all labor and progressive groups to get busy at once, to impress on Congress the need for passing the Casey bill.

Congratulations!

The United Retail & Wholesale Employes of America deserves the congratulations of the whole labor movement, on the occasion of its second anniversary which it celebrates this week.

Before this CIO union was formed, there was virtually no labor organization in the great department stores of the nation, and very little throughout the retail and wholesale business generally.

Today the biggest department stores in New York and other cities are operating under CIO union agreements, and the message of union organization is being brought to every retail and wholesale establishment in the country.

Young as it is, the URWEA has already proved the validity and power of industrial union principles in one of the greatest of our previously unorganized industries. It has also proved that so-called white-collar workers have as much to gain from union organization as have the manual workers in production industries.

The United Retail & Wholesale Employe deserves not only congratulations but also the wholehearted support of all other labor and progressive organizations in continuing the work so successfully started, until the benefits of collective bargaining are brought to all the millions of employes engaged in distributive work.

Mr. Girdler, Labor Will Not Forget!

Reprinted by request from May 21, 1938, issue.

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Court Attacks on Labor

TOM GIRDLER is making himself better known for his brass than his steel.

After having carried on a bloody war against the steel workers with thugs and gunmen, with spies and provocateurs, with gas and machine guns, it takes a peculiar kind of brass to be capable of demanding $7,500,000 damages from the victims of this reign of terror.

And to pick the anniversary week of a massacre in which ten steel workers were shot in the back, as the time for entering such a suit, reveals a brazen callousness that is in a class by itself.

Guilty Party Sues

The Republic Steel Corporation has been convicted by the LaFollette civil liberties committee and by the National Labor Relations Board of nearly every crime of intimidation, coercion and violence of which an anti-labor corporation is capable.

Its name is associated with one of the most atrocious massacres in modern times. The horror of that Memorial Day in 1937 when steel workers gathering to picket Republic's South Chicago plant were shot down by the score, and ten were killed outright, will never be forgotten by American Labor.

Having been found guilty of illegal discharges, refusals to reinstate and countless other discriminations in its war against Union labor, Republic Steel is today being sued by the CIO for $7,500,000 in back wages for as many as 6,200 workers.

It is to counter these claims of the workers that Republic has retaliated with its suit against the CIO for a like amount.

Abuse of Anti-Trust Laws

But peculiar as are such circumstances surrounding this suit of Republic Steel, its chief long-range significance for labor lies in another direction.

Encouraged by the triple damage verdict of more than $700,000 against the Philadelphia Hosiery Workers in the Apex Co. case, Republic Steel has also invoked the anti-trust laws as its pretext for claiming triple damages against the steel workers' union.

These laws, which were never intended to apply to labor unions, have also been invoked against AFL unions since the Apex verdict.

The CIO sounded the alarm at once, after the Apex verdict, pointing out that the sit-down strike was not the issue, but that the existence of every union would be threatened if such verdicts were upheld.

It launched a campaign for amendment of the Sherman anti-trust law, so that it may never again be misapplied to labor unions.

Republic Steel has now proved the CIO's contentions by invoking the anti-trust laws in connection with a strike in which there were no sitdowns, and by showing that the Apex precedent might be used against any other labor organization.

A Shift in Tactics

What we are witnessing at the present time is a shift in tactics on the part of anti-labor reaction.

Republic Steel failed to break the union through industrial conflict, just as did the Apex Hosiery Co. The Apex hosiery workers won a union shop agreement, and the Steel Workers Organizing Committee has made such progress since the Little Steel strike that it may soon be strong enough to establish collective bargaining throughout the entire industry.

The back of the open-shop drive has also been broken recently by the magnificent victory of the United Mine Workers in winning their union shop agreement.

Having failed to break the unions in the industrial field, reactionary employers have been seeking to achieve their purpose by amendment of the Wagner labor relations act.

But here too, they have met with a definite setback. The CIO, with the aid of most of the rank and file of the AFL, has put on such an effective campaign of resistance to emasculation of the Wagner act, that the tories are beginning to doubt that they can enact their amendments at this session of Congress.

So now the main attack against labor seems to be shifting to the courts.

A Chance to Advance

If labor mobilizes to meet these court attacks, it has no cause to be discouraged at the suits already filed for the purpose of breaking and bankrupting unions, nor at the other similar suits which are doubtless in store.

The suits filed thus far have only the flimsiest legal basis, and the courts will have to be prejudiced indeed to uphold them.

But the dangers to labor are very real nevertheless in this whole campaign to use prejudiced courts for union-breaking purposes.

Labor will have to mobilize all its resistance on the political field against this line of attack. If it does so, even setbacks in the courts (as happened in England at the beginning of this century) may prove a springboard for great political and legislative advances on the part of American labor.

Million AFL Members Oppose Amendments, CIO Pamphlet Charges

WASHINGTON, May 27. — At least 1,000,000 members of the AFL are already on record against the Walsh amendments to the Wagner Act sponsored by their President, William Green, the CIO announced today, in launching a drive to inform all AFL members of the dangers to labor involved in the proposed amendments.

Detailed evidence of the extent of the revolt within the AFL against the amendments is made public for the first time by the CIO in a pamphlet entitled, "Whose Amendments?" and subtitled, "The AFL versus William Green and the Natl. Association of Manufacturers."

Ten big AFL international unions and scores of state, city and other AFL organizations are listed as having taken a stand against the Walsh-Green amendments. Statements and correspondence of AFL officials are quoted, expressing their opposition. Evidence that the amendments were drafted in collusion with manufacturing interests is also produced in the pamphlet.

REACH AFL MEMBERS

The pamphlet was mailed today to every Senator and Congressman. It is also being circulated to every CIO affiliate with the request that CIO unions in every locality mail a copy to each AFL local in their area, and see that all AFL members are informed of its contents.

In a covering letter to CIO affiliates, Lee Pressman, general counsel and secretary of the CIO Legislative Committee, declares: "The pamphlet shows conclusively that the membership of the AFL does not want to see the Wagner Act amended, and that it is in sharp opposition to the stand for amendments taken by Green and his associates in collusion with the NAM and other reactionary corporation interests."

The pamphlet reveals that the Walsh-Green amendments were introduced in Congress without ever having been submitted to either the AFL annual convention or its Executive Council. It quotes excerpts from letters of AFL officials who complain because they were not shown the amendments in advance.

AFL NOT TOLD

All that the AFL convention ever saw, the pamphlet points out, was a general attack on the Wagner Act by the resolutions committee, of which Matthew Woll is chairman. It never passed on specific amendments. Some of the proposed amendments put forward by Green were never even among the subjects mentioned at the AFL convention. One of these was the key amendment to eliminate the word "interference" from Section 8 of the Wagner Act.

The pamphlet concludes:

"When the voices of the thousands of AFL members opposing the Green amendments are added to the 4,000,000 members of the CIO, and the thousands of progressive-minded Americans who stand with labor in this fight, it is readily apparent that the majority of labor and liberal opinion is against amendment of the Wagner Act.

"Spokesmen of reaction, whether from the ranks of business or labor, do not represent the nation's workers when they demand the junking of this law which, in the words of the Supreme Court, protects a 'fundamental' right of labor.

LABOR STANDS FAST

"The majority of organized labor stands fast with President Roosevelt, with Senator Wagner, with the majority of Congress that enacted the law, with the Labor Board itself, and the many eminent legal and labor authorities who endorsed the Wagner Act.

"It is altogether clear from the many AFL endorsements of the Wagner Act that the question of amending the act is not an issue between the AFL and the CIO. It is, rather, an issue between labor and anti-union employing interests. That certain labor officials choose to line up with employers is shameful, but must not be permitted to confuse Congress or the public. There are only two sides to this basic issue, not three, as Green, Woll and company would have Congress believe.

"It is possible to be either for or against collective bargaining and the Wagner Act which protects it. It is not possible to be for the Wagner Act and for amendments to destroy it at one and the same time."

California Liberals Form Wagner Act Committee

SAN FRANCISCO, May 27.—Formation of a California Committee to Support the Wagner Act revealed many of the state's outstanding liberals had joined the fight against destructive amendments.

Head of the committee is George Creel, noted publicist and U. S. Commissioner to the San Francisco Exposition. Lieut.-Gov. E. E. Patterson is another member of the group.

Others include Superior Judge Sylvain Lazarus, State Senator Robert Kenny, Dr. Louis Bloch, Ring Lardner, Jr., and George Kidwell, state labor commissioner.

Madden Calls Act Bulwark Of Civil Rights

Washington, May 27.—Reaffirming his defense of the Wagner Act before the Senate Labor Committee, J. Warren Madden, National Labor Relations Board Chairman told the House Committee considering amendments that AFL and other proposals to change the Act would "repeal civil liberties easily comparable in importance to those found in the Bill of Rights."

"If American workmen are obliged to say, after the adjournment of this Congress: 'We have less liberty than we had last year, less freedom to belong to unions of our own choosing, less freedom to take a position of leadership in a union without economic retaliation by our employers,' that will be important," he said.

REPEAL OF RIGHTS

"It will mean that we have celebrated the 150th anniversary of our Bill of Rights by repealing civil liberties easily comparable to in importance to those found in the Bill of Rights of the constitution. It will be the first time in American history that the national government has, except under the exigencies of war, taken away a civil liberty deliberately granted and for a time enjoyed by millions of Americans."

Madden had severe criticism for the AFL proposed amendments, particularly those that would allow employers to interfere with the workers' free choice of a union.

WANT PRIVILEGES

The only motive AFL leaders could have for pressing these amendments, he pointed out, was their hope of special privilege for the AFL. "That would be the only justification for their making this proposal," he said, "since there is nothing so inherently mortal about permitting employers to interfere with the unionization of their employes that anyone would advocate it merely for the public good."

COULD BLOCK UNIONS

Employers could block unionization if they used this amendment to its full advantage, as many would do, he pointed out. If it passed, they could favor weak, unaffiliated unions "which would be as feeble an adversary as possible in case of disagreement with the employers," or promote a union "which happened, at the time and place, to be least unwelcome to the employer."

The workers' only answer, he said, would be to strike. Under an amended act, they would look in vain for relief, "for they would find the law emasculated."

BLASTS AFL CHARGE

Madden disposed of the stale AFL charge of Labor Board "bias" in favor of the CIO by again citing the Board's record in AFL-CIO cases, disproving for the tenth time one of the main points of the AFL leadership's attack on the Board and the act.

The Board Chairman also vigorously condemned the wrecking bills of Reps. Hoffmann of Michigan and Anderson of Missouri, both of which would destroy the act completely if passed.

"These bills would, in my opinion, emasculate the act and take away the liberties it affords. They would make of working people and their unions a caste of legal pariahs and untouchables, outlawed by the Federal government upon the slightest deviation from the requirements of the most absurd or reactionary village ordinance, or the terms of an injunction granted by any labor-hating judge, local, state or Federal."

Stooge Says His Union Is Fake

Washington, May 27—Angus Duncan Chisholm, president of the Industrial Employes Union, proved to be a frank and truthful witness when he appeared before the Senate Labor Committee in favor of amendments to the Wagner Act.

His outfit, notorious for the gun squads it set on the CIO at Westwood, Calif., is an outgrowth of the "Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen," he testified, which was set up by the government and the employers at the time of the World War to fight organization of timber workers in the northwest.

NEVER ON STRIKE

Chisholm was more than frank—in fact, he boasted about his company connections. He was proud of the record of the IUE. Asked by Senator Ellender if he had ever had a strike, he replied:

"No sir, we have not, and I am quite sure that we never will have."

Mr. Chisholm wants the Wagner Act amended, particularly those sections that forbid employers to take part or interfere in the formation of unions.

Note: The AFL proposals would take care of this for Mr. Chisholm.

AFL Hatters' Meeting Defends Wagner Act

NEW YORK, May 27. — Opposition to all Wagner Act amendments was voiced today at the convention of the AFL United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers Intl. Union.

Passage of the Wagner Act resolution—which puts the union squarely in opposition to the AFL executive council—followed a report by the general executive board and remarks by Pres. Max Zaritsky.

The board report recalled that the union had won obvious benefits through the act, and that the National Labor Relations Board had been of great assistance in helping it to win signed contracts with employers.

"A BASIC LAW"

"The Wagner Act is the Magna Charta of labor," Pres. Zaritsky said. "Changes in such a basic law can be considered only with the greatest care and should be subject to most thorough scrutiny.

"Very little will be lost if no changes at all are attempted and the entire law may be destroyed by hasty and ill-considered changes."

The action of this AFL international with 37,000 members came less than 24 hours after Pres. Green of the AFL had alleged in a radio speech that only the CIO, the National Labor Relations Board and the Communists support the Wagner Act as it now exists.

Leiserson Confirmed By Senate

Washington, May 27.— William M. Leiserson today had won Senate confirmation of his appointment to the National Labor Relations Board, succeeding Donald Wakefield Smith.

The new NLRB member formerly headed the National Mediation Board, created under the Railway Labor Act to help avoid stoppages in the railway industry. A one-time college professor, he told the Senate Committee on Education and Labor a week ago that he was opposed to chiseling away workers' rights gained under progressive laws.

OPPOSED CHANGES

During the course of his appearance on the stand, he indicated opposition to practically all amendments to the Wagner Act.

The Leiserson appointment was passed by the Senate without opposition after Sen. Taft of Ohio, who had previously asked for delay in order to study his record, withdrew all objections to the new NLRB member.

King George VI Signs Canada's Wagner Act

OTTAWA, Ont., May 27—One of the first acts of King George VI on his arrival in Canada's capital was to sign the law which guarantees labor freedom of trade union association without interference from employers.

Royal assent to the measure was considered of great significance to the labor movement in its organizing drives since it indirectly carries the King's approval of the act and throws his influence behind the law.

The King gave his assent to the bill in a crowded senate chamber while senators and members of parliament and distinguished visitors looked on.

Labor has hailed the amendments to the criminal code which the King signed as a cornerstone in the edifice of a bill of rights for Canadian labor.

The act makes it a criminal offense for employers to interfere with the rights of their workers to belong to a labor union and climaxes a struggle of over 100 years of Canadian workmen to assure themselves the right to combine to improve their living standards.

Labor is preparing to utilize the King's signature to the bill by organizing additional thousands of unorganized.

This is the first time in Canada's history that the King has given personal assent to a bill. His resident deputy, the governor-general, performs this function.

Against Changes

Toronto, Canada, May 27—Sentiment against Wagner Act amendments was voiced at the convention of the AFL Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, though no formal action was taken by the delegates.

A resolution condemning changes in the labor law was filed by the freight forwarding section of the brotherhood, whose members are covered by the Act. Pres. George Harrison sidetracked any action on the matter, however, by stating that most of the union's membership is protected by the Railway Labor Act.

Girdler Takes War On Labor Into Courts

$7,500,000 Suit Hit By Senator

CLEVELAND, May 27. — What his army of spies and thugs had been unable to do—smash the powerful Steel Workers Organizing Committee — Tom Girdler of Republic Steel today was attempting to accomplish in the courts with the help of the Sherman and Clayton anti-trust acts.

Immediate public and Congressional reaction indicated that Girdler will fight an unpopular war against the nation's industrial workers.

Girdler's $7,500,000 suit against the SWOC, the CIO and 700 union leaders and strikers, charged the workers with restraint of trade during the 1937 Little Steel strike. Less than a fortnight previous the SWOC filed a suit in the National Labor Relations Board office here asking the company be forced to pay out about the same amount of money in back pay to 6,200 workers who had been deprived of wages as a result of company actions after the strike in the steel firm's Ohio plants.

DEFIED LABOR BOARD

The CIO claims are based on refusal to reinstate workers as demanded by Labor Board, illegal discharge of workers and discrimination resulting in loss of pay.

Last autumn the Board issued an order requiring the company to reinstate on application, all of its striking employes as operations permit.

LaFollette committee studies of the strike showed clearly, however, that it was Girdler guns, Girdler spies and finks, Girdler tear gas and Girdler-controlled police who caused the strike violence.

Filing of the court action by the nation's leading hater of labor may well spur Congressional moves to amend the anti-trust laws to prevent their further misuse against labor it is believed.

SEN. THOMAS SPEAKS

Sen. Elbert Thomas, chairman of the Senate Education and Labor Committee, declared:

"Everybody knows that when the Sherman and Clayton Acts were passed, no one ever dreamed that they would be turned to a purpose of this kind. Pending action by the higher courts in the Apex case, an attempt at protective legislation might be out of place. But there will be such legislation if the final court decisions uphold these misapplications of the anti-trust laws against labor."

NOT INTENT OF CONGRESS

Chairman Mary Norton of the House Labor Committee took a similar stand:

"This is a most extraordinary situation when they try to use the anti-trust laws against labor organizations. Certainly, that was not the intent of Congress."

The Philadelphia Record predicted that the public's reaction to the suit will be:

"What about those ten strikers who were massacred by Chicago police on Decoration Day, 1937, for daring to congregate near a Republic Steel plant? How can anyone, after those killings which horrified the entire country, enter the courts and ask blandly for 'damages'? Is this a deliberate attempt by the leading anti-labor figure in America to rub it in?"

Wants More Cash

Tom Girdler, shown with a couple of his lady friends, still hates labor. He has sued the CIO and Steel Workers Organizing Committee for $7,500,000, charging violations of the Sherman anti-trust act.

Pass Oppressive Practices Bill, LaFollette Urges

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, May 27.—Warning that "temporary publicity can never take the place of permanent and enduring legislation," Senator Robert LaFollette called for passage of the Oppressive Labor Practices Act of 1939 at the opening session of hearings before a Senate Education and Labor subcommittee.

The bill, based on findings of the Senate Civil Liberties Committee during the last three years, would prohibit the following practices:

1. Use of labor spies and labor espionage.

2. Use of strikebreakers and strikebreaking agencies.

3. Use of privately paid armed guards away from the premises of an employer.

4. Possession and utilization of industrial munitions, such as tear gas and sub-machine guns.

DECADES OVERDUE

The proposed law, Senator LaFollette told the committee, "is several decades overdue," and is "another forward step in Federal labor legislation designed to promote the peaceful settlement of industrial disputes through collective bargaining.

"The four types of anti-labor practices prohibited by the bill spring from an unyielding hostility both to freedom of association for employes and to the principle of collective bargaining. . . . The bill will stand with the Wagner Act and the Walsh-Healey Act as a guide post to liberty and industrial freedom."

Other democracies which have allowed privately-controlled private armies to exist and flourish have been themselves destroyed, he warned.

STRONG HOSTILE FORCES

"There are forces within the country which openly clamor for the destruction of civil liberties through the perversion of governmental power," the Senator pointed out to his colleagues.

"There are still factories which stand like fortresses, bristling with machine guns and modern chemical weapons. There are still private armies which are drilled and trained by certain corporations for active combat during industrial disputes. There are still large industrial centers, like urban Harlan, where constitutional right of citizens are trampled down by selfish powerful interests."

Union members are urged to send letters to Senator Elbert Thomas, chairman of the Senate Education and Labor Committee, and to Representative Mary Norton, head of the House Labor Committee, urging speedy and favorable action on the bill.

CIO Asks to Enter Apex Case

Philadelphia, May 27.—Declaring that "the issues in the Apex case are of vital importance to the entire labor movement in the United States" the Congress of Industrial Organizations, through Lee Pressman, general counsel, filed petition today with the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals of Philadelphia for leave to appear in the case as "amicus curiae".

CIO Asks Unions To Protest Apex Decision

WASHINGTON, May 27.—A call to labor and progressive forces to protest against "high-handed judicial attempts to break unions through distortion of the Sherman Act," was issued today by James B. Carey, CIO secretary and chairman of the CIO Committee for Amendment of the Sherman Act, which was set up by President Lewis following the $700,000 verdict against the Philadelphia Hosiery Workers in the Apex case.

Carey issued his statement with the release of a CIO leaflet describing the Apex verdict as "a new blow at labor." One hundred thousand copies of this leaflet are to be circulated as part of the CIO campaign for amendment of the Sherman Act, so that it may not again be used for union-breaking purposes. The leaflets are free.

ATTACK ON RIGHTS

"If this decision is allowed to stand, it will lead to a wave of similar attacks on basic American labor rights," Carey said.

"Already reactionary corporations and judges are following up the Apex decision, as in the suit filed by Tom Gordler's Republic Steel Corporation for $7,500,000 against the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, and a similar suit recently filed against the AFL Teamsters in Boston for $900,000."

The CIO leaflet declares that the issue in the Apex case is not the sitdown strike, nor violence. "The single issue in the Apex case," it says, "is whether a strike in a manufacturing plant, which necessarily stops production, is in violation of the Sherman anti-trust law, and subjects the union to treble damages suffered by the employer."

UNIONS HELD EXEMPT

The leaflet points out that the Sherman Act was not intended to apply against labor unions, and that the Clayton Act, passed in 1914, was written with the specific intention of exempting unions from the anti-trust laws.

Nevertheless, it says, the Philadelphia court "by a monstrous piece of judicial distortion, . . . took the enactment of the Wagner Act as an excuse to expand the meaning of the Sherman Act to include all strikes."

The leaflet concludes with a warning to all labor to fight not only to reverse the Apex verdict, but to secure an amendment to the Sherman Act making it "so clear that even judges can understand that the act does not apply to trade unions."

"A New Blow At Labor"—leaflet, 4 pp. Free. Write to Publicity Dept. CIO, 1106 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D. C.

Would Kill Unions, Says Sen. Norris

Washington, May 27. — Senator George W. Norris, veteran Nebraska liberal, today joined labor and progressives in condemning the **$700,000, fine levied against the American Federation of Hosiery Workers for a strike against the Apex Hosiery Mills in June, 1937.**

"If the decision stands," Sen. Norris said, "The threat of being thus penalized for ordinary trade union activities, not alone for strikes, but for any concerted action which might be construed as a 'conspiracy in restraint of trade' would hang over the head of every American union, officials and members alike.

"This would paralyze collective bargaining and labor organizations throughout the entire country."

SHERMAN ACT

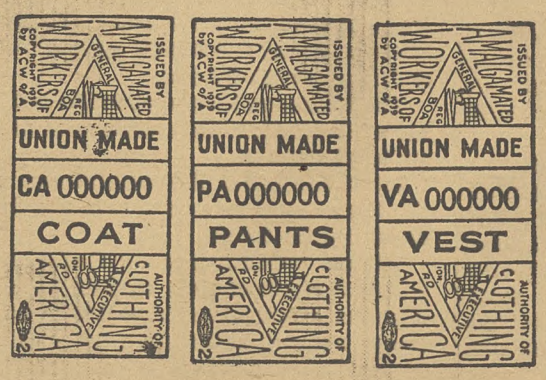
Commenting on the anti-trust act whose provisions were used as a legal peg for the fine, Norris declared: "There is no doubt that the Sherman Act was not intended to apply and cannot properly be applied to the activities of trade unions.

"That point has been so clearly decided, not only by the Clayton Act but by subsequent court decisions, including the Supreme Court, as to be beyond decision or doubt."

BE ON GUARD!

Look for the union label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America when buying men's and boys' clothing, overalls, shirts, undergarments, neckties, lumber jackets, gloves, and all other kinds of men's wearing apparel.

The Amalgamated Label is your guarantee that the articles you buy are of the best workmanship and produced under one hundred percent union conditions by members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.



By insisting on the Amalgamated Label you will help to guard against a return of sweatshop conditions to the industry. By helping the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America you help the labor movement generally.

Ask for the Amalgamated label on each part of the suit, coat, pants and vest. There are different Amalgamated labels for coats, pants, vests, shirts and undergarments, work clothes, neckwear and gloves.

YOUR WPA JOB

By Ralph Hetzel, Jr.

Secretary, Committee on Unemployment

The Casey Bill

At last we have a bill which really deserves our support.

Congressman Casey of Massachusetts has introduced into the House of Representatives his Work and Recovery Bill, H. R. 6470, which embodies many of the principles contained in the letter President Lewis sent last week to the House Appropriations Committee.

The bill calls for a minimum of three million jobs on the WPA during the next fiscal year as long as there are that many unemployed workers eligible for employment on the program.

2¼ BILLION DOLLARS

It provides for an appropriation of $2,250,000,000. This sum will be sufficient to insure three million jobs at a monthly wage high enough to provide a minimum standard of decency and good health.

The bill eliminates the necessity for unemployed workers to pauperize themselves in order to get a WPA job. All unemployed workers who are able and willing to work will be eligible for work relief if this bill is enacted into law.

A well rounded program of work suited to the needs and skills of the unemployed on projects of a socially useful character is provided for in the bill. Prevailing hourly wage rates are to be paid and a minimum of thirty cents an hour is to be maintained throughout the program.

SOUNDER BASIS

Although this bill does not contain everything that is necessary to provide a real program for the unemployed, it does establish the WPA on a much sounder basis than it has ever had before. The best features of the WPA are retained and new principles of great importance are added.

Of course, this bill should have the whole-hearted support and strong backing of the CIO and all other progressive organizations. But time is of the greatest importance.

The House Appropriations Committee has already started hearings on the WPA Bill for 1940. These hearings have been closed to the public but sufficient information has seeped out to indicate that the reactionaries are once more sharpening their knives for an onslaught on the relief program.

TELL THE COMMITTEE

The House Appropriations Committee should be informed in no unmistakable terms that it is the Casey Bill which answers the needs of the unemployed in this country. The House Appropriations Committee should be informed that it is the Casey Bill which has the support of the workers of our nation.

If the Congressmen from your district is on the House Appropriations Committee, write to him directly. It not, write to Chairman Edward T. Taylor. Get the local officials, the church people, the merchants and tradespeople in your town to do likewise.

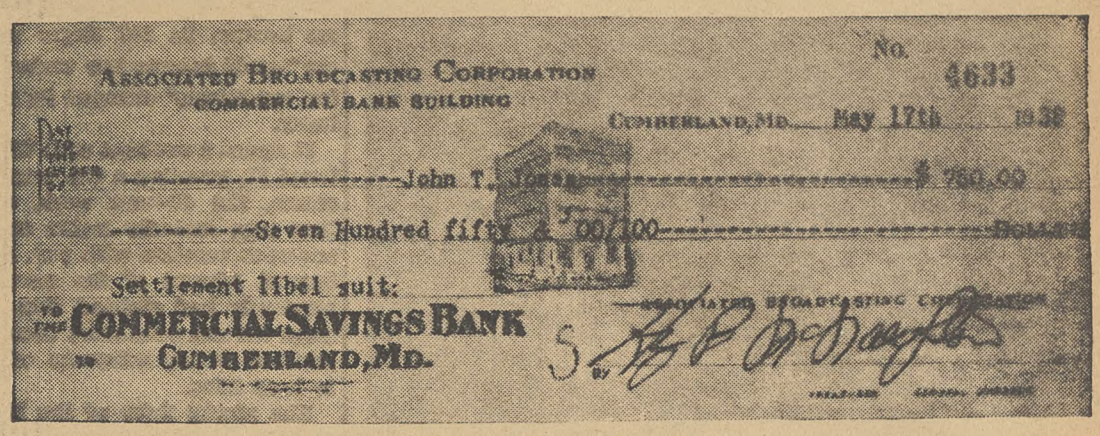
President Lewis has requested an opportunity for representatives of the CIO to be heard at the hearings of the House Appropriations Committee on the 1940 WPA bill. At that time the CIO will strongly urge the passage of the Casey Bill.

Auto Mechanics Win Contracts

New York, May 27—Fifty automobile mechanics went back to work today in the Mab Motors Co. after Local 259, United Automobile Workers, won a five-day strike.

Wage increases up to 10 per cent, the closed shop, vacations and holidays with pay and the 44-hour week were contained in the agreement. Another walkout is still continuing against the Midtown Chevrolet Co., while a drive is under way to organize collision shop workers in Manhattan and Bronx.

Mine Union Official, Attacked As 'Red', Wins Libel Suit



Facsimile of $500 check given to Jones

CUMBERLAND, Md., May 27. — Indiscriminate abuse of CIO leaders doesn't pay—in fact it can be costly—anti-union forces are learning from the settlement of a libel suit against the local radio broadcasting station here announced today.

The settlement, calling for a public apology by the Associated Broadcasting Co., payment of $750 in cash, and $500 worth of radio time, ended a libel suit brought by John T. Jones, president of United Mine Workers District 16 and president of the State Industrial Union Council, for wild statements by an anti-CIO speaker who called John L. Lewis, Jones and other CIO leaders "Communists."

VICIOUS SERIES

The libels came in a vicious series of broadcasts by one McNally, alias Joe Kenny, ex-convict and so-called "evangelist" who was imported to Cumberland to smear the CIO and all labor during a mayoralty campaign.

Jones announced on receiving the $750 check that the money would be used to buy glasses for children of miners unable to afford proper eye treatment. "My suit was not taken for personal gain," Jones declared. "It was taken to show the public that the attacks of a disreputable ex-convict could never be substantiated by the attacker or the radio station.

"The apology of the station to John L. Lewis and myself is a vindication in the minds of the people of western Maryland."

Minnesota CIO Elects Eastman

DULUTH, Minn., May 27.—A ten-point program to guide the activities of CIO unions throughout the state was adopted at the second annual convention of the Minnesota CIO Industrial Union Council, which elected Buford Eastman, young leader of the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, as president.

Nominated by Joe Van Nordstrand, former head of the Council, Eastman was elected by acclamation at Van Nordstrand's suggestion. The nominations committee previously was deadlocked for several hours over the question of nominees for president, when Van Nordstrand, favored by many of the delegates for re-election, called for the nomination of a candidate who would be elected unanimously.

VanNORDSTRAND NAMED

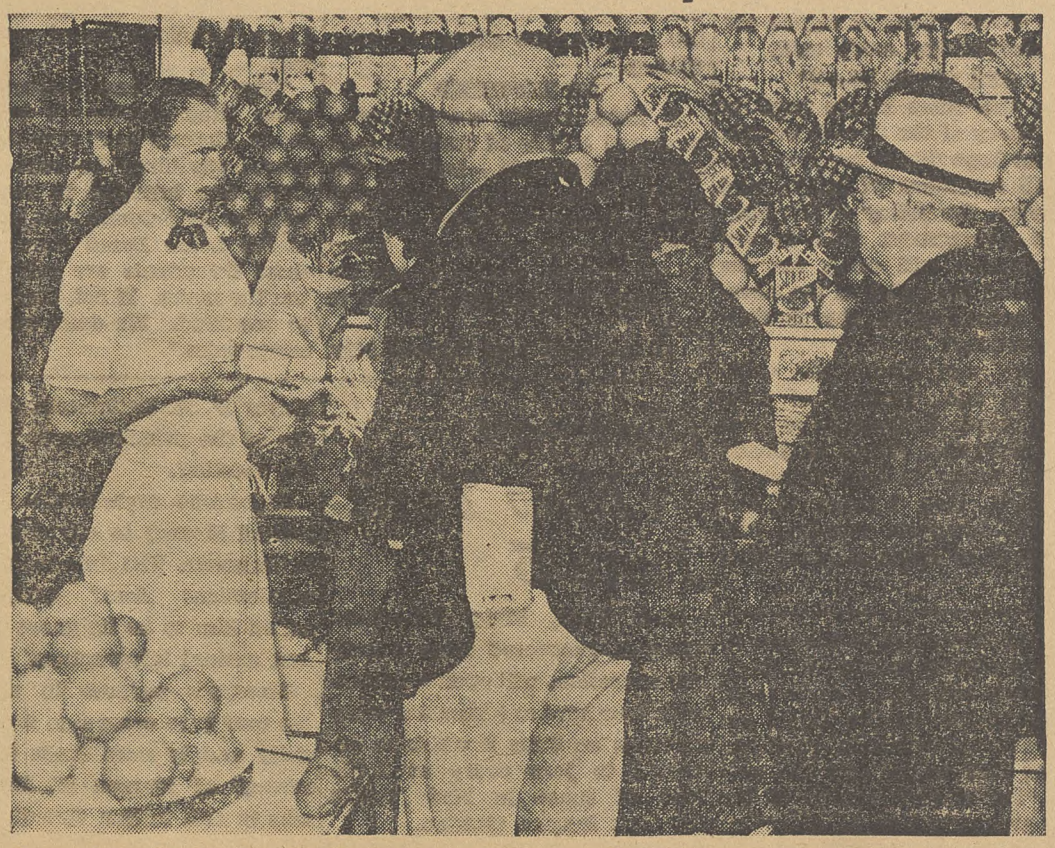
The former president was unanimously elected secretary-treasurer. An executive board was chosen by the delegates representative of every section of the workers in the state. The proposals of the nominating committee for six vice-presidents and the Board were adopted without a dissenting vote.

The program adopted called for: Consolidation of CIO councils of miners, packing house employes and white collar workers; more effective legislative work; an intelligent public relations policy to clear up misrepresentations of the CIO; closer relationship and understanding with farmers and businessmen; and defense of the Wagner Act and the President's recovery program.

BACK HOUSING PROGRAM

Other points included promotion of low-cost housing through the Federal Housing Authority; unity with the AFL in opposing the Stassen anti-labor bill; support of Roosevelt's efforts to protect democracy and maintain peace and preparation for the 1940 election campaign.

Test Food Stamp Plan



Scene in a Rochester, N. Y. grocery store as relief clients swapped new orange and blue "relief stamps" for food in the U. S. government's test of a method of relieving want in the midst of plenty. Local grocers reported satisfaction with the method, which may be spread to all parts of the nation.

Picket Wins False Arrest Verdict

Toledo, May 27 — Herbert Rice members of United Automobile Workers Local 12, was $650 richer today after winning a false arrest case against the owners of the City Laundry Co., where he was nabbed on a picket line in February, 1938.

Rice charged in his suit that Samuel Rudick, president of the company, had been responsible for his arrest on "assault and battery" charges during an Amalgamated Clothing Workers strike. He was forced to spend about six hours in a local police station after his removal from the picket line, but was acquitted when his case came to trial in April, 1938.

Edward Lamb, CIO attorney in Toledo who represented Rice in his suit against the laundry firm, declared:

"This will have a wholesome effect on restraining employers from maliciously having workers arrested during labor difficulties."

Shipyard Campaign Progresses

Baltimore, Md., May 27—An organizing drive being conducted at the Sparrows Point plant of the Bethlehem Shipyards is nearing completion, the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, CIO, announced this week.

National President John Green will present a charter to Local 33 at a meeting to be held June 2. "It is expected that the establishment of the new local in Sparrows Point will prove a stimulus not only for the remaining Sparrows Point workers to get in the IUMSW, but also for the men at Key Highway, Bethlehem's big repair yard," the union stated.

Demand Safety at Sea

Members of the National Maritime Union picket Dept. of Commerce offices in Washington demanding enforcement of safety-at-sea laws, being flouted as struck oil tanker lines sign up scabs. Picketing forced U. S. to take action, levy $50,000 fines against the four lines involved.

Maritime Union Asks U. S. Probe Of Conspiracy

NEW YORK, May 27.—Investigation of "a conspiracy undertaken by the shipowners to wreck and destroy the National Maritime Union", was asked in a letter sent to Attorney General Frank Murphy by Joseph Curran, NMU president.

Charges on which eight officers and members of the union were recently suspended were outlined in the letter and a copy of confessions by two former members of an alleged "shipowner group" within the union was enclosed.

"The activities of Frank J. Taylor, president of the American Merchant Institute, and other steamship company officials," the letter stated, "not only spell out the crime of bribing a union official, under New York State laws, but the attempts of these officials to frustrate the collective bargaining undertakings of maritime workers as guaranteed by the National Labor Relations Act also spell out a conspiracy under Section 51 of the U. S. Criminal Code, Title 18."

AFL Union Defends Big Utility

New York, May 27.—Siding with the Consolidated Edison Co. in a suit brought against the firm by the Amalgamated Utility Workers, CIO affiliate, the AFL electrical workers union declared in U. S. circuit court of appeals that no union has a right to bring proceedings against an employer who violates a court order enforcing a decision of the National Labor Relations Board.

Affidavits from scores of employes showing that the company had ignored most of the points of the enforcement order issued against it, were filed with the court by the CIO union. It asked that the company be found guilty of contempt of court, and that it be forced to obey the order.

AFL ENTERED CASE

Company lawyers asked for dismissal of the plea, charging that the Wagner Act gives the union no right to start such proceedings. The Intl. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers intervened in the case to make a similar motion, although they were not even a party to it.

Commenting on the IBEW action, Edward Shedlock, chairman of the CIO union, said the case was "but a continuation of the AFL group's policy of defending the management of Con-Ed, a policy to which they have adhered since the deal between Chairman Carlisle of the company and IBEW Pres. Tracy was effected."

Lewis Joins Appeal For Palestine

Washington, May 27. — CIO Pres. John L. Lewis joined with a group of liberals here in sending a cablegram to Premier Neville Chamberlain, urging the British government to abide by the Balfour Declaration establishing a national homeland for Jews in Palestine.

Britain "made a pact with the conscience of mankind which won the hearts of the whole civilized world" when it signed the Declaration, the cable said.

ASK 'FAIR PLAY'

"In this most tragic hour in the history of the Jewish people, it is our hope that in keeping with British traditions of justice and fair play, the policy of His Majesty's government with regard to Palestine will carry out the letter and the spirit of the covenant contained in the Balfour Declaration."

Others who signed the cable included Sen. Wagner of New York, Mayor LaGuardia of New York City, Sen. Green of Rhode Island, Pres. William Green of the AFL, Ray Lyman Wilbur and Dr. Mary E. Woolley, former head of Mount Holyoke College.

Negroes Win Long Walkout

New York, May 27 — The Spring Products Corp. which for nine months refused to deal with the CIO United Furniture Workers because its 367 Negro workers "would become lazy under union conditions," changed its mind today.

It signed a contract with UFWA Local 91, granting a 5% wage increase, the 40-hour week, overtime pay, seniority rights and a one-week vacation with pay. Pres. Samuel Marcus of the company previously had claimed that Negroes did not need more than the previous weekly minimum of $11 to keep alive.

The plucky fight of the Negro unionists brought them wide support from AFL and CIO unions throughout the metropolitan area. During the walkout there were 48 sympathy strikes by workers in other plants who refused to handle the company's scab-made goods.

CIO Sec. James B. Carey, Pres. Muster of the UFW and Allan Haywood, CIO regional director, were among the CIO officials who marched on the strikers' picket line.

REACTIONARIES BUSY

Phoenix, Ariz.—(FP)—In keeping with its anti-labor program, the Associated Farmers is seeking an anti-picket ordinance for this community. This same law, almost word for word, has been presented to scores of state legislatures and city commissions throughout the country by either the Associated Farmers or one of its many counterparts.

Labor Unity Won Victory for River Barge Workers

ST. LOUIS, May 27.—A union shop, improved working conditions—paid vacations, an increase in working personnel which will mean more jobs, and an agreement to discuss wage increases have been won by approximately 3,500 dock and river workers employed by the government-operated Federal Barge line.

The advances were won through united action of the CIO Inland Boatmen's Division of the National Maritime Union and the AFL Longshoremen's Association.

The two unions wrung their victory from the Barge Line after a three-weeks strike which tied up shipping on the Mississippi, Missouri, Illinois and Warrior rivers.

UNITY IN ACTION

The strike, officials of the two unions declare, was a brilliant example of what can be accomplished by labor unity when carried into action. While rank and file members of the two unions marched the picket line side by side in cities up and down the Mississippi valley, officials of the two organizations co-operated closely in carrying on negotiations in which all the demands of the two unions were won.

Actual conduct of the strike, which stretched from St. Paul, Minn., to New Orleans, was handled by the General Council of River Workers, a federation on which local unions of the AFL and CIO are represented. The General Council of River Workers handles all problems affecting both unions on the Mississippi river and in river ports.

The Federal Barge Line strike began on April 27 after the General Council of River Workers had negotiated with barge line officials for exactly one month. The negotiations got nowhere and so the crews of several boats then tied up in St. Louis struck. The strike spread to the dock workers and boat crews of all terminals of the line.

UNION DEMANDS

Both unions were demanding that the line agree to hire dock and men for boat crews from lists furnished by the union; vacations, with pay, of 26 days a year; 15 days a year sick leave; improved working conditions and wage increases. The Inland Boatmen's Union — which represents the men who man all the tug boats of the line — also demanded that the number of men be increased for each boat.

Since the Federal Barge Line has earned more than $1,000,000 profit during the past year, both rank and file members and officials of the two unions are confident wage increases will be granted.

The unions also expect that the relations between the organized workers and the company will be vastly improved when the line is transferred from control of the War Department to the Department of Commerce.

2,500 CIO MEMBERS

The Inland Boatmen's Division of the NMU represents the unlicensed members of the crews of the Barge Line boats and the longshore workers at New Orleans, Vicksburg, Miss., Baton Rouge, La., Helena, Ark., and Mobile, Ala. The CIO union represents about 2,500 Federal Barge Line workers. The AFL International Longshoremen's Association represents 1,000 longshore workers at Memphis, Cairo, Ill., St. Louis, East St. Louis, Ill., and Peoria, Ill.

Members of the two unions declare that the anti-labor, anti-union attitude of Major-General Ashburn, company president, and his stooges forced the workers to strike. During the negotiations, before the strike, the barge line officials, under Ashburn, took an insistently anti-union attitude and blocked any possibility of a settlement.

DEMAND OUSTER

After the strike was called, the General Council of River Workers, by official resolution, demanded the removal of Ashburn and opened a campaign to have other labor groups join in their demand.

By forcing the workers of the line to strike, it is pointed out, he lost tens of thousands of dollars for the barge line and diverted business to competing river lines or to the railroads. It will be hard for the line to get this business back, on which the livelihood of barge workers depends.

The CIO Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association, representing the licensed engineering department workers of the Federal Barge Line, is negotiating for a new contract. Its demands are backed by the General Council of River Workers. Members of the MEBA were not involved in the strike of river and dock workers. They stayed on the boats, with the approval of the other two unions, to take care of the vessels.

Jury Frees 93 Oil Workers in Tulsa

TULSA, Okla., May 27—(FP)—Ninety-three oil workers, who with their wives filled a common pleas court room to capacity, heard a jury verdict of not guilty on charges of unlawful assembly growing out of the strike against the Mid-Continent Petroleum Corp., producers of DX gasoline.

Angered by the 9-3 vote for acquittal after only six hours' deliberation, County Att. Dixie Gilmer called the jurors a "bunch of weak-kneed puppets."

He said he would proceed with prosecution of Jack N. Hays, local president of the Oil Workers Intl. Union, CIO, and 36 unionists on the more serious charge of conspiracy.

143 INDICTED

A Tulsa county grand jury—composed largely of business men and anti-unionists — indicted 143 strikers last April, charging 106 with unlawful assembly and the remainder with conspiracy. Many of the strikers, unable to provide the high bail demanded, went to jail.

At the court trial Defense Atty. J. D. Lydick warned that Mid-Continent had instigated the prosecution in order to strengthen its position in the current National Labor Relations Board proceedings.

"The state has atempted to prove these defendants intended to do violence and they haven't proved anything," he said. "This thing was intended to pave the way for Mid-Continent's position in the Labor Board hearing. If these defendants are guilty, give 'em the works. If not, they should be acquitted. We don't want any compromise."

Mooney In New York June 5

New York, May 27—Tom Mooney, recovered from a serious operation, will open a nationwide tour here at a monster mass meeting on June 5 which is expected to jam every available inch of space in New York's Madison Square Garden.

Leaders of CIO, AFL and independent unions, as well as the railroad brotherhoods, will greet the labor martyr who spent 22 years in California state prisons. Mayor F. H. LaGuardia will be one of the principal speakers at the meeting.

Numerous organizations have invited Mooney to attend dinners in his honor. The American Communications Assn.' CIO, has asked him to be its guest at the first annual telegraphers' ball.

Mooney's purpose in making the tour is to campaign for labor unity and to raise funds for the release of Warren K. Billings, who is still in San Quentin. He will appear in a number of eastern cities, and will speak at the Coliseum in Michigan's State Fair Grounds, Detroit, on June 11.

CIO Executive Board to Meet June 13

SEE STORY PAGE THREE

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 23 20 JUNE 5, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

ANTHRACITE MINERS WIN UNION SHOP PACT

The News In Brief

(See Stories Inside Pages)

Casey Bill

Washington. — Ten New Deal senators have pledged support for the Murray - Casey bill, backed by the CIO and Labor's Non-Partisan League. The bill will provide for a minimum of 3,000,000 WPA jobs in the next fiscal year.

Memorial

Chicago.—Fifteen thousand union members gathered here to pay tribute to the ten steel workers who were massacred near Tom Girdler's Republic Steel plant during the 1937 Little Steel strike.

Defeated

Springfield, Ill.— United labor pressure brought about defeat for the Lantz bill, aimed at curbing union activity in this state.

Health

Washington. — Passage of the Wagner Health Bill and the Keller-Neely coal mine accident inspection bill was demanded at committee hearings by representatives of the CIO and the United Mine Workers.

Wagner Act

Washington. — While representatives of reactionary manufacturers held forth at the Senate committee hearings on the Wagner Act, NLRB Chairman J. Warren Madden and General Counsel Charles Fahy warned the House Labor Committee of the danger to labor in proposed amendments to the Act.

Dromedary Dates Signs With CIO

WASHINGTON, June 3. — Every food processing plant in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania is under closed shop contract with District 7 of the Cannery and Agricultural Workers, CIO, now that Hills Bros., employing 800 workers, has signed, it was announced here.

Hills Bros., largest date and fig packing firm in the U. S., ("Dromedary" brand) agreed to a closed shop provided 60 per cent of its workers so voted in a State Labor Board poll. The vote, conducted this week, showed that 95 per cent wanted the closed shop.

2 Courts OK Board Rulings

WASHINGTON, June 3.— The National Labor Relations Board today rolled up two more court victories, winning enforcement orders from federal judges in two important cases.

As a result of the decision, the Stackpole Carbon Co. of St. Mary's, Pa., and the Hamilton-Brown Shoe Co. of St. Louis will be found in contempt of court if they refuse to comply with the Labor Board orders.

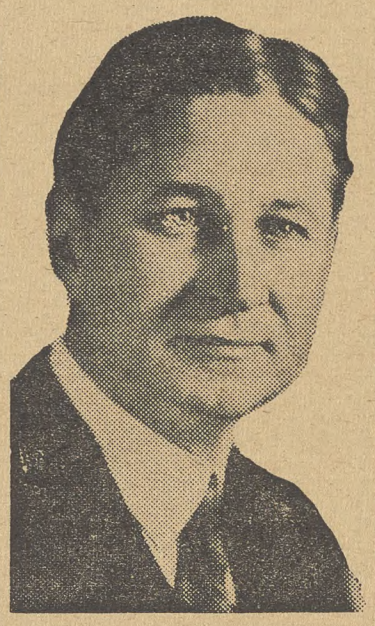
The Pennsylvania firm was ordered in March 1938, to bargain with the CIO United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, to drop a company union and to stop interfering with the union activities of its employes.

186 WORKERS

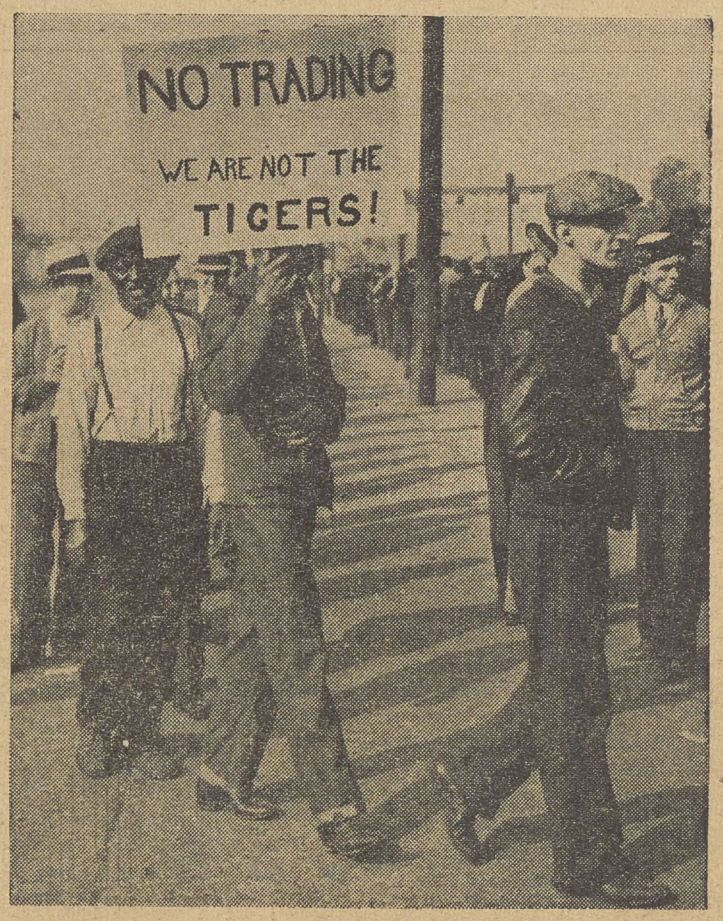
Clyde Armstrong, counsel for the company, has also represented Ernest T. Weir's National Steel Corp. in its long-drawn out fight with the NLRB.

The midwest shoe company was told by a St. Paul circuit court of appeals to rehire 186 workers, pay them $150,000 in back wages and allow the employes to vote whether they wish the United Shoe Workers, CIO, or an AFL union as sole collective bargaining agency.

Sponsor



Sen. James Murray of Montana who has sponsored in the Senate the 3,000,000 WPA job bill introduced in the House by Rep. Joseph Casey of Massachusetts. The CIO has endorsed the bill and is calling for its passage.



Striking members of the United Automobile Workers picket the Briggs Manufacturing Plant in Detroit and remind Briggs who owns the Tigers ball team—that he'll have to play ball with the union.

100,000 Covered By New 2-Year Agreement

(See Story Page Three)

NEW YORK, June 3.—Ratification of the two-year union shop agreement signed by employers of 100,000 anthracite coal miners and the United Mine Workers was expected to be quickly voted by the three districts affected.

Coming at the end of several weeks' negotiations, the UMW added to the victory which it had won less than two weeks earlier for the half-million bituminous miners throughout the nation. Unlike the bituminous operators, the anthracite employers agreed to keep the mines in operation during the course of the negotiations.

The previous contract expired at midnight, April 30, but was extended by mutual agreement.

Under the union shop clause, the United Mine Workers is recognized as sole bargaining agency, and all workers must join that union as a condition of employment.

Wage-Hour Violations Bring Fines for Two

WHEELING, W. Va., June 3.—Sanford Lerner, vice-president of the Standard Pants Co., today had the dubious distinction of being the first federal wage-hour violator to face a jail term.

Federal Judge William Baker fined the company $500 and costs and sentenced Lerner to six months in jail. The term will be suspended if the fine is paid by June 7 and records which Lerner was accused of not keeping are produced at the Pittsburgh office of the wage-hour administration by the same date.

The sentence was based primarily on contempt of court, but charges of direct violation of the act may be filed if the missing records show non-observance of its regulations.

Workers Share Profits In New Pact

New York, June 3.—Union participation in a novel profit-sharing plan is provided for in a new contract signed by Henry Romeike Inc., press-clipping firm, and Local 16 of the United Office & Professional Workers.

A portion of the profits, after officials' salaries and a 4 per cent return on investment have been deducted, will be turned over to the employes, while additional funds will be put into a welfare fund to be managed jointly by the head of the company and the union shop committee.

The agreement, which covers 117 office workers, also provides for a $1.50 weekly wage increase, a shorter work week, sick leave and paid vacations.

PLAN MEETING

San Francisco. — The State, County & Municipal Workers, CIO, will hold its first California state convention here next month.

Shoe Firm

Boston, June 3—Pleading guilty on six counts to violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Arlington Shoe Manufacturing Co. of Methuen was fined $4,000 in federal court.

John Karelitz, corporation executive, said full back pay due to 60 of his 180 employes would be given immediately. The firm was accused of paying lass than 25c an hour and falsifying payroll records.

The Ladies' Rights

DETROIT, June 3 (FP) — What may be called employer recognition of woman's right to powder her nose is found in a new contract signed with the United Automobile Workers, CIO, by the Detroit Lubricator Co.

The clause permits women workers to leave three minutes before closing time. Another section of the contract provides that union members who serve in the next war will be entitled to their jobs and cumulative seniority upon return.

Cannery Contract Lifts Wages $500,000

SEATTLE, Wash., June 3.—Pay increases totaling more than $500,000 were won by 7,000 CIO cannery workers through an industry-wide agreement signed between Local 7, United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers and employers in the canned salmon industry.

The wage increases average 15% above the 1938 scale.

Reached after months of heated negotiations, the new agreement provides for a closed shop with the CIO cannery union and also recognizes the Maritime Federation of the Pacific in a clause stating that no member of the cannery union shall be required to go through picket lines established by the Federation.

WON ELECTION

Local 7 first won bargaining rights in the Alaska canned salmon industry by carrying a hard fought Labor Board election in May 1938, in which an AFL union competed. Union officials say that this year the AFL group, having largely disintegrated, were no threat to the CIO union.

The cannery contract, keystone of all agreements in the canned salmon industry, provides for shop committees on the job and stipulates that UCAPAWA members working during the 1939 season shall be classed as employes until February 1940, although the salmon season closes months earlier.

Local Signs 1,781 Pacts In 5 Months

New York, June 3. — Contracts with 164 wholesale and warehouse firms covering 1,781 union members have been signed by Local 65, United Wholesale & Warehouse Employes, since the beginning of the year, it was reported at a general membership meeting here this week.

The Local's organizational department stated that it had set as its goal the unionization of 2,000 new members by the end of the fiscal year. Organization is proceeding in a number of large wholesale and warehouse firms.

Negotiations for contracts are in progress with the Glemby Co., largest distributor of hair goods and accessories in the country; National Shoe Co., and May Knitting Co. About 1,500 workers are employes in these big wholesale and warehouse establishments.

Marine Union Appeals to US Against Firm

New York, June 3. — Claiming that the civil rights of union members on strike against the tankers of the Standard Oil Company are being violated in Port Arthur, Texas, the National Maritime Union has asked Attorney-General Murphy to step into the situation and remove the police force from the control of the company.

In a letter to Murphy, Joseph Curran, NMU president, said that "since the tanker strike is coastwide, we feel that the abolition of civil liberties, even though temporary, in any port where the strike is in effect comes well within the purview of your newly-created Civil Rights Division."

Mooney In Washington June 6

Washington, June 3. — Tom Mooney, labor's most famous prisoner, will speak in Washington, Tuesday, June 6, it was announced here today by the Washington Tom Mooney Committee.

The Mooney meeting is sponsored by a list of prominent labor, Congressional, religious and other leaders, including John Brophy, CIO director, Msgr. John A. Ryan, Sen. Sheridan Downey of California, and Sen. Murray of Montana.

Sen. Murray will introduce Mooney, who will speak on "Labor and Civil Rights."

Oil Union Strikes Gulf Co.

Toledo, June 3.—Ready to "stay out on strike for a year, if necessary," members of Local 346, Oil Workers Intl. Union, threw a 24-hour picket line around the Gulf Refining Co. plant until the company agrees to a signed contract with the union.

Clyde Shamblen, union president, said the local had been negotiating for two years and had been able to win only a "bulletin board statement" of policy from the management. More than 90 per cent of the employes at the Toledo refinery are members of the CIO union.

PICKET SUES

Shortly after the strike was called, company officials called in union representatives for negotiations, but no announcement was made concerning progress reached in the discussions.

Meanwhile, Charles Petrit, picket captain at the struck plant, has filed a $30,000 damage suit against the company and its local superintendent. Petrit was hit by a car driven by Dennis E. Hart, the company executive, and claims he was struck "maliciously, wantonly and willfully."

Maritime Union Signs Three Tanker Lines

NEW YORK, June 3. — Strengthening its position in the tanker field, the National Maritime Union signed new contracts last week with the Gulf Refining and Pennsylvania Shipping companies. The union also announced that it is expected to sign soon with the Kellogg Steamship company.

All three agreements are similar, providing for improvement over last year's contracts. They include wage increases, an additional holiday; three more days severance pay and improvement in the general working rules.

OTHERS EXPECTED SOON

Conferences have been scheduled with the Pan American and National Bulk Carriers, the union stated, and contracts are expected to be signed with these firms shortly. Amsco Navigation, B & L Shipping, and Commercial Molasses, have also signified their willingness to sign the agreement concluded by the other companies.

Meanwhile the NMU continues to clamp down tightly on the tankers of four companies against whom a strike was declared on April 17. A conference with Socony officials, one of the struck companies, yielded no results.

The Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation recently levied fines totaling $67,000 against the four companies, the largest chunk of which was against Standard Oil.

Chattanooga News Strike Ends, Guild Wins

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., June 3.—(FP)—Striking members of the American Newspaper Guild won a quick victory here when the Chattanooga News signed a contract and reinstated two discharged employes. The walkout called May 23, ended four days later.

The one-year agreement covers Guild members only, but guarantees against economy firings or pay cuts in the white collar departments of the newspaper, which has been in financial difficulties.

Bus Anderson, copy boy who was fired when he refused to sign a loyalty petition circulated by a management stooge, is one of the men reinstated. The other is George Londa of the editorial staff, who was discharged while he was serving on a grievance committee to protest Anderson's dismissal.

AFL UNIONS HELPED

The strike provided an unusual demonstration of assistance from other newspaper unions. When Managing Editor, Harry P. Clark wrote a story saying that the printers had had to fight their way through Guild picket lines, linotype operators refused to set the copy. Clark had to revise his story.

T. R. Cuthbert, secretary of the Tennessee State Federation of Labor and a member of the AFL Intl. Typographical Union, refused to cross the picket line with the forms of The Labor World, which he edits and which is printed at the News plant. The issue was run off at an Atlanta shop.

War Insurance In New Pacts

New York, June 3 — Protection for American Newspaper Guild members who may be called upon for war service is being written into new union contracts.

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer agreement contains a clause on the subject, one has been agreed to in the New York Journal-American pact, and the Guild is seeking their inclusion in contracts with the Cleveland News and the New York Mirror.

The Journal-American clause reads:

"In the event of war involving the U. S. A., the publisher agrees that all employes who leave their posts to serve in the armed forces of the United States or their adjuncts shall be granted the same posts immediately upon their return, with severance pay rating and other rights under the contract unimpaired."

It also provides that in case of death in the armed service, severance pay under the Guild agreement shall be made.

Avert Strike

Stockton, Calif., June 3 (FP)—The Stockton Independent signed a union shop agreement with the American Newspaper Guild, averting by less than an hour a strike called because of the publisher's delay in coming to a settlement.

Hearst Withdraws Offer To Settle Chicago Strike

Hearst once had a man called Joe Connolly
Who conducted Hearst's strikes rather funnily.
He'd say "Yes" and mean "No."
He'd say "Stop" and mean "Go."
"Holy Joe" was a perfect anomaly.
——Courtesy, Chicago Newspaper Guild.

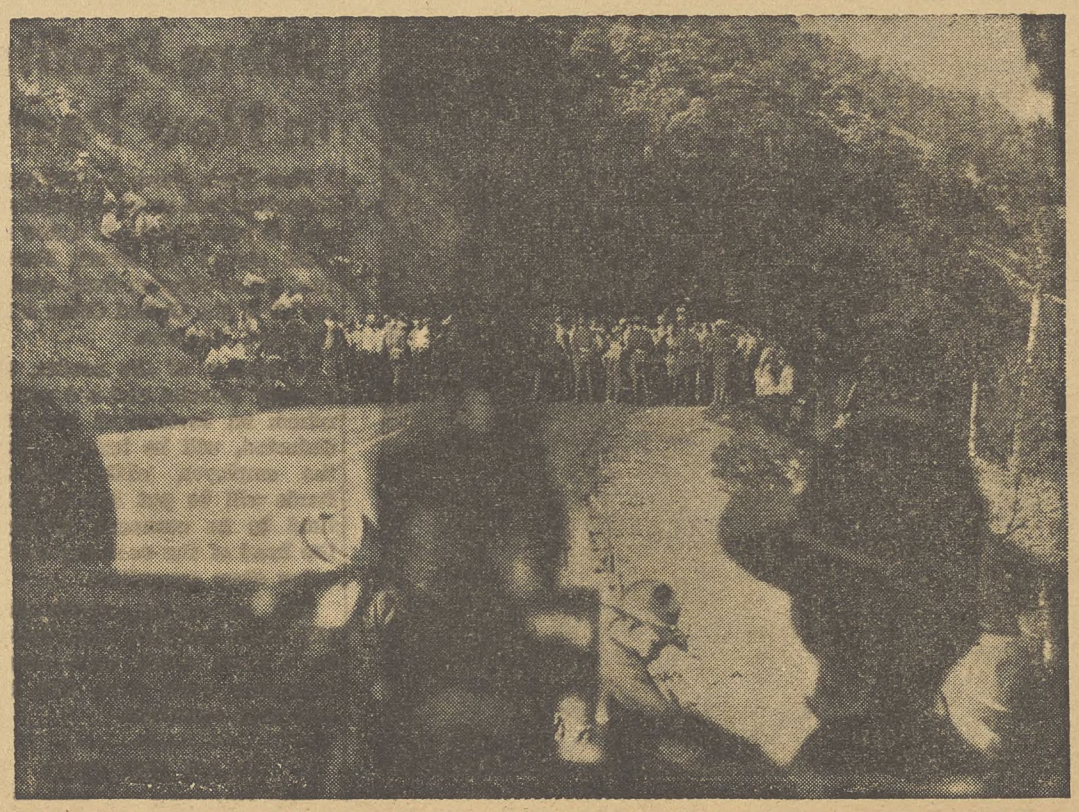
Chicago, June 3.—Hopes for a quick settlement of the six-month strike on Hearst's Chicago papers were dashed today following withdrawal by the management of every "offer" which it had tentatively advanced at earlier conferences with American Newspaper Guild negotiators.

Local Guild leaders expressed little surprise at the sudden termination of the meetings with the union and charged that the Hearst "peace" tactics were aimed at disrupting the strike and broadcasting the impression that the strike was about over. The meeting had been arranged by Joseph Connolly, Hearst general manager.

It was believed that the curiously erratic activities of the management negotiators was due in large degree to internal conflicts in the Hearst executive force, with each man seeking to get out from under any decisions that may be unpopular with the new boss of Hearst enterprises, John S. Brookes.

Meanwhile, Guild units on Hearst papers in Detroit, Boston, New York and Albany are fighting "economies" which they charge are being attempted in an effort to help bolster the Chicago managements anti-Guild fight.

Machine Guns in Harlan



Note the machine gun in the foreground; Kentucky national guardsmen are helping a handful of Harlan County operators fight the United Mine Workers' demand for a union shop contract.

Ten Senators Pledge Support To Casey Bill

WASHINGTON, June 3—Support of leading New Deal senators for the Casey-Murray bill was announced today by Sen. James E. Murray of Montana, co-sponsor of the measure aimed at providing at least three million WPA jobs during the next fiscal year.

CIO and Labor's Non-Partisan League have already endorsed the bill, which was introduced in the House by Rep. Joseph E. Casey of Massachusetts.

In addition, the Workers Alliance of America, organization of the unemployed, announced that its forthcoming "National Right-To-Work Congress" will undertake to launch a movement for economic recovery with emphasis on support of the Casey-Murray Bill.

HETZEL STATEMENT

Full support for the Casey bill was reiterated in a statement to the House Appropriations subcommittee on WPA by Ralph Hetzel, CIO unemployment director.
1939 fiscal year."

Hetzel sharply criticized the refusal of the House sub-committee to grant hearings to other than government agency spokesmen, pointing out that "there is no issue before Congress which so vitally affects the welfare of our citizens and upon which Congress ought carefully to seek the opinions of the great organizations representing the people."

Citing the need for passage of the bill, he noted that "there is increasing evidence, especially from state officials and mayors and very recently from the American Assn. of Social Workers that the capacity of local governments for providing assistance, even at the brutally low levels heretofore provided, has decreased."

NAMES BACKERS

Sen. Murray listed the names of Senators Schwellenbach, Pepper, Downey, Guffey, Mead, Lunden, Wagner, LaFollette and Ellender as among those who have assured him of support for S. 2507.

A new depression faces the country unless the principles of the $2,250,000,000 work relief bill are incorporated into the law, Sen. Murray warned.

MURRAY STATEMENT

"This is a bill which would establish the WPA on the sound basis which its friends and the

Continued on page six

Transit Union Cracks Down On Sabotage

New York, June 3—Reports by a special union trial committee on the cases of 28 members of the Transport Workers Union who are accused of plotting acts of sabotage which interrupted service on IRT subway and elevated lines last February, were in the hands of the international's executive board for action today.

Ten of the men have been suspended by the company, and expulsion by the union, which has a closed shop contract, would mean loss of jobs for the others.

NAME RINGLEADER

The trial committee charged Thomas Stack with being the "ringleader of a vicious disruptive clique which planned and directed acts of sabotage calculated to create chaos in the industry and discredit and destroy the collective bargaining organization of transit workers . . .

"The affidavits show that Stack and his clique gathered these men at meetings held under the auspices of a 'Social Justice Club' and cajoled them into violent acts in defiance of a court decree and the contract between the union and the IRT."

100,000 Anthracite Miners Win Pact, Get Union Shop

NEW YORK, June 3.—The United Mine Workers today had rolled up its second union shop victory in a month, as union negotiators and representatives of anthracite mine owners employing more than 100,000 reached agreement on terms of a new two-year contract.

Coming on the heels of the agreements covering half a million miners in the nation's bituminous fields, the anthracite contract makes complete the biggest union victory of the year, and puts the UMW in an impregnable position throughout every important coal producing area.

TWO CLAUSES

Like the bituminous contract, the anthracite agreement contains these two clauses:

"It is agreed that the United Mine Workers of America is recognized as the exclusive bargaining agency. . . .

"It is agreed that as a condition of employment, all employes shall be members of the United Mine Workers except those in classifications recognized in the industry as exempt from such membership during the terms of the agreement of May 7, 1936."

The exempted groups compose office, technical and managerial staffs of the mine companies.

35-HOUR WEEK

Continuation of the 35-hour week and the old minimum daily wage rate is also provided. The contracting system, which has been sharply criticized by the miners, was abolished.

Anthracite negotiations were in progress for more than a month. The old contract, which expired at midnight April 30, was temporarily renewed several times during the conferences as the union and employers struggled over terms. Sec.-Treas. Thomas Kennedy headed the UMW Anthracite delegation, while Maj. W. W. Inglis, president of the Glen Alden Coal Co., was chief of the operators' negotiators.

LEWIS STATEMENT

"We believe that the operators, the workers and the population of the anthracite region will commend this agreement," declared Pres. John L. Lewis of the UMW. "It is constructive. It contributes to the industrial and social life of the Atlantic seaboard, and I predict overwhelming confirmation of the document by the miners when they vote soon."

Both sides approached the problem "with due regard for economic conditions of the industry

Continued on Page Six

CIO Executive Board To Meet June 13

WASHINGTON, June 3.—The regular semi-annual meeting of the CIO Executive Board will be held here beginning Tuesday, June 13, it was announced today by President John L. Lewis.

The meeting, Pres. Lewis said, will take up administrative matters, reports of special committees, legislative program and plans for the expansion of CIO organizing efforts. It will be held in the United Mine Workers building in this city.

BOARD'S SECOND MEETING

The meeting will be the second held by the Executive Board. The first, convened immediately after the CIO convention of last November, was held in Pittsburgh after the Board's election.

The Board was elected in compliance with the CIO constitution adopted at the convention, which provided that it consist of one representative from each affiliated national and international union and organizing committee.

The duties of the Board were defined to include enforcement of the constitution and carrying out of instructions of the convention, and directing the affairs of the CIO between conventions.

Each Board member has as many votes in Board meetings as there are members of his national or international union or committee, as provided for conventions of the whole CIO.

Canadian Miners Join CIO, Topple Old Stooge Union

TRAIL, British Columbia, June 3. — A one-time company union stronghold toppled recently when nearly 2,000 employes of the Canadian Pacific Railway-controlled Consolidated Mining and Smeltering Co. braved a blazing sun to attend a union open-air meeting for the first time in 20 years.

Trail miners and their wives crowded Butler park while hundreds more, seated in the 240-odd automobiles parked around the meeting place, and on verandas of nearby homes, to hear the message of industrial unionism from speakers of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union which is conducting an organizing drive in this company-dominated town.

Not since 1918, when Ginger Goodwin and Rome Albo, organizers of the union, led the strike of the smelter company's mechanics and chain gang men for the eight-hour day, have the employes been able to meet under auspices of a legitimate union.

CIO DRIVE

It was only a few months ago that the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union began its unionizing drive in Trail. It now counts 1,000 of the company's employes as members. The drive is under direction of Arthur H. Evans, well-known west coast labor leader.

Evans told the meeting how the company had rejected the union's offer for negotiations to reach amicable relations between the union and the smelting plant. No reply, he also said, had been received to the union's request that a secret ballot vote be held among the firm's employes to determine what union they desire.

SECRET BALLOT

The union can request the secret ballot under British Columbia law which provides for such elections. Hon. G. S. Pearson, Provincial Minister of Labor, has already promised to appoint a government representative to supervise the poll. The next move, Evans declared, is up to the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company.

The Consolidated is one of the biggest metallurgical enterprises in Canada. Its net earnings for 1937 were listed as $22,004,512. It owns considerable property and holdings in this area and in other parts of the province.

ORGANIZE PLANT

Oakland, Calif. — The United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers has completed a successful organizing campaign at the El Cerrito plant of the Technical Porcelain & Chinaware Co. and is asking for Natl. Labor Relations Board certification.

See Briggs Strike End Nearing

Detroit, June 3.—Settlement of the week-old strike at the Briggs Manufacturing Company, which completely shut the big automobile body plant, loomed today as federal negotiators, union leaders and company executives appeared to have reached an understanding on 28 grievances.

Once these sources of friction are removed, it is expected the negotiators can soon reach an understanding on the new contract.

ARBITRARY FIRINGS

The strike was a protest against arbitrary firings of active unionists on trumped-up charges while discussions on the new contract were under way. Though close to 70,000 workers are idle in the strike, there is nothing but sympathy for the Briggs employes, who have been heartlessly discriminated against and vicitimized by the Briggs management.

UAW Pres. R. J. Thomas appealed to local law enforcement officials to help preserve the civil rights of the strikers. Gangsters associated with the Homer Martin rump outfit have been responsible for violations of the peace, he charged.

PICKET TIGERS PARK

Novel picketing was in order during the strike. Strikers paraded around the Detroit American League Ball Park, owned by Briggs, and told the public that "the Tigers chief was unfair to the UAW."

Set Hearings For Hosiery, Textile Wages

Washington, June 5.—Hearings on proposed minimum wage rates for the hosiery and textile industries have been scheduled by Wage-Hour Administrator Elmer F. Andrews.

Hearing on the rate recommended by the hosiery industry committee—40c an hour for the full fashioned workers and 32½c for employes of seamless hosiery manfacturers—will be held at the Dept. of Commerce Building in Washington June 12.

Textile industry hearings are scheduled for June 19 at the Hotel Raleigh here and for June 26 at the Hotel Ansley in Atlanta, Georgia. The textile industry committee proposal called for 32½c an hour, though labor representatives had asked for 40c, the highest possible under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Lewis Urges Cuba Accept Refugees

Washington, June 3.—Appealing for the German refugees from Nazi terror now awaiting permission to land at Havana, Cuba, Pres. John L. Lewis of the CIO today sent the following appeal to Col. Fulgencio Batista:

"I beg to take the liberty of making a personal appeal to you in the name of humanity to allow the landing in your country of the desperately unhappy refugees now on the steamers St. Louis and Flandres.

"These refugees if returned to Germany will undoubtedly be sent to Nazi concentration camps. I take this liberty of appealing to you because of your well-known feeling for the victims of Nazism. I do hope that some aid can be given to these victims."

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II JUNE 5, 1939 No. 23

Don't Listen to Casper!

There are too many Casper Milquetoasts who seek to inject into labor their own timidity.

Every time anything goes wrong, or some tories get tough, they say to labor: "Oh dear, oh dear, why did you try to do anything? Why don't you run?"

The coal miners did not choose to run. The open-shoppers frowned and bullied all they could. Casper and his friends said reaction was in the saddle and that labor had better run along like a good little dogie. But the miners preferred to stand up for their rights like men.

Under the fighting leadership of John L. Lewis, who has dedicated himself to the abolition of labor's inferiority complex, the United Mine Workers of America as a result has won such a victory as may change the whole course of the labor movement.

The union shop agreement won in the anthracite as well as the bituminous fields spells defeat for the whole open shop drive against labor. The UMWA has risen to its greatest strength in the face of attack, attempted disruption and the general offensive of reaction.

In so doing, it lends new courage and inspiration to every union. It demonstrates the basic strength and stability of the CIO. And it points the way to all of labor to advance and not retreat when challenged by its foes.

Let the Casper Milquetoasts of liberal politics also take note. Progressive labor, as represented by the CIO, is solidly organized and militantly led. It believes that the workers have barely begun to get the consideration to which they are entitled and which they have the power to win.

Those who fight boldly and bravely for liberal measures and democratic progress will find they have the loyal support of an advancing and determined army of labor. But the politicians who shrink and pussyfoot when reaction says "Boo!" will fall by the wayside.

Health and Safety

Millions now living will die years before they should, unless proper action is taken to care for the nation's health.

A fairer distribution of health is as important as a fairer distribution of wealth.

In fact, the two are inseparably connected under present circumstances.

The report of the recent National Health Conference showed that sickness and death increase as income goes down; that industrial workers die eight years younger than others; and that fifty million Americans in families with less than $1,000 income a year have little, if any, medical care.

The accident rate is also highest among those who do the country's hard work.

Two bills at present before Congress are designed to make life healthier and safer for those who need it most.

The Wagner Health Bill makes a beginning to establish national responsibility for the health of the nation. It is designed to make proper medical care available for millions who cannot afford it at the present time.

Mining is one of the country's most dangerous occupations. The accident rate is nearly five times higher in mining than in other industries, and the number of fatalities reaches staggering totals.

The Neely-Keller Bill is sponsored by the United Mine Workers to protect the lives and limbs of the miners by providing for federal inspection of mines.

Both of these bills are under committee consideration at the present time. Let your Senators and Congressmen know that every consideration of humanity and the country's welfare demands the speedy passage of these measures to protect the health and safety of its citizens.

Mounting The Banner

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Wanted, More Paul Reveres!

If King George VI has a sense of humor, he may be amused to observe on his visit to the United States that home-grown American tories are now trying to do to their country what King George III and all his British tories failed to do.

The general idea of the American tories seems to be that democracy and freedom are the bunk; and that the lower classes should be kept down by a judicious mixture of starvation and class legislation.

The plot to starve the American people into submission is at present being hatched behind the closed doors of the House appropriations committee.

The campaign to enslave American workers as a subject class, bound by legislative chains to the chariots of their corporation masters, is already in the open. It has won preliminary skirmishes in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Minnesota and other states, and the tory army is now moving in on the nation's capitol.

Hidden Warnings

Paul Revere might have done his job more quickly and effectively with a nationwide radio hookup, or if the wire services had released his warning for the first editions of all morning newspapers.

But despite the lack of modern methods of communication, he did a pretty good job with the aid of his horse and his own lungpower.

The Paul Reveres of today do not receive the same undivided attention as did their predecessor. If the voice of warning that American liberties are in danger is heard over the air, it is soon drowned out by the din of jazz orchestras and offset by the speeches of dozens of tories who proclaim that they mean no harm.

As to the daily press, the alert American may read on some inside page a few lines about a House committee considering WPA appropriations, or about efforts to amend the Wagner act; and he may possibly locate near the classified ads some reference to various state laws curbing unions.

But more than likely, the front page headlines about crime, sex, sports and sudden death will engage his attention, after he has separated the paper from the milk bottles. And instead of reaching for his trusty musket to resist the advancing tories, he will yawn and go back to bed convinced that all is well and that the enemy is far from his door.

Have You Heard?

The liberties and the very livelihood of millions of Americans are in serious danger today. Yet, despite all the modern methods of communication, only the labor press conveys any real call of warning to patriotic Americans.

How many readers of this column, for instance, have learnt from the radio or the daily press that hundreds of thousands of unemployed will be cut off the WPA rolls, under even the billion and a half appropriation proposed by the administration; and that the tories are plotting to cut off hundreds of thousands more?

Or again, how many Americans realize that the democratic rights which labor has fought for generations to win, have already been stolen away by the tories in a number of states; and that the drive in Congress to amend the Wagner act aims to do the same for all the country's workers?

State Anti-Labor Laws

The Pennsylvania legislature has just adjourned after voting the courts more power to issue anti-labor injunctions; crippling the workmen's compensation law; calling for forced labor for the unemployed; and amending the state labor relations act into an instrument for the oppression, instead of the emancipation, of labor.

The new state law restricts the right to strike; seeks to prohibit the checkoff of union dues; establishes "unfair labor practices on the part of unions to cripple their activities; makes craft division practically compulsory; and curtails the labor board's power to invalidate phoney contracts imposed on the workers.

In Wisconsin and Minnesota, tory administrations have also put through revisions of state labor laws, to curtail the right to strike and picket, and to deprive unions of most of the rights they have won through generations of effort and struggle.

In half a dozen other states, similar attempts have been made, with more or less success, to shackle the workers with anti-labor laws.

The Rattle of Chains

Fortunately the scope of these state slave laws is limited, since the federal Wagner act still protects a large proportion of the workers. And even the most tory administrations may hesitate to enforce such vicious laws to the limit, if they hope for re-election.

These state anti-labor laws may even serve a good purpose if they can be used to arouse the country to the dangers in store for all, if the Wagner act is amended; and if they convince the workers who suffer from them that every vote for a tory is a link in a chain of slavery for themselves.

Win Rights

Pittsfield, Mass., June 3—Sole bargaining rights have been granted to Local 301, Textile Workers Union, by the Berkshire Woolen Co. here, which employs 630 workers.

The CIO union also announced that it is conducting a successful organizing drive among the workers of the Wyandotte Worsted and Elmvale Worsted mills.

U. S. Senate, House Committees Hear Testimony on Five Progressive Bills

The Line-Up

1. Senate and House Committees on Wagner Act Amendments.
2. Senate Committee on Wagner Health Bill.
3. Senate Committee on Wagner Child Refugee Bill.
4. Senate Committee on LaFollette-Thomas Bill.
5. Senate Committee on Neely-Keller Bill.

CIO Backs National Health Bill

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON, June 3.—Seventy million sick people in the U. S. lose more than one billion work days annually. Industrial workers die at least eight years younger than non-industrial workers. Over 1,000,000 workers are exposed to silicosis. Thirty-five per cent of workers on relief have no medical care whatever. Sixty-two per cent of American workers are without proper health care on the job; two-thirds of our rural areas have no child health centers or clinics.

These figures, taken from the report of the National Health Conference held last year, are only a partial record of the staggering health needs of the nation, expressed in the baldest terms.

RATIO TO POVERTY

They help to show, in statistical terms, the great need for a national health program, whose outlines were presented in the Wagner Health Bill (S 1620) recently brought before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor by its author, Sen. Robert F. Wagner of New York.

The Wagner bill, admittedly only a beginning in tackling this vast national problem, would make Federal grants to states available for five basic purposes:

1. Child and maternal health. (70,000 mothers and infants died last year from lack of maternity care).

2. General public health services and investigations.

3. Construction of hospitals. (There's a shortage of 360,000 beds today).

4. General programs of medical care.

5. Insurance against loss of wages in sickness. (American workers lose more than two billions in wages annually through sickness.)

Both CIO and AFL are in support of the Wagner Bill. Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, pointed out in his testimony before the Senate Committee that the bill was a beginning on the lines approved by the CIO convention at Pittsburgh last November.

The bill: S. 1620.
Send letters to:
Sen. Elbert Thomas,
Chairman,
Senate Committee on Education and Labor.

59 Lives Lost In W. Virginia Mines In 90 Days

MORGANTOWN, W. Va., June 3.—During the first three months of 1939 59 miners lost their lives in West Virginia mines, according to a report just made public by the State Department of Mines.

The report disclosed that the chief causes of accidents were: Failure to timber working faces properly; lack of safety posts; overhanging brows not taken down; improperly functioning machinery; unguarded wires, and clearance not maintained.

Accident Rate Highest In Mines, Union Says; Asks Passage of Law

WASHINGTON, June 3—Figures showing that coal mining has the highest accident rate of all industry, amounting in bituminous coal to 2.7 times and in anthracite to 6.7 times the rate in manufacturing, were cited by A. D. Lewis, United Mine Workers official, in support of the Neely-Keller bill now before Congress.

The bill, which would provide a Federal system of mine inspection, is aimed at curbing this excessively high fatality and injury rate, Lewis explained, and would be an invaluable check on a state mine inspection systems and safety laws, which at present are inadequately enforced.

COST TO MINERS

In addition to the higher accident rate suffered by miners, Lewis pointed out that the cost is much greater to the miners than it is to the operators. According to Coal Commission figures, miners lost $518,000,000 in wages in the last decade, of which only 22 per cent was covered by workmen's compensation.

"These conditions in the coal mining industry," Lewis said, "are appalling from the standpoint of the mine worker, the operator, and the investor in coal properties. From the viewpoint of the public interest they are unpardonable and should not longer be condoned."

Sam Caddy, president of UMWA, District 30, testified that his state (Kentucky) has the highest accident rate of all and the highest insurance rates. In spite of this, he said, less than one-half mill per ton of coal mined is paid by the state for inspection. In one Kentucky mine, he declared, there were over 600 accidents in one year for 600 men employed—more than one per man-year.

BASIC CAUSES

The proposed bill, Lewis pointed out, would in no way interfere with any existing state agencies, but would rather supplement their work in preventing accidents.

"Its purpose is to be cooperative, supplementary and coordinative," he said. "Through it we wish to mobilize scientific resources of the Federal Government against this appalling mortality, human suffering and financial loss in the coal mining industry.

WILL HELP PREVENTION

"We believe that with Federal investigation of accidents basic causes will be revealed and preventive measures developed. Also when accidents occur, human suffering will be alleviated. Rescue measures will also be greatly accelerated.

"The enactment of the pending bill is entirely appropriate and will serve to coordinate and render more effective the regulation and supervision of the coal mining industry by the Secretary of the Interior."

The bills: S. 2420, H. R. 6352.
Send letters to: Sen. M. M. Logan, Senate Committee on Mines and Mining, Washington, D. C.; Rep. Joe L. Smith, House Committee on Mines and Mining, Washington, D. C.

Admit Child Refugees, Brophy Asks

Washington, June 3.—The CIO is wholeheartedly supporting the Wagner Bill to admit 20,000 German refugee children into this country, John Brophy, CIO director, told the Congressional committee holding hearings on the bill here.

"There is something particularly revolting about cruelty when it is practiced on little children, as it is practiced by the cowardly thugs who are in power in Germany today," Brophy said.

"To my mind it is incomprehensible that decent human beings in America should oppose this bill, which offers an American refuge to a small number of those defenseless ones who are subjected to the brutalities of Hitler's official sadists."

The Bill: S. J. Res. 64.
Send Letters to:
Rep. Samuel Dickstein,
Chairman,
House Immigration Committee.

Labor, Progressives Hail Anti-Fink Law

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, June 3.—CIO President John L. Lewis will appear before the Senate Education and Labor sub-committee to express labor's demand for passage of the LaFollette-Thomas bill, outlawing labor spies, industrial munitions and strike-breakers.

Lewis will be preceded on the stand by President Green of the American Federation of Labor, Beryl Whitney of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and J. G. Luhrsen of the Railway Labor Executives Assn.—all of them agreed that the bill should speedily be passed.

Other witnesses who have appeared to support the bill include Sen. LaFollette, Merle Vincent of the U. S. Wage-Hour Division, Gerald Reilly, U. S. Labor Department solicitor, Chairman Madden of the National Labor Relations Board and Atty.-General Frank Murphy.

AIMED AT FINKS

Backed by this array of labor and liberal leaders, the bill is expected to get quick attention in Congress. Based on three years' investigation by the Senate Civil Liberties Committee, it draws a tight net around the fink industry, and would bar goods manufactured under oppressive labor conditions from interstate commerce.

"The bill," Reilly told the committee, "fits into the scheme of existing federal legislation and compliments present statutes . . . Collective bargaining has been encouraged by the Congress because, among other reasons, the process of collective bargaining leads to the peaceful settlement and adjustment of labor disputes."

Sen. LaFollette asserted that the bill is aimed at a powerful minority of employers who "may condemn their oppressive labor practices before Congressional committees in Washington, but their conduct in communities where they have plants is very different.

"There they brook neither interference nor criticism. A highly respected minister in Youngstown, Ohio, ventured to condemn the labor espionage carried on by a great steel company in his town. He had officials of the company in his congregation, who undertook a campaign of active opposition to him, and he shortly found that he had lost his post.

The Senator charged that "dishonesty is the labor espionage trade," adding that so long as management resorts to such practices, no system of industrial relations based on responsibility, mutual trust and observance of the law can be expected."

The Bill: S. 1970
Send letters to:
Sen. Elbert Thomas,
Chairman,
Senate Education and Labor Committee.

Madden Raps Act Violators

WASHINGTON, June 3.—If anything is needed in the Wagner Act, it is a system of penalties for consistent violators, J. Warren Madden, Labor Board chairman, told the House Labor Committee in continued testimony on proposed amendments here this week.

Citing a bulletin issued by the Illinois state Manufacturers' Assn., he declared that the attitude of some employers who persistently broke the law even after their violations were pointed out led him to believe that the law would require teeth in the form of fines or other punishments.

ADVISED STALLING

The Illinois NAM branch, Madden said, issued a bulletin whose general tone was: "When in doubt, don't hesitate to violate the law, because in general it doesn't cost you anything. The Board may make its order against you, but it can't do anything about it."

This kind of advice, directly encouraging anti-union employers to break the Federal law, might persuade the Government, "in order to maintain its dignity," to put penalties in the Wagner Act, Madden said.

"We thought we saw indications that employers by and large were finding that the way they could best get on with their employes was to live on the safe side of the law, and not be all the time trying to see whether, 'can I go this far if I do not go just a little bit farther,'" he said.

"But if the thing does take that turn I do not see what you can do except put some real teeth in the law."

EMPLOYER PETITION

While the Board was willing to consider the right of employers to petition for elections, great care must be taken to see that this was not used against unions, Madden explained.

Busy

A busy man is Sen. Robert Wagner of New York. Right now, hearings are in session to discuss amendments to his Labor Relations Act, and to examine his child refugee and national health bills.

15,000 Chicago Workers Pay Tribute to Victims Of 1937 Massacre

CHICAGO, June 3. — Fifteen thousand Chicago workers gathered in front of the Republic Steel plant here to honor the memory of 10 SWOC members murdered in the Memorial Day Massacre of 1937.

They heard Van A. Bittner, SWOC director and chairman of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, pledge new effort in organizing as the most fitting memorial to the 10 who died for labor freedom.

Bittner told the crowd that the 627,000 members of the United Mine Workers, now that their union shop contracts have been won in anthracite and bituminous, wanted above everything else to help in organizing the unorganized.

READY TO FIGHT

"They told me to tell you that now they have won their fight, they will devote their time, their energy and their money to organize every unorganized worker," he said.

The next great step in Chicago, he said, was a national contract with the packing employers. "If the packers won't recognize collective bargaining without a fight, we will make them recognize it with a fight," he declared.

Appearance of Alderman W. A. Rowan at the memorial meeting was hailed by Nicholas Fontecchio, meeting chairman, as a sign that times have changed in the city.

"I have found in my relations with the SWOC that it is an organization with the highest motives and ideals," Rowan said.

Bittner praised Pres. Roosevelt as a breaker of precedents, citing the Wagner Act as an outstanding example. "I don't know if he will run again," he said, "but if he does, the workers will support him. All we ask is a chance to give him a third term."

VAN BITTNER
Steel union leader who addressed Chicago's Memorial Day Massacre meeting.

Members Quit Dual Union, Join CIO

Wilkes-Barre, June 3. — Former members of Local 846, UMWA, meeting in Alden last night, unanimously discarded their membership in the Progressive Miners Union, an ineffectual dual movement, and decided to come back as a body into the UMWA.

Having realized the futility of the Progressive Miners Union, and being told by mine operators that one union is a pre-requisite of renewed operations of the Alden Coal Company, for whom the men work, the membership last night decided that the UMWA was their real choice.

Anthracite Miners Get Contract

Continued from page three

and of the country," Lewis continued.

"It is commendable that the agreement was negotiated without loss of work by the miners. It is notable that for 14 years there has been no stoppage of work during progress of negotiations."

The contracting evil eliminated by the 1939 agreement operated so that mine owners could "let out" sections of their mine properties to sub-contractors, who frequently hired labor at wages below the union scale and otherwise evaded provisions of the UMW agreement.

With both bituminous and anthracite contracts tucked away—and with only employers of 10,000 Harlan County, Kentucky, miners still resisting the UMW—the nation's largest union is in the strongest position of its history.

The union shop provision has barred the door to AFL attempts to chisel their way into the coal fields and attempt to weaken the CIO and its most powerful affiliate. The AFL several months ago chartered a small dual outfit and with a burst of publicity in the tory press, announced plans for splitting the UMW.

AFL LEADERS SORE

Signing of the agreements put the kibosh on their plans, much to the dismay of AFL executive council members, who met in a grumbling session at Washington two weeks ago.

In winning its nationwide contracts, the mine union and its leaders also ended a big-business attempt to crack the CIO. Outside interference from Wall Street and other powerful reactionary sources was blamed by Pres. Lewis for the long lockout of the bituminous miners.

Pres. Lewis and other officials of the UMW have been spending most of their time in New York City since the middle of March, when the bituminous negotiatons got under way.

Support Grows For Casey Bill

Continued from page three

friends of American unemployed would like to see.

"Its enemies—and therefore, the enemies of our unfortunate citizens who cannot find jobs in private industry—have too long been seeking to cripple and hamper the WPA. We are trying to implement it so that it can do its job most effectively.

UP TO CONGRESS

"If Congress writes the provisions and safeguards contained in this bill into the law of our land, we will soon see a time when that number of jobs will no longer be necessary. If Congress disregards them and harkens to those who urge a selfish and short-sighted 'economy,' we will condemn our unemployed citizens to a hopeless future and a slow starvation and will threaten our entire nation with a new and more disastrous depression."

In addition to providing for a minimum of 3,000,000 jobs until employment increases substantially, the bill would eliminate the need for workers to pauperize themselves before being eligible for WPA work. Prevailing hourly wage rates—with a minimum of 30 cents—would be paid on WPA jobs is the bill is enacted.

The Bill: H. R. 6470

Send letters to: Your own Representative, or Chairman Edward Taylor, House Appropriations Committee, Washington, D. C.

FAECT Sponsors Exhibit At World's Fair

By Lucien Zacharoff
LEAGUE OF AMERICAN WRITERS

No startling secret was given away when President Whalen of the New York World's Fair, Mayor LaGuardia and other dignitaries at the dedication ceremonies named organized workers in scores of trades, crafts and professions as "the men who made possible" that greatest show on earth.

It may surprise most fair officials, and even labor, however, to learn that the latter is represented among the exhibits. The distinction of being the only exhibiting union—in the New York City Building—goes to the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians, FAECT-CIO to you.

The youthful FAECT itself, though proud beyond words at the distinction, is no amateur at being distinctive. "First" or "only" is a commonplace designation for it, if we take the word of its educational director, Joseph S. Jacoby.

F. D. R.'S A MEMBER

Jacoby will concede that other unions are also accomplishing things, but let any unionist bragging about his outfit in his presence beware. No sooner did I begin to boast about the greatness of my own union, the American Newspaper Guild, pointing out that Mrs. F. D. R. herself was our member, than he squelched me by retorting:

"President Roosevelt holds an FAECT card by virtue of being an amateur architect."

As a working newspaperman I observed the FAECT birth pangs in August, 1933, and have followed at close range many subsequent events of its young and very vigorous life. With all due allowance for a founding father's pride, the FAECT is a bouncing baby, indeed. Both the baby and all the founding fathers are doing well, thank you, as this story will show.

TYPICAL MEMBER

In tracing this story for the benefit of THE CIO NEWS readers, I asked many officers and rank-and-file members of the Federation whom they considered a fellow-member whose personal experience was typical and representative of the average in the union, paralleling its own progress and development. Almost invariably the accusing finger was pointed at the young and dynamic educational director. And so, willy-nilly, Jacoby will please step up to the operating table and be dissected in the interests of science.

Joe was born in Boston in 1908—which makes him a few years younger than the average age in the FAECT; otherwise . . . but let's go on. A week after high school graduation he was working as a draughtsman in a structural engineer's office, and spending his evenings preparing for entrance examinations for Cooper Union Night School of Science. He passed the exams with flying colors. Working his way, he was earning enough after two years to enter the Brooklyn Polytechnic, majoring in civil engineering.

LOTS OF JOBS

In his "spare" time, he took courses in psychology, economics and sociology at City College. He worked successively as a surveyor, estimator, inspector of erection of steel structures, then back to the board, first as draughtsman, then as designer of steel, timber and concrete structures.

In 1930, the depression hurricane struck the engineering and related fields with particularly catastrophic results.

COMPLETELY DAZED

"Most of us were completely dazed and confused," relates Joe. "Here we were, trained and experienced technicians, in the richest country in the world, with thousands upon thousands of unpaved and unlighted streets and roads, hundreds of cities and towns lacking adequate housing and sanitation—yet we were idle!"

At the onset of the crisis Joe married and acquired a modest home of his own. He owned a car. By 1932 the sheriff had taken away the home; the car was gone too. Many of Joe's friends among technical workers—professionals and subprofessionals—were in a similar plight.

Things were at their lowest ebb in the Spring, 1933, when in the normally very active New York area, for example, virtually all architectural draughtsmen, 98 per cent, were totally unemployed; ditto 85 per cent of engineers and 65 per cent of chemists.

The NRA was getting under way. Heads of the construction industry proposed a wage minimum of 50 cents an hour for technical employes. That started the fireworks for Joe and his friends, who for some time had been wondering whether unionism might not be the most fruitful form of professionalism. Determined to fight that miserly pay they called a mass meeting on August 18, 1933.

1,000 AT MEETING

Almost 1,000 technical men and women packed the hall in spite of meager publicity for the event. A delegation was elected and sent (in a borrowed car) to Washington to object to the employers' code.

NRA Administrator Johnson was duly impressed with the fact that the delegation represented the sentiments of technical people. The wage provision of the code was defeated. Two of the delegates were invited to join a committee for drafting the code for the chemical industries. Technical professionals were later consulted on other codes.

Chapters of the FAECT opened in New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Chicago. Committees worked feverishly on the codes, on securing jobs for the unemployed technicians, etc. Let Joe resume his account, which I cannot call personal because it is so intimately intertwined with that of the Federation:

"It is difficult to convey an idea of the effect this entire movement had on my morale. At last we were doing something to help ourselves. I dropped every other interest I had, including the many worries that plagued me, and devoted myself completely to the task of helping to build the new organization."

HUNDREDS ACTIVE

Hundreds upon hundreds of Joe's colleagues, seemingly unaware that as professionals they were supposed to uphold the myth of rugged individualism, plunged into the same activities. After a few months of intensive work, mass meetings, delegations to local, state and federal authorities, projects to employ technicians began to emerge.

Very slowly private employment opportunities began to improve, with the FAECT keeping a sharp lookout for openings, for some men their first job in three years.

Among many improvements in public welfare, which incidentally provided numerous jobs for technical people, initiated or vigorously backed and sponsored by the FAECT have been slum clearance, new housing developments, demolition of the ugly and slum-breeding elevated lines in New York City and elsewhere.

MANY CONTRACTS

A recognized spokesman for technical employes in many cities and states, it has conducted in recent years many successful negotiations for union contracts in the leading concerns. Professional societies and journals in the technical fields that earlier ignored or ridiculed the union have of late been jolted out of that attitude and are considerably more respectful.

The FAECT has been conducting a Technical School where leaders in the profession help young college graduates round out their education with practical work that improves their chances of finding positions, while older members brush up and bring up to date their knowledge.

No greater boon to the growth of the FAECT could have happened than the setting up of the CIO, which specifically tackled the organization of the very industries where the majority of technical men and women are employed—steel, auto, machinery, electric and rubber.

New Homes for Old

A department dealing with the need for better housing and how to obtain it, conducted by the CIO Committee on Housing.

Opening New Homes

By THOMAS HUMPHRIES

The first fruits of the New Deal's low-rent housing program are about to be harvested.

During the next few months the first housing projects built by local housing authorities with the financial and technical aid of the United States Housing Authority will be opened for occupancy. Hundreds of families who are now living in crowded tenements and tumble-down shacks will pack up their belongings. Hundreds of men, women and children will move into these well-built, healthy and attractive housing projects.

LOW RENTS

But what will the rents be? Will they be low enough? Or will they be so high that families from the slums can't move into them?

In Jacksonville, Florida, and Buffalo, New York, the rents have already been definitely set. Let us see how much it would cost a family to live in either of these projects.

At the Brentwood Park project in Jacksonville rents range from $12.25 a month for a one-bedroom unit to $14 a month for a three-bedroom unit. These figures include the cost of water and of electricity for lighting, cooking and refrigeration.

At the Lakeview project in Buffalo the average monthly rent is only $21 for white families and $19.38 for Negro families. These figures also include utilities.

These two projects are fairly typical—from $12 to $21 a month for everything. Some projects will rent at a slightly higher figure, many at a lower figure—but all of them will really be within the reach of low-income families who wouldn't otherwise be able to secure adequate housing.

A JOB FOR THE UNIONS

Both the Jacksonville and the Buffalo projects will open early this summer. At close intervals others will open up in other cities: In New York, in Austin, in Syracuse, in Louisville, in Augusta, in Toledo and in Youngstown.

In all of these towns there are CIO members who are eligible for occupancy—that is, who don't make more than five times the rent and who live in sub-standard housing. The unions might well take it upon themselves to acquaint their members with the fact that a local project is opening and that applications for tenancy should be sent in before the project is completed.

In fact, union locals and industrial union councils should contact the local housing authorities and ask for a stock of application blanks. These applications can be distributed at union meetings, filled out then and there and turned in to the local housing authority by the union itself. In this way, the unions can perform a service not only for the low-rent housing movement, but for their own members also.

S. 591 AND H. R. 2888

The only trouble with these housing projects is that there aren't enough of them, as yet. And since the USHA's funds have all been used up, no new projects will get under way any place in the United States unless Congress passes S. 591 and H. R. 2888—which will authorize an additional $800,000,000 in loans and $45,000,000 in annual rent contributions.

At the present moment S. 591 has already been reported on favorably by the Senate Education and Labor Committee. It should come to the Senate floor in the near future.

H. R. 2888, which is exactly the same as S. 591, has not yet been finally reported out of the House Banking & Currency Committee. Hearings are due to be held any day now. A serious fight is expected.

CIO locals should send resolutions supporting increased housing funds to the House Banking & Currency Committee and to their respective Senators and Representatives.

Green's Coercion Policy Rapped By AFL Local

GREAT FALLS, Mont., June 3.—Green's policy of threats and abuse of AFL bodies opposed to amendments to the Wagner Act received a sharp rebuff from the Cascade Co. Trades and Labor Assembly here when the Assembly refused to rescind a Wagner Act resolution as demanded by Green.

Green's letter to the Assembly, written in a provocative, bullying tone, openly threatened to revoke the charter unless the delegate body retreated from its position.

"Central bodies chartered by and established by the AFL must rest on a solid AFL basis," Green wrote. "We expect your central body to occupy such a position. It must and will occupy such a position, even though it may be necessary for us to revoke your charter. . . Let me hear from you quickly and without a moment's unnecessary delay."

UP TO AFFILIATES

The Cascade Assembly refused to rescind its resolution, and referred Green's letter to affiliated unions for an expression of opinion. The resolutions, passed some time ago, put the finger on AFL top leaders' collusion with anti-labor forces, when it said:

"The Natl. Manufacturers Assn., the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, and certain labor officials have started an unprincipled attack on the Act and the Board for the purpose of amending the act during this session of Congress so that it may serve corporate interests in their greed."

Examiner

James M. Landis, dean of Harvard Law School and former SEC commissioner, who has been appointed a special Labor Department trial examiner to conduct deportation hearings against Pres. Harry Bridges of the Intl. Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union. Hearings start in San Francisco next month.

UnionRunning Ahead At Clock Firm

Washington, June 3.—Local 205 of the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, has been certified by the Labor Board as the collective bargaining agency chosen by a majority of the employes of Warner Telechron Co., Ashland, Mass.

The Board's action was based upon a comparison of company payrolls and union authorization cards, which disclosed that 508 out of 655 employes in the appropriate unit had signed union cards. The workers are employed at the company's two plants in Ashland and at the warehouse in Framingham.

NEGOTIATE PACT

Richmond, Calif. — Contract negotiations are under way between the Synthetic Iron Color Co. and CIO Chemical Workers Local 266.

Peace Settling Over West Coast Waterfront

By MIRIAM ALLEN DE FORD

SAN FRANCISCO.—Peace has settled on or is now hovering over most of the current waterfront disputes.

The Bristol Bay salmon fleet has at last sailed for Alaska with 3,500 CIO workers aboard. The sailors, though they picketed the ships for days in a demand to replace the Alaska Fishermen's Union members who sail the ships up and then work through the season, finally withdrew their pickets after securing a few extra jobs which did not interfere with the AFU.

Radio telegraphers received an advance in pay, and Marine Cooks and Stewards got overtime for Saturday afternoons and Sundays.

ASK ARBITRATION

In Oakland, the Port Commission, which had previously refused to deal with any of the maritime unions, recently asked Secretary of Labor, Perkins, for a Federal arbitrator to settle the dispute with the Ship Clerks' Union of the Intl. Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union. This centers in a demand for overtime for a cargo checker working before 8 A. M. The Port refused to pay this overtime, as is done in San Francisco, so the 6 A. M. - 3 P. M. man was withdrawn by the union. Federal Arbitrator Wayne Morse has not yet announced his decision on the labor spy and preferred gang disputes in San Francisco.

The warehousemen in San Francisco won a nine-week strike against the United Drug Co., giving them two weeks' paid vacation and two weeks' sick leave. Other conditions of the agreement will be determined by the general warehouse arbitration now under way.

CIO UPHELD

The attempt of the "dirty dozen," the small remnant of the AFL Intl. Longshoremen's Assn., to force the ILMU to give them jobs on the waterfront, received a set-back when Judge I. M. Golden sustained a demurrer of the ILWU and the Waterfront Employers' Assn. exempting the latter from the ILA suit.

The demurrer included an affidavit from Thomas Loughran telling how, in 1938, as a member of the ILA, he had helped in a beef squad beating of John Shoemaker, an ILWU official, and was then given money by the ILA to escape to Tacoma.

Meanwhile the ILA is trying, in Washington, to have set aside the NLRB certification of the ILWU as Pacific Coast bargaining agent for all longshoremen. Tacoma is the only West Coast port left where the ILA is still active.

Labor, Co-op Institute In Akron

Akron, Ohio, June 3—Farm, labor, church and consumers' leaders attended sessions of the Akron Institute on Organized Labor and Consumers Cooperatives, which opened here today.

Speakers at the conference discussed methods in which the co-ops can be of service to workers. Ted Silver, secretary of the Ohio Industrial Union Council, and Pres. William A. Frogge of the AFL National Federation of Post-office Clerks discussed labor's interest in consumer problems.

THIRD IN SERIES

The meeting was arranged under the auspices of the Cooperative League of the U. S. A., which has sponsored other such meetings at Dillonvale, Ohio, and Racine, Wis.

Previous get-togethers "have done a great deal to bring mutual understanding between farm, labor and cooperative organizations," according to Wallace Campbell of the national league.

Re-Admit Pritchett

Seattle, Wash., June 3.—President Harold J. Pritchett, of the International Woodworkers of America, has received a new temporary permit allowing him to remain another three months in the United States. He had previously returned to Vancouver where he spent two weeks awaiting permission to re-enter the U. S.

Certain anti-labor interests have been trying for months to have him deported, along with Harry Bridges, president of the International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union, who was born in Australia.

Depends How They Bite

Jim Peck, a fisherman of Alexandria Bay, N. Y., who was taken off relief when he boasted of his fishing luck and was reinstated when he proved that river ice made it impossible to support himself by fishing during the winter. That's a 40-pound sturgeon he has on display.

Illinois Senate Kills Anti-Labor Bill

All Unions Join In Campaign

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., June 3 —Joint CIO-AFL action killed a proposed strait-jacket bill for Illinois labor designed by some of this state's leading reactionaries.

The bill met defeat in the state senate on motion of a Chicago representative who argued that it would "destroy labor's right to strike" by forcing unions to give 10 days' notice before taking strike action.

The measure—called the Lantz bill—is similar to bills sponsored by the Republican party in Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, and already passed in the last three of these states.

Labor's objections to the bill were contained in a blasting statement issued a week ago by Ray Edmundson, Illinois regional director for the CIO and United Mine Workers district president; Pres. R. G. Soderstrom and Sec.-Treas. V. A. Olander of the state AFL federation; representatives of the railway brotherhoods and other labor groups.

CALLED DANGEROUS

The Lantz bill was called the "most insidiously dangerous labor proposal ever submitted for consideration in the Illinois legislature."

Its passage, the joint labor statement warned, "will have the effect of compelling workers and employers alike to discard practically all peaceful methods of adjusting industrial disputes, to wipe out collective bargaining, trade union agreements and arbitration as a means of settlement.

"The outcome of all such disputes will be subject entirely to the exercise of the elemental rights of strike and lockout."

OPEN SCHOOL

New York. — The Federation Technical School, affiliated to the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists & Technicians has announced a special five-session course in efficiency systems and labor incentive plans, designed particularly for labor officials.

'Scientific Espionage':

Pinkertons Yield to Engineers In Tests to Find Your 'Attitude'

By WALTER POLAKOV
Engineering Dept., United Mine Workers

After the unsavory publicity given to finks and all undercover labor spies by the LaFollette hearings in the Senate, management turned to engineers and psychologists. It became their dirty job to pry into private thoughts and moral evaluation of working men and women under the disguise of scientific studies.

They call it "attitude measurement"—a fancy name for snooping into "what their employes think". Substantially, this form of espionage consists of "requesting" employes to fill in a questionnaire. Then the management counts the check marks placed against such printed statements as one agrees with:

1. "On the whole, the company treats us about as well as we deserve."

2. "I think the company's policy is to pay employes just as little as it can get away with."

3. "I do not want to be forced into a union."

If 57 out of 100 questions have checkmarks, the management concludes that the majority is of such-and-such an opinion. Simple enough and apparently quite innocent. Is not management entitled to know, they say, what their employes think?

LIKE FASCIST ELECTIONS

If you say that this is prying into your private opinions, they reply, "Oh, no, we do not even know the names of the individuals, the forms need not be signed, like ballots." However, we know that Nazi, Fascist and other dictatorships also hold plebiscites with "secret" ballots — but the people do not dare even on secret ballots to vote against dictators.

We also know that the form handed to an employe to fill in may have a creased corner or spot in some place or some other distinguishing mark. Just as card "sharks" know which is the card, so management can readily identify the person.

If you say that our United States Bill of Rights guarantees us freedom of speech, of assembly, of creed, of press, they reply that such "attitude" investigations do not in the least infringe upon these constitutional rights because they deal merely with your "thoughts" and your sense of moral and social justice.

FIRINGS LIE AHEAD

Thus, if your answers show that most of you hold the management in low esteem because of its negligence to provide fair and safe working conditions, because of low pay or some kind of discriminiation, or because high dividends are paid to shareholders while payrolls are cut, you may be sure that all of you are under supervision of being reds, radicals, ingrates and what not. From that to weeding out "discontented" or "disturbing" men and women is but one small step.

Management always knows who are the brighter, the more influential, the less subservient among their employes. They need no stool-pigeons for that. This method costs less money than do the Pinkertons. And engineering firms do it with no undesirable publicity.

Then, even if a few perfectly innocent, loyal and docile people are "separated" from the payrolls, in these days of mass unemployment they are easily replaced without any harm to business.

If you want to know more about this newfangled device of management to pry into your private attitudes, get a copy of a paper prepared by H. B. Bergen, an employe of a management firm, McKinsey-Wellington and Company, and published by the National Industrial Conference Board, 247 Park Ave., New York City, which is entitled — "Finding Out What Employes Are Thinking".

Tories Run Wild In Pennsy

HARRISBURG, Pa., June 3 — Pennsylvania's Republican-controlled legislature wound up its annual session today after having swung the axe on a half-dozen pieces of liberal labor legislation written into the statute books during the past few years.

Elected on a promise to befriend the working man, Gov. Arthur James, Republican, led the attack on progressive laws. When the wreckage had been cleared away after the final days of the session, the state labor relations act had been crippled by amendments, workmen's compensation payments were slashed and unemployment insurance regulations had been tightened to the point where it will be more difficult for workers to receive benefits.

SLASH RELIEF

In addition, state relief appropriations were cut almost to

THOMAS KENNEDY

half the figure necessary to continue payments at the present rate.

By amending the state "Wagner Act," the legislature "set up a criminal code against labor which will make it harder for labor to organize and secure collective bargaining," declared Sec.Treas. Thomas Kennedy of the United Mine Workers, former lieutenant governor of the Commonwealth.

SWEATSHOPPERS BENEFIT

"The act as amended is an invitation to non-union sweatshop employers to return to Pennsylvania."

Criticizing the reduced compensation payment scale, Kennedy asserted:

"It does not take much of a student of government to know that while the state saves employers and insurance companies millions of dollars in reduced compensation payments, the state, in effect, will be compelled to make up the difference in additional relief payments to those who will not be able to live on the reduced compensation benefits."

The UMW official also took a poke at the newly-amended labor injunction law, which will permit judges to grant writs against unions without even hearing testimony about the dispute.

Patrick Fagan, UMW district president in Pittsburgh and a member of the state labor relations board charged that "every vestige of advance made by the worker in this state" has been destroyed. "Labor would be better off if the entire state labor relations act were repealed."

Renew Three Steel Pacts In Indiana

Indianapolis, Ind., June 3. — Three important contracts have just been renewed by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee in this city, according to James Robb, SWOC district director.

The Hecker Products Co. granted a 2½c hourly increase to members of Lodge 1544, in addition to improvements in working conditions.

An agreement with the Climax Machinery Co., won by Lodge 1695, calls for a 4c increase, sole bargaining rights and vacations with pay, while the new pact with M. A. Hofft Co. maintains present working conditions and wage scales, and continues the cordial relationship built up in the last year.

Robb also announced that the Kraft-Phoenix Corp. at Sullivan, Ind., has renewed its contract with United Dairy Workers Local Industrial Union 97.

Garrison To Discuss Labor Act

Washington, June 3.—Lloyd K. Garrison, dean of the University of Wisconsin Law School and a vice-president of the National Lawyers Guild, will speak from Chicago at 5 P. M. on Wednesday, June 7, over the Red network of the National Broadcasting Company, in support of the Wagner Act.

This broadcast is part of the Lawyers Guild program in defense of the Act.

Dean Garrison was the first chairman of the National Labor Relations Board and served on the President's Commission on Industrial Relations in Great Britain and Sweden.

Form Steel Union District In Canada

Halifax, Nova Scotia, June 3.— Pictou County has been made a sub-region of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, Silby Barrett, Canadian Director of the organization has just announced.

The sub-region, first union of its kind in Canada, corresponds roughly to a sub-district in the United Mine Workers of America organization which has long been established in Nova Scotia.

Officers of the sub-region are: Hugh J. Ryan, President; Alex Neill, Secretary, and Stanley Hessian, Board Member.

Wall of Placards

Just to be sure that participants in the celebration of National Maritime Day in New York were aware of the CIO National Maritime Union's strike against oil tanker lines, seamen hemmed in the meeting with a wall of placards.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 24 | JUNE 12, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

HAGUE DECISION SPURS FIGHT FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

The News In Brief

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

Finks

Washington.—The use of labor spies, strikebreakers, tear gas and munitions must be eliminated from American industrial life, CIO Pres. John L. Lewis told a Senate Committee, adding that the LaFollette-Thomas bill is the way to do the job and calling for continuance of the Senate Civil Liberties Committee.

Maritime

Everett, Wash. — Plans for national unity of all maritime labor organizations were discussed at the convention of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific, attended by delegates from practically every marine workers' union on the west coast.

Apex

Philadelphia. — Congress never intended the Sherman and Clayton anti-trust laws to apply to labor unions, the CIO declared in a brief filed to contest $711,000 restraint of trade verdict won by the Apex Hosiery Co. from the American Federation of Hosiery Workers.

Conference

Chicago.—Increasing possibility of a battle for union recognition from the "Big Four" of the packing industry was voiced by leaders of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee. PWOC Chairman Van Bittner has invited John L. Lewis to address a nationwide conference of the union July 17 at which future plans will be discussed.

Smothered

Mayor Frank Hague, the czar of the Jersey meadows, whose anti-CIO ordinances met with scorching criticism from the U. S. Supreme Court.

Hearst Strike Passes Six Month Mark

Chicago, June 10. — Almost three million lines of advertising have been lost by the Hearst-owned Chicago Herald-Examiner as a result of the Newspaper Guild strike during the last six months, the Guild's committee announced today.

The strike for job security reached its half-year anniversary on June 5, with morale high and assistance pouring in from workers throughout the nation.

Court OKs Ban on Fake AFL Pact

San Francisco, June 10. — The National Labor Relations Board today won a federal circuit court decision in a case outlawing a company union contract signed by an AFL union.

A closed shop pact signed by an Intl. Assn. of Machinists local with the National Motor Bearings Co. during the course of a lockout in 1937 was invalidated by the Board in an order more than a year ago. The court upheld the NLRB in all important points in the case.

LOCKED OUT WORKERS

The company shut down its plant in the spring of 1937 when a clear majority of the workers had joined the CIO United Automobile Workers, refusing to bargain collectively with Local 76 of the UAW. A few days later it signed the company union agreement with the IAM.

The contract with the IAM—whose local sprang up "mysteriously" after the lockout had commenced—was used by the company to promote a back-to-work movement and the weeding out of UAW members from the employment rolls. The NLRB order provided for reinstatement with back pay of more than 50 CIO members thus discharged.

CIO Hails Victory; To Push Drive In Jersey City

(See Story Page Three; Editorial Page Four)

WASHINGTON, June 10.—The U. S. Supreme Court decision upholding the CIO in its fight against Frank Hague of Jersey City has opened the way for a vigorous battle against all violators of the civil rights of the American people, it became apparent today.

The CIO, in addition to announcing that it will undertake a campaign to organize the unorganized workers of Hague's bailiwick, declared its intention of asking the Department of Justice to take criminal action against those who rob workers and their leaders of constitution-guaranteed civil liberties.

Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, in discussing the issues involved [See Labor and the Law, Page Seven] declares that the 5-2 court ruling has made possible prosecution of all who attempt restriction of freedom of speech, assembly and press.

MURPHY PLEASED

Atty. Gen. Frank Murphy predicted the decision will "bolster our work in the Department of Justice." Although the department's Civil Liberties Unit is still in its infancy, he promised that it will "grow into something very important."

"The mere fact that an agency is here in the department will serve as notice to people who want to violate civil liberties that they must deal with the Department of Justice," Murphy warned.

Future hearings on civil liberties violation cases may be thrown open to the public, the attorney-general declared.

Plans for a CIO mass meeting in Jersey City are being discussed by local CIO officials there. Meanwhile, thousands of names have been affixed to petitions demanding that the Federal Bureau of Investigation look into corruption in the Hague-dominated municipality. It is hoped that the Department of Justice will soon act on the requests.

FIGHT JUST STARTING

"Frank Hague has found out that he is not the law," declared William Carney, CIO regional director for New Jersey.

"While Hague will no longer be able to suppress freedom of speech and press and will no longer be able to deny to the people of Jersey City their right to join a union of their own choosing, we cannot fool ourselves that the fight is over.

"It has just started."

Lewis To Address Packinghouse Confab

CHICAGO, June 10.—John L. Lewis, CIO president, will address a national conference of Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee locals at which action to force union recognition from the "Big Four" will be considered, PWOC Chairman Van A. Bittner announced today.

Armour, Swift, Wilson and Cudahy comprise the bloc of four big corporations which have yet to sign PWOC agreements. Despite the fact that the union has been certified as sole bargaining agent in every major Armour branch plant, that company has turned thumbs down on all attempts to negotiate such an agreement.

"It is quite evident," PWOC Director Don Harris declared, "that extraordinary steps must be taken to bring Armour & Co. to reason and teach them the American way of collective bargaining.

COMING TO A HEAD

"It is equally evident that the rapid growth of our union among the other members of the 'Big Four' is rapidly bringing matters to a head in that direction as well.

"We are in a position now that justifies us in demanding negotiations with Wilson and Cudahy, as well as with Armour. Before the summer is out, the Swift chain will likewise be well in hand."

SYMBOLIZES SUPPORT

PWOC Asst. Director Henry Johnson commented that the presence of Pres. Lewis will "not only symbolize the support of the CIO, but it will mean that the packinghouse workers will benefit from the advice and leadership of the man who successfully led the United Mine Workers through the battle with the coal operators."

CIO Local Wins Parade For King; Company Sore!

TRAIL, B. C., June 10.—The CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union was once again a winner here, this time in a parade celebrating the visit of King George and Queen Elizabeth to the dominion.

Much to the discomfort of the agents of the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Corporation, whose employes the union is organizing, the MM&SU entered a gaily-decorated float in the official fete. It not only captured the admiration of the celebrants, but won first prize from the official judges.

The float represented a royal crown covered with purple lilacs, the balance of the car being covered with maple leaves, emblem of Canada.

Consolidated agents protested the float was intended to "put over propaganda for the CIO," but the mayor and the parade committee disagreed and welcomed the union's entry.

Recently the union held its first meeting here in 20 years. It was attended by nearly 2,000 employes of Consolidated.

Pacific Maritime Federation Calls for National Organization; U. S. Commission Attacked

EVERETT, Wash., June 10.—Delegates representing 45,000 workers in the maritime industry of the Pacific coast, Alaska and the Hawaiian Islands, assembled in the Labor Temple here this week as the Maritime Federation of the Pacific opened its fifth annual convention.

Among speakers who addressed the opening session were Eugene V. Dennett, executive secretary of the Washington State CIO Industrial Union Council, and Kenneth McClasky, regional representative of the National Labor Relations Board.

McClasky recalled the achievements of the American labor movement since the Wagner Labor Act started functioning and praised the Maritime Federation of the Pacific for its demonstration of unity. The Federation is composed of both CIO and AFL unions.

DISCUSS UNITY

Important questions before the convention were a discussion of labor unity including that portion of the MFP program which calls for the establishment of a National Maritime Federation to cover the East Coast, Gulf and Great Lakes regions as well as the Pacific; and consideration of agreements between union affiliates of the Federation and the waterfront operators. Virtually all agreements expire on September 30.

Later the convention pledged itself to work for the formation of a National Maritime Federation.

Deliberation and action on legislation of interest to maritime workers is a third major point on the agenda of the convention. Chief among the bills now before Congress with which the delegates are concerned is one introduced by Representative M. C. Walgren of Washington State, calling for the abolition of government hiring halls for government-operated shipping lines.

UNIONS IN DANGER

Although unions in the Federation were instrumental, along with other civic and labor forces, in making possible the establishment of government-operated shipping lines on the West coast, they are now faced with the possibility of having the standards of working conditions, built during a five-year struggle, broken down.

Bruce Hannon, MFP secretary-treasurer, said at the beginning of the convention that "the problem facing the maritime unions, in relation to the Maritime Commission's ships, is the most serious to confront maritime labor since the strikes of 1934 and 1936.

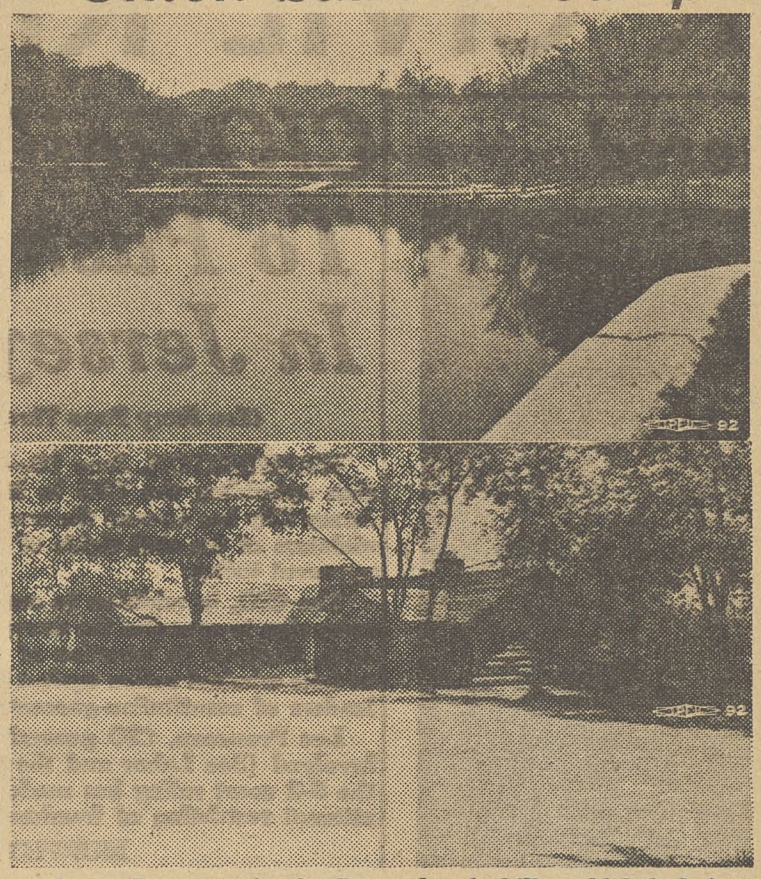
"We must make clear the fact that both the 1934 strike and the lockout of 1936-37 were brought about by the question of hiring halls for maritime workers. The union hiring hall is the backbone of our unions. If the Maritime Commission can destroy union hiring halls, they can destroy our unions.

"We do not propose to let the Maritime Commission, private operators, or anyone else, destroy the conditions we have built and maintained through the tireless efforts of our entire membership and even the sacrifice of the lives of many."

H. F. McGrath, president of the Federation, announced that Harry Bridges, president of the Intl. Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, was expected at the convention later. He said that the sessions would probably continue for a week.

On the second day, five members of the Seattle Warehousemen's local of the ILWU, appeared before the delegates to tell of an attack made upon them the previous Saturday night. After having left the Colbrook picket line where they were marching in protest against threats made on the crew of the vessel, on which a strike had been declared by the National Maritime Union, the five men were set upon outside the ILWU hall.

Union Summer Camp



Camp Raccoon, in the Pennsylvania hills, which is being taken over by a number of CIO unions during the summer months. Picture at top shows the lake; at bottom one of the recreation halls.

Insurance Firm Renews Pact, Lauds CIO Union

NEW YORK, June 10.—The Golden Eagle Life Insurance Co., first in its field to sign a CIO union contract with its agents, today had negotiated a renewal of the agreement.

Compensation increases amounting to about 12½% and ten days' vacation with pay—instead of a week—are provided in the new pact with Local 30 of the United Office & Professional Workers.

Pres. W. O. Dietrich of the company praised the union and declared:

"Our experience with the union in the past year has conclusively proven that collective bargaining through a genuine union is not only a practical thing in insurance, but also a means for providing the most effective service and protection to the company's policyholders.

"The relationship between management and the employes has proven entirely satisfactory and the business has prospered as a result. The company was able to declare a larger dividend this year than last."

Steel Union Gets Label On Products

Hespeler, Ont., June 10 — The first union label shop was established in the steel industry yesterday when lodge 2,000 of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers renewed its agreement with the Stamped and Enameled Wares Limited, manufacturers of kitchenware and enamel tops for washing machines.

The company agreed to a union shop and the local permitted the firm to place its label on all products manufactured by the factory.

As a result union-conscious housewives can now buy their utensils stamped with a union label denoting that they were made under fair working conditions.

Shipyard Union Gets PactRenewal

Kearny, N. J., June 10.—Some 6,000 workers of the Federal Shipbuilding & Drydock Company are covered by a new contract signed last week by Local 16, Industrial Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers.

Adjustments of wage rates giving pay increases to 1250 men were included in the agreement along with a number of other major improvements, such as liberalization of the vacation plan, added overtime benefits, and elimination of wage differentials between ship and shop work.

6,000 Pickets Ask Allis-Chalmers For New Contract

WEST ALLIS, Wisc., June 10.—Six thousand workers were marching on the picket line today as the Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Co. stood by its refusal to negotiate a new contract containing provision for the union shop.

The united action of the membership of Local 248, United Automobile Workers, CIO, brought praise from veteran labor leaders in this area who have watched the progress of the "baby" union over a period of the last two years.

Closing of the plant followed two weeks of futile bargaining by company and union representatives, with the management singing a steady song of "no" to requests for the union shop provision, for a joint agreement covering the West Allis plant and others in Boston and Pittsburgh, and wage adjustments.

CO-OP BACKS UNION

Full backing of the UAW was pledged to the local by William Cody, regional UAW director and a member of the international's executive board. Other support came from the powerful Milwaukee County Consumers' Cooperative Assn., which told the A-C management:

"Our rural members fully realize that the wages lost during a strike reflect a decreased purchasing power on the part of the consumer and therefore directly affect the income of the farmer; but they also understand that cooperation between the employers and employes results in greater benefits to both."

The letter predicted that a "half-way" attitude by the company would bring about quick settlement of the issues in dispute.

Union Wins Briggs Body Walkout

Detroit, June 10 — Ratification of a new Briggs Manufacturing Co. contract with the United Automobile Workers, CIO, today paved the way for new gains for some 13,000 employes and spelled doom for Homer Martin's disruptionist efforts.

The new contract, which followed a two-week strike, makes the UAW-CIO sole bargaining agency for the company's workers until such time as the National Labor Relations Board holds an election to determine the agency. Inasmuch as the CIO auto union has already secured more than 12,600 names on petitions, outcome of the NLRB poll is practically known in advance.

BLOW TO AFL

Martin had tried to worm his way into the strike situation by claiming a majority of the workers, though he has only a small factional group in the plant.

The blow against Martin came less than a day after he and Pres. William Green announced AFL chartering of the rump group, midst grumblings from two AFL craft unions about jurisdictional problems. It seemed that neither Green, Martin nor other AFL leaders were sure of the boundaries of the rump group's theoretical jurisdiction.

THOMAS HAILS VICTORY

UAW Pres. R. J. Thomas said the victory shows the unity of the union and that its members are solid behind the UAW and the CIO.

"This has been the most serious industrial situation since the efforts to disrupt the UAW were launched several months ago by the Homer Martin company union elements."

Uncover Plot Against CIO Auto Union

Los Angeles, Calif., June 10.—Witnesses for the prosecution unfolded a plot aimed to destroy the United Automobile Workers during the trial of 14 Chrysler workers charged with "extortion," union officials here declared this week.

The UAW Chrysler local claims that the trial is a frame-up conspired by the Chrysler Corp., the Neutral Thousands, the Southern Californians, Inc., and other open shop elements, with the aid of District Attorney Buron Fitts.

REVEAL COMPANY TIES

One of the witnesses, Paul Brooks, organizer of the so-called 40-hour Club admitted that he had formed this organization on company property after conferences with leaders of the Neutral Thousands, and that he had received a check for $150 to file a suit against the UAW members last November.

Another prosecution witness testified earlier under cross examination that he had conferred with representatives of the district attorney before he joined the UAW, which he had previously refused to join.

Charges against the 14 members of the Chrysler local are based on their activities in collecting union dues, which the prosecution alleged were "extorted" from the workers.

Company Stooge Kills Union Member

Des Moines, Ia., June 10.—CIO Packinghouse workers and all labor and progressives here are mourning the brutal death of John Charlton, member of PWOC Local 89 who was killed by a blow from Martin Neal, Swift and Co. company union representative.

Don Harris, PWOC national director, declared that Charlton's death was the result of Swift's policy of refusing to bargain collectively in good faith with their workers, and pinned the blame on the Swift company union.

Packinghouse workers and hundreds of other unionists turned out for Charlton's funeral yesterday, and pledged to uncover the whole sordid story of Swift's anti-union tactics that led to the killing.

High Court's Ruling Gives CIO Green Light For Jersey Drive

CIO Asks Reversal Of Apex Decision

Philadelphia, June 10.—The anti-trust laws were never intended to apply to unions and Congress, when it passed them some years ago, took care to emphasize that they only applied to employers and corporations, according to the brief on the Apex verdict appeal filed here by Lee Pressman, general counsel, CIO.

Furthermore, Supreme Court and other decisions holding that the laws do apply to unions are in error, and should be reversed, the brief argues.

Under the Apex verdict, Branch One of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers was fined $700,000 for alleged violations of the anti-trust laws during a strike at the Apex Hosiery Co. mills in Philadelphia in 1937.

EXCLUDED UNIONS

1. "That the full legislative history of the Sherman and Clayton Acts, not hitherto brought to the attention of the courts, conclusively demonstrates that it was intended by Congress to exclude labor unions and their activities from the effect and prohibition of such legislation;

2. That the first decisions interpreting the Sherman and Clayton Acts so as to embrace labor unions within their prohibitions rest upon an inaccurate and erroneous statement of the legislative history of these two laws.

MODERN CONDITIONS

3. That modern conditions compel a re-examination of the judicial decisions which have perpetuated the erroneous doctrine that labor unions were within the purview of the anti-trust laws, because the mischief committed by this erroneous doctrine is now growing into a menace to the continued development and functioning of labor unions."

On this point the brief cites the Supreme Court as having "recently indicated that it is prepared to re-examine long standing judicial precedents and if proper cause be shown, to reverse such precedents in order to eliminate any abuses or injustices that may have been done under past decisions."

4. That such court interpretations, unless reversed, would nullify the efforts and achievements of labor unions in bringing stable labor relations to industry in competitive fields and on a national scale.

The brief then shows that Supreme Court decisions applying anti-trust laws to unions have held illegal attempts of unions to eliminate competition of anti-union employers in interstate commerce.

The sit-down strike or other acts of unions are not involved, the brief declares; "the fact that the union is engaged in lawless or violent acts, including the physical destruction of property, ... upon persons, does not bring it within the Act."

9c-Hourly Pay Raise

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., June 10.—A CIO contract calling for a closed shop and nine cents hourly increase in wages has been signed by the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company here.

Ask Criminal Action

WASHINGTON, June 10. — The following statement was issued today by Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, in regard to the Supreme Court ruling on the Jersey City injunction:

"The decision of the United States Supreme Court upholding the injunction against Mayor Frank Hague of Jersey City, represents a notable victory for the CIO in its struggle to assure the constitutional guarantees of freedom of assembly, speech and press for workers who seek to organize.

"In ruling that the Jersey City violations fall within the protection of the federal civil rights statutes, the Supreme Court makes it possible to bring criminal as well as civil suits against all who violate these rights.

"The CIO will therefore request the Department of Justice to take steps for the criminal prosecution of all who interfere with its organizing activities by violating the civil rights of the workers.

"Mayor Hague's terror has failed completely to stop the CIO in New Jersey. But the Supreme Court decision will lend new courage to labor everywhere by giving assurance that the workers have definite legal recourse to check the tyrannies by which he and other petty Hitlers have attempted to destroy the civil rights of American workers."

In Memoriam

Van A. Bittner, regional director of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee and Nicholas Fontecchio, district director in the Chicago area, place a wreath at the spot where 10 workers were murdered in the Chicago Memorial Day Massacre at the Republic Steel plant in 1937.

5-2 Decision Grants Injunction to CIO

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, June 10.—Plans for a vigorous organizing drive in Jersey City and criminal action against persons who interfere with labor's civil rights were mapped out today by CIO leaders following the U. S. Supreme Court's outspoken decision against Mayor Frank Hague.

"We plan to concentrate on four large plants," William Carney, CIO regional director for New Jersey, declared in discussing effects of the decision.

"There will be no 'mass invasion' of Jersey City. We have no desire for trouble and we will not allow the Hague stooges to provoke us into trouble. Our job is to organize the unorganized," Carney added.

"At the same time the CIO will back the drive of Labor's Non-Partisan League in Jersey City to give Frank Hague the same rebuke at the polls that he received at the hands of the U. S. Supreme Court.

"The 30,000 members of the CIO in Hudson County (Jersey City) have enlisted for the duration of the war until Hague is either in jail or in political oblivion."

SEEK CRIMINAL ACTION

Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, interpreted the court's action as making possible criminal as well as civil suits against all who violate the civil rights of the people.

"The CIO will therefore request the Department of Justice to take steps for the criminal prosecution of all who interfere with its organizing activities by violating the civil rights of the workers."

Mayor Hague's office announced that the Jersey political czar would accept the decision "implicitly" but Leonard H. Goldsmith, secretary of the state's Industrial Union Council was skeptical about the decision's ability to take the sting out of Hague's vehement anti-unionism.

"The Supreme Court decision will help a lot," he said, "but it will drive Hague underground. There he will try to mobilize his supposed-to-be veterans and his other stooges to foment trouble against us."

DELIBERATED 14 WEEKS

The court ruling, delayed for 14 weeks, came on the last day of the session and found the seven participating justices writing five separate decisions.

Justices Butler and McReynolds—sole surviving members of the Tory crew which dominated the nation's highest tribunal—snarled dissenting opinions which in effect said that Hague's restriction of civil liberties was none of the federal government's business.

The two major decisions upholding the CIO were written by Justice Roberts and Justice Stone, with Justice Black agreeing with the former and Justice Reed con-

Continued on page six

Buffalo CIO, AFL Defend Wagner Act

Buffalo, June 10.—Joint action by CIO and AFL unions here in upholding the Wagner Act took shape today in the formation of a united committee to save the Act from amendments.

The committee, under the leadership of Owen J. Kavanaugh of the AFL and Hugh Thompson, CIO official, is made up of representatives from 23 AFL locals and 57 CIO. It was formed after a resolution upholding the proposed amendments to the act was steamrollered through the AFL central body under orders from top leaders.

RAP WALSH BILL

First act of the committee was a resolution denouncing the Walsh amendments, which are backed by AFL Pres. Green, as an attempt to "destroy the Wagner Act and nullify benefits to all labor under the act." Charging that the AFL convention never authorized the amendments, it said the Walsh bill would "foster company unions and shackle American labor to the courts."

The resolution called on Buffalo workers to join in opposition to amendments and set up committees to push legislative work.

Pennsy Governor Slaps Labor; Refuses To Veto Tory Bill

Harrisburg, Pa., June 10—Gov. Arthur C. James—who campaigned for office on a platform of befriending the working man—today told leaders of the state's CIO and AFL organizations that nothing would stop his signing hostile amendments to the state labor relations act and the 1937 state anti-injunction law.

Unmoved by a two-hour conference with 20 important labor leaders, who voiced dozens of objections to the bills passed by the state legislature during the final days of its recently-adjourned session, the governor charged that the workers' leaders were engaging in a "smokescreen of misrepresentation and propaganda."

GETS CATCALLS

As the governor concluded the meeting and left the state house in his car, he was met with a chorus of resounding boos from two thousand workers who had traveled from all parts of Pennsylvania to express opposition to the bills.

John Phillips, president of the Pennsylvania Industrial Union Council, hailed the demonstration as evidence of "labor united in Pennsylvania." Pres. James L. McDevitt of the AFL state federation of labor voiced similar sentiments.

"We're here to tell them that more than half a century of suffering and battling can not be thrown aside by the representatives of the vested interests," warned Martin F. Brennan, head of District 9 of the United Mine Workers.

Previously Secretary-Treasurer Thomas Kennedy of the UMW had described the amended law as "an invitation to non-union sweatshop employers to return to Pennsylvania."

The new law will nullify guarantees given to workers in the original state labor relations act, encourage long-term company union contracts, set up an elaborate system of "unfair labor practices" for workers and kill the Pennsylvania version of the Norris-LaGuardia anti-injunction act.

One of the worst features of the amended labor relations act provides that if no complaint is made against an employer's unfair labor practice within six weeks of its occurrence, the boss can not be held liable for it. Labor leaders have pointed out that frequently it takes a union many weeks—or even months—to obtain sufficient evidence to file a complaint.

Ratify New Firestone Contract

Akron, Ohio, June 10.—A new contract between Local 7, United Rubber Workers, CIO, and the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company has been ratified.

Containing only minor changes, the agreement continues the provisions for sole bargaining rights, a six-hour day, time and a half for overtime and protection against wage reductions.

No layoffs are to be made by the company until hours have been reduced to 24 a week for eight consecutive weeks.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II JUNE 12, 1939 No. 24

The United States versus Hague

The decision of the United States Supreme Court against Mayor Frank Hague of Jersey City represents a splendid victory for the CIO—and for the American people. Its consequences may be far-reaching.

The CIO asked no special privileges of the Supreme Court. All it asked was that workers who seek to organize be granted the same rights of freedom of speech and freedom of assemblage as the constitution guarantees to all American citizens.

Mayor Hague denied these rights to the workers of Jersey City. CIO organizers were seized and run out of town. Union meetings and leaflet distribution were prohibited. Unionists were held in jail without charges, and a campaign of intimidation was conducted to prevent the workers organizing in the CIO.

In upholding the injunction which forbids these practices on the part of Mayor Hague, the Supreme Court has also upheld the validity of the federal civil rights statutes as applying to such cases.

This means that workers whose civil rights are violated by Hague and his imitators in other cities and states, are assured of legal redress through a number of different channels. It also means that criminal as well as civil suits may be brought against all who violate these rights.

The CIO is therefore in a position to ask the Department of Justice to begin the criminal prosecution of all who interfere with organizing activities by violating workers' civil rights.

There are many other cities in the United States where Hague's methods have been used, and are still being used, in more or less degrees, to check union organization. Labor may therefore go forward with new courage in all these places, exercising its full constitutional rights with the assurance that there are legal methods to secure the punishment of those who seek to deny it these rights.

For the whole American people there is also a victory in the Supreme Court decision. CIO resistance to the near-Fascist dictatorship which Mayor Hague sought to establish, has led to this reaffirmation of our democratic liberties in unmistakable terms. It constitutes a timely answer by America to the Fascist reaction which is threatening the world today.

The Civil Liberties Committee and Its Bill

"A West Virginia coal operator in the city of Washington boasted in the presence of members of Congress that his corporation had five machine guns, rifles, ammunition and nauseating gas, and that he expected to use these to shoot himself some miners in the month of May."

This was one of the incidents related by President John L. Lewis of the CIO in the course of his testimony before a Senate subcommittee on behalf of the LaFollette-Thomas oppressive labor practices bill.

He compared the professional strikebreakers, labor spies and private armies of anti-union corporations with the storm troop armies of Fascist nations. "These armies," Lewis said, "act as the agents of supremely arrogant men who have usurped a power to police their fellow citizens that should be reserved to the community."

The LaFollette-Thomas bill would outlaw the use of labor spies, professional strikebreakers, private armies and private arsenals. In urging its passage, Lewis commended particularly the provisions in it which would deny government contracts, loans and subsidies to corporations or employers that violate the law.

He also suggested that the scope of these clauses should be widened to deny such government help to all violators of the National Labor Relations Act.

The LaFollette-Thomas bill is a product of the investigations of the Senate civil liberties committee, and Lewis emphasized the importance of voting more funds to assure the continuance of this committee.

The purposes of the oppressive labor practices bill are so meritorious, that practically no public opposition has been expressed to it as yet. The record of the civil liberties committee is also so outstanding that its opponents hesitate to come out into the open.

The danger is that the resolution to continue the committee's life may be kept bottled up in the Senate committee on audit and control, which has so far refused to report it out or to hold hearings.

Renewed demands should therefore come from labor and all progressives throughout the country for speedy action to continue the Senate civil liberties committee, as well as for the passage of the bill designed to end some of the evils which it has exposed.

Old Tanglefoot

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

The End Of A Big Noise

THE Big Noise of Jersey City is only a pipsqueak after all.

A year or so ago Mayor Hague was going to stop the CIO. He wasn't the only one. Tom Girdler and Pearl Bergoff had quite a choice collection of thugs who tried the same thing.

But somehow Hague stood out among all the rest. He had the loudest voice, the worst grammar, the biggest income, and the most gall.

All the other thugs looked sheepish when you talked about the law. But Hague said, "I am the law!"

The other big shots might lord it over a red-light district and defy or buy off a few cops. But Hague ruled a whole city, had his own police force and defied the constitution of the United States.

So the Big Noise from Jersey City was heard over the whole country when he told labor organizers to stay out and denied freedom of speech and assemblage to union workers.

"Hague has the right idea." became the password wherever two or three of the idle rich gathered together to hate the New Deal and the CIO, and to snort about the rise of the "lower classes."

From Oregon in the west to Ontario in the north and New Orleans in the south, other publicity-hungry politicians began to echo the Big Noise of Jersey City by defying John L. Lewis and chanting, "CIO stay away from my door."

Nothing Left But A Squeak

But it's a long time now since more than a squeak was heard from the once Big Noise. Even a Tin Horn Moseley can outdo him now, and the clubmen have turned from dreams of stopping the CIO to the outright Fascism of the screwball ex-general.

One by one the various politicians who were going to stop the CIO have been retired from office by the voters, or else have gotten wise and are trying to drop the subject.

History relates that even King Canute gave up and called it a day, when the incoming tide showed no respect for his orders or his royal tootsies.

And Hague and all his imitators have found that while they were loudly challenging John L. Lewis to come on and stay away, the tide of CIO union organization was quietly rising right under their noses.

Tyrants, Beware!

The Supreme Court decision against Hague has registered an accomplished fact, so far as the CIO is concerned. The workers in Jersey City had heard of the United States constitution, even if Hague had not. They also knew they had the right to organize, and CIO union contracts were being won, even while Hague was emitting his loudest noises.

But nevertheless, the fact that the highest court has upheld the contentions of the CIO will have a great moral effect in encouraging workers everywhere to exercise their constitutional rights.

It serves notice on every petty tyrant who may seek to imitate Hague that he will thereby be defying the government of the United States.

More than that, the Supreme Court ruling makes possible the criminal prosecution of those who violate the civil rights of the workers, so union labor may yet have the satisfaction of seeing some of its would-be persecutors put behind the bars.

The Right To Work

If Hague has come to regret that he ever said, "I am the law," a lot of anti-union employers are sorry that they ever started talking about the "right to work."

What they really meant by it was the right to scab. But the CIO was liberal-minded enough to take up the slogan at its Atlantic City conference, at the beginning of the present depression, and to proclaim the right of every American to earn a decent living even when employers choose to close down their plants.

Walter S. Tower, executive secretary of the American Iron and Steel Institute, rashly complained that the Wagner act protects the right to strike but not the "right to work," when he testified before the Senate committee against the labor act.

Senator Thomas threw him into confusion by inquiring if he really wanted an amendment which would guarantee employment to all workers.

But that was going too far for Mr. Tower, and he didn't like it when the Senator suggested that what he really wanted was a guarantee of the open shop.

The "right to work" is becoming more and more recognized as one of labor's basic demands, and it has nothing to do with some employers' ideas of a right to take another man's job when he goes on strike.

CIO Board Meets Tuesday

WASHINGTON, June 10 — Plans for further organization efforts, reports of special committees and legislative administrative matters will be discussed at the regular semi-annual meeting of the CIO Executive Board, Pres. John L. Lewis announced.

The meeting, which will bring together representatives of all the CIO's international affiliates and organizing committees, will be held in the United Mine Workers Building beginning June 13.

Lewis Says: Spies, Tear Gas Must Go

Lauds Bill Based On Probe

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON, June 10.—Laws to curb anti-labor violence, industrial spying, murder by company guards, and the building up of huge private arsenals by labor-hating corporations were urged here by John L. Lewis in his testimony before the Senate Labor Committee on the LaFollette-Thomas Oppressive Labor Practices bill.

"It is vitally important to labor and the nation that this bill be passed without delay," Lewis said.

"The principles it embodies have been recognized by every worker and every fair-minded citizen as necessary to the continued existence of our democracy. Such a law should have been on the statute books years ago."

The proposed bill, Lewis declared, would restore basic rights to American workers that autocratic employers have consistently violated in their attempts to crush unions.

WOULD END VIOLENCE

"It will outlaw the labor spy, the professional strikebreaker, the irresponsible private army, the private arsenals that American industry has relied upon to deny collective bargaining to its workers. It will remove a burden of violence and a fear of reprisals that hang over thousands of Americans in their attempts to organize for the improvement of their working and living conditions."

Lewis pledged the support of the CIO and pointed out that he spoke for all labor and progressives in praising the bill and the work of the Senate Civil Liberties Committee whose exposures laid the groundwork for it.

"SHOOT ME SOME MINERS"

Asked if he knew "of his own knowledge" of employers whose conduct showed the need for such a bill, Lewis replied that he did, citing the statement of a West Virginia coal operator who boasted in a Washington hotel "in the presence of members of Congress that his corporation had five machine guns, rifles, ammunition and nauseating gas, and that he expected to use those to shoot himself some miners in the month of May."

Lewis devoted part of his testimony to discussing the provisions of the bill that would withhold U. S. government contracts from violators, describing it as "the most important sanction of the bill."

This would be done, he explained, by enlarging the scope of the present Walsh-Healey and Bacon-Davis bills, that govern placing of federal contracts with private employers. He suggested that the bill go further in denying such contracts to employers who consistently violated the Wagner Act.

"This is an essential part of the bill," he said. "Outlawing the labor spy, the professional strikebreaker, the oppressive armed guard, the corruption of police and the private arsenal, is not enough. It is necessary to make all these measures evasion-proof by putting economic as well as statutory teeth into the bill.

"This can best be done by making it absolutely clear that the U. S. will not assist violators of the law by continuing to award them profitable contracts while they break the law.

"This is the most important sanction of the bill. The CIO favors its inclusion, as it has pressed for similar penalties against corporations or employers who break other federal laws."

PRAISES COMMITTEES

Lewis praised the work of the Civil Liberties Committee in telling the American people about the consistent flouting of basic democratic rights by union-hating corporations that made such a bill necessary.

"Due to the untiring work of the Civil Liberties Committee, our people have learned the sordid story of the Weirtons and the Harlan Counties and the Republic Steel Corporations of our nation," he said.

"Millions of Americans now know that there are hundreds of communities in this country, sometimes the typical country town, sometimes the entire industrial city or even county, nominally a part of America, but actually dominated by a ruthless community, where freedom of assembly, of speech, the secrecy of the ballot, are systematically and effectively violated."

Due to the LaFollette Committee, he pointed out, these conditions are known and resented by millions of Americans. "It has done a competent job," he continued. "It has earned the gratitude of labor and the grudging respect of labor's enemies. Its methods have been completely fair and completely democratic — unlike the methods of other committees that have dealt with the problem of un-American activities."

DEMANDS CONTINUANCE

The work of the LaFollette Committee is not finished, he declared, and there are many areas and industries where anti-labor activities flourish unchecked.

"The conspiracy against American rights is so vast and so ramified that it will require many more months of work before the whole network is uncovered. There is an attempt now on foot to bring the Committee to an end," he said.

"A resolution is now pending in the Senate Committee on Audit and Control which would authorize the continuation of the Civil Liberties Committee. The Audit and Control Committee has refused thus far to report out that measure, or to hold hearings on its merits.

OUTRAGE ON LABOR

"It would be an outrage on labor and upon the people of the U. S. if this resolution were to be kept bottled up in that Committee and if it were not reported out with a favorable recommendation at this session of Congress.

"A vociferous demand for hearings on amendments to the Wagner Act went up as soon as they were proposed. The demand was acceded to. Labor cannot see why its demands for hearings on the Civil Liberties Committee resolution should not receive the same consideration."

"I am speaking for 4,000,000 men and women of the CIO when I urge that the Committee be allowed to continue, and that it be given sufficient funds to carry on its work for the welfare of the American people.

"The forces this bill will deal with are not only the enemies of labor organization. They are enemies of democracy and of all government that is not dedicated to their profit alone.

"I know that I am not speaking only for the CIO when I urge the immediate passage of this bill. I know that I am expressing the desires of every man and woman in America who must get a living by working for it, and who must have the right to organize freely and without fear in order to make that living one fit for the American people."

CIO President John L. Lewis as he appeared before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor to demand passage of the Oppressive Labor Practices Bill, aimed at labor spies and strikebreakers. Senator Robert LaFollette, who with Senator Elbert Thomas, is sponsoring the measure, can be seen at the left.

Big Textile Firms Flout Laws, Get Big U. S. Orders—Rieve

New York, June 10.—Employers in the textile industry who are among the largest beneficiaries of public contracts continue to defy the National Labor Relations Act and to violate the civil rights of their workers, President Emil Rieve, of the Textile Workers Union of America, declared this week.

In a letter to U. S. Senator David I. Walsh, chairman of the sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, Rieve urged adoption of the provision in Bill S. 1032 amending the Walsh-Healey Act to deny for three years the right of government contract to employers found guilty of interfering with the collective bargaining rights of their employes.

DANGEROUS BLOW TO LABOR

Unless the government ceases giving grants to such concerns, Rieve said, "collective bargaining will not become a reality in the textile industry for many years." He listed eight prominent textile concerns enjoying federal contracts which have been found to have violated the labor act.

From May 7, 1938 to May 27, 1939, the eight companies received federal contracts totalling:

Lane Cotton Co., New Orleans, La., $925,647.
Eagle-Phenix Co., Columbus, Ga., $490,689.
Mooresville Cotton Mills, Mooresville, Ga., $26,635.
Marshall Field & Co., Spray, Draper & Leaksville, N. C., $201,349.
Gudebrod Bros., Pottstown, Pa., $18,940.
Bradford Dyeing Associates, Bradford, R. I., $11,817.
Uxbridge Worsted Co., Uxbridge, Mass., $15,031.
American Manufacturing Co., Brooklyn, N. Y., $26,242.

Violations consisted of sponsoring company unions; discharging workers for union activity; refusing to bargain with the union, and other infringements of the Labor Relations Act.

Sees Finks As Threat To Liberty

Chamber Head Uses Labor Spies

Washington, June 10. — W. Gibson Carey, head of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce and president of the Yale & Towne Manufacturing Co. is equally enthusiastic in his praise of the Golden Rule and in his admiration of the use of labor spies, the Senate Committee on Education and Labor learned today.

Carey was represented at Wagner Act amendment hearings by Richard Plumley, his general manager, who seemed hurt that the CIO would attempt to organize a plant where the management arranged for "outings and picnics and smokers and bowling matches"—along with the Natl. Metal Trades Assn. spies on the quiet.

Plumley admitted the use of NMTA "investigators" and claimed they were hired to learn about the activities of "Communists".

PROVEN A LIAR

Sen. Thomas inquired if the firm considered the "employment of labor spies to wreck a labor union is an application of the golden rule," and received a reply that NMTA men weren't used for that purpose.

But LaFollette committee records produced for the witness' benefit showed that the spies wormed their way into an AFL machinists union — and in short order managed to cut its membership from 243 to 21.

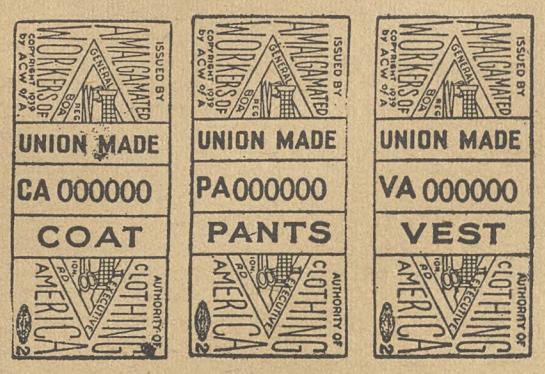
Plumley wound up by claiming that "sometimes" the use of labor spies helped to build sound relations between workers and employers.

"When things are going on underneath that can't be brought out on the surface, we have used the so-called spies," he admitted.

BE ON GUARD!

Look for the union label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America when buying men's and boys' clothing, overalls, shirts, undergarments, neckties, lumber jackets, gloves, and all other kinds of men's wearing apparel.

The Amalgamated Label is your guarantee that the articles you buy are of the best workmanship and produced under one hundred percent union conditions by members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.



By insisting on the Amalgamated Label you will help to guard against a return of sweatshop conditions to the industry. By helping the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America you help the labor movement generally.

Ask for the Amalgamated label on each part of the suit, coat, pants and vest. There are different Amalgamated labels for coats, pants, vests, shirts and undergarments, work clothes, neckwear and gloves.

Girdler-Weir Stooge Taken For Ride By Senators

WASHINGTON, June 10.—Walter Tower of the American Iron & Steel Institute, stooge of Tom Girdler and Ernest Weir, struck out on three pitched balls at Wagner Act amendment hearings before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor.

Breezily starting his spiel with an explanation that he favored amendments in order that workers' "liberties may be fully safeguarded," Tower wound up by refusing to submit to further interrogation by committee members.

Drawing heavily on data contained in reports of the Civil Liberties Committee, Senators Elbert Thomas, LaFollette and Ellender laid down a barrage of questions that took the starch out of the Little Steel witness. Efforts by Sen. Burke of Nebraska, who has been catering to industrialists in their appearances before the group, to save the steel man were all in vain.

ADMITS ANTI-UNIONISM

Before Tower managed to get off the witness stand, he was forced to admit:

1. That, far from favoring the Wagner Act, a Steel Institute pamphlet in 1935 had claimed that "the measure is not a bill whose vicious features could be remedied by amendment, because the whole idea behind it is basically unsound."

2. That 23 corporations represented on the Institute's board of directors expended $234,016 for industrial munitions between 1933-37, one-third of the total purchases made during that period.

3. **That George Sokolsky was paid $28,000 by the Institute's publicity firm merely to tell them whether their anti-union publicity campaign work was good or bad—and that while Sokolsky was receiving this money, he was being paid by the New York Herald-Tribune as a supposedly impartial observer and commentator.**

4. That, "If I have an employe who is employed to do a certain job in my organization, obviously I pay him a salary. If he, in his capacity as a citizen of the United States, libels somebody else or anybody else, it is no concern of mine or responsibility of mine, as I see it."

DEBATE CHARACTER

Senator Burke, who is sponsoring the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers' amendments, engaged in a heated discusion with Sen. Thomas, chairman of the committee, over Sokolsky's character.

Referring to the Steel Institute publicist, Burke declaimed:

"In my judgment he is one of the keenest students of public affairs in this country. . . . I reiterate my statement of my firm belief in the integrity of Mr. Sokolsky and in his very good ability."

Thomas, criticizing Sokolsky's red-baiting against those who think the United States is a government of men rather than laws, retorted:

" . . . He may be very keen, he was keen enough to deceive to hurt, but anyone who calls that kind of a man an honest man is stretching his imagination a little bit too far."

About that time spectators began to feel that Tower and the Steel Institute would have helped their case by staying in New York fighting unions on the quiet.

Gimbel Store Renews Pact

New York, June 10.—Thirteen hundred members of Local 2 of the United Retail and Wholesale Employes, CIO affiliate, were working today under a new two-year contract providing for $137,000 annual wage increases and a modified union shop at Gimbel's department store.

Provisions for time and a half for overtime, seniority rights for union members, additional vacation benefits and elimination of peak working conditions were also included in the agreement.

Pres. Samuel Wolchok headed the union's negotiators.

CIO Wins Decision Over Hague

Continued from page three

curring in the broader doctrine of civil liberties outlined by Stone. Though differing in their approach to the question, both groups were severely critical of the practices used by Hague in his futile effort to interfere with the rights of Jersey City workers to join the CIO and its affiliated unions.

ROBERTS' OPINION

". . . The narrow record presented by the record," Justice Roberts declared, is whether "freedom to disseminate information concerning the provisions of the National Labor Relations Act, to assemble probably for discussion of the act, and of the opportunities and advantages offered by it, is a privilege or immunity of a citizen of the United States secured against state abridgment by Section One of the 14th amendment. . .'

"Thus, under the Robert's ruling, only U. S. citizens have the inalienable right to meet for discussion of federal laws or problems.

STONE'S RULING

"I am unable to follow the path by which some of my brethren have attained their decision," Justice Stone remarked.

"No more grave and important issue can be brought to this court than that of freedom of speech and assembly, which the due process clause guarantees to all persons, regardless of their citizenship, but which privileges our immunities clause secure only to citizens, and then only to the limited extent that their relationship to the national government is affected.

"I am unable to rest decision here on the assertion . . . that respondents (the workers) must depend upon their limited privileges as citizens of the United States in order to sustain their cause, or upon so palpable an avoidance of the real issues in the case, which respondents have raised by their pleadings and sustained by their proof."

The Court's decisions had the effect of upholding—though modifying in minor respects—a district court injunction granted to the CIO to prevent Hague from interfering with the right of workers to hold meetings in public places in Jersey City.

Insurance Union Wins Board Poll

New York, June 10.—Another union victory in the life insurance field was chalked up for the United Office & Professional Workers, with the winning of a recent election in the two Pittsburgh offices of the Eureka-Maryland Assurance Corporation.

The poll, conducted by the State Labor Relations Board, covered both insurance agents and clerical employes. The vote was 44 to nothing in favor of Industrial Insurance Agents Union, Local 65 of the UOPWA.

An Interview With:

Vincent Lombardo Toledano, Head Of The Mexican Labor Movement

By M. Page

We pass a group of workmen in blue denim overalls going up the broad stairs of the building, gesturing and talking rapidly in a language unfamiliar to our Yankee ears. A few have miners' lamps on their caps, others wear the work-stained khaki outfit of the oil fields. We pass two girls laughing together, then a group of agricultural workers dressed in the simple white garb of the tropics.

All of these people have the proud bronze features of the Mexican Indian; all of them are speaking in the same unfamiliar tongue—yet running through their talk we catch one word, said over and over, that makes us smile with warm recognition: **syndicate.** That we know means union.

We are entering headquarters of the powerful Mexican Confederation of Labor (CTM). Upstairs we find committees and organizers at work in various conference rooms, union men and women from textile mills, packing houses and metal shops confering, arguing, agreeing; telephones ringing, secretaries going to and fro with messages.

FAMILIAR SETTING

This place gives us the familiar feeling of a busy union headquarters in Pittsburgh, Frisco or New York. It happens to be Mexico City, sunny capitol of the young republic to the south of us that can boast one of the most alert, progressive trade union movements on our two American continents.

It is the hour that tradition sets aside for the welcome siesta; even stores lock their doors and shopkeepers go home for a nap. But in union headquarters their is no siesta, and none for the man we have come to see: Vincent Lombardo Toledano, general secretary of the CTM.

Many have referred to Lombardo Toledano as the John L. Lewis of Mexico—just as they compare the spectacular growth and succession of victories of Mexico's CTM with our CIO.

MUCH LIKE LEWIS

Indeed there is some basis for this comparison, for each of these modern aggressive union movements grew out of similar needs of working men and women in Mexico as in the U. S. A. for a vigorous unionism to safeguard their interests and better their life—needs that the oldline type of labor organizations were not able to meet. Both of these union movements and their leaders have come to the fore at a crucial period in the life of each nation, at a time when the forces of the people, of democracy and peace and progress, have been threatened as never before by the forces of open-shoppers and reaction.

TOLEDANO

The CTM, like the CIO, is recognized in the life of the country as a tremendous civic force. Toledano, like Lewis, is a public figure of first rank. What he has to say on a question carries weight second only to that of the Mexican President himself.

Toledano, we find, is a man of slight energetic frame and a swarthy quiet countenance dominated by the brew and dark brooding eyes. His glance is penetrative, his phrases come in low measured tones.

"The labor movements of your country and mine have much in common," he says. "Just as you in the States, we must get better working conditions for our workers we must raise the general standard of living." He speaks with firm emphasis. "We must make of Mexico a country of free men, a country bettering itself every day." This is Lombardo Toledano's dream. For this he has labored over 25 years, many times risked his life, organized and led the powerful CTM.

Today he looks tired, for he has been working this last week far into the night helping settle a crisis in the packing house industry, also guiding the needle trades' campaign to get rid of sweatshops. Yet somehow, in the succession of union drives he manages to find time for his family and to continue his studies and writing. (A university professor before he became a labor leader, Lombardo Toledano is author of many articles and books on labor and scientific topics.)

EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS

We have seen, in our weeks of travel throughout various parts of Mexico, the gains which the CTM, with its close to a million members, have brought the Mexican people. Shoes in villages where there had been none before; new houses in place of mud huts; bolts of dress goods for sale in village markets and manufactured household gadgets, for people now have more money to spend; wage increases and sanitary improvements in cotton areas in Laguna and hemp regions of Yucatan, in the oil fields, paper and textile mills and mines.

"We want the closest fraternal ties with the unions of the States and Europe," Lombardo continues. "Our aim is to live on more and more intimate fraternal relations with peoples of other countries, particularly those closest to us. For we have not only a common aim — democracy and justice for all, but a common enemy—fascism."

The Mexican labor leader's travels in the States and abroad convinced him even more he says of labor's destiny, throughout the world, as well as the common future of all democracies. He has a deep admiration for John L. Lewis and the CIO. It was on the invitation of the CTM that Mr. Lewis made his trip to Mexico last fall to address the newly formed Latin-American Confederation of Labor, of which Lombardo Toledano was elected general chairman.

FIGHTING FOR DEMOCRACY

"The world today is divided into two fundamental camps," Lombardo continued, "democracy and fascism We are fighting for democracy. All our efforts are directed toward further democracy in Mexico. We cannot allow anti-democratic forces either within or without Mexico to halt our country's advance.

"Our enemies call the CTM a public menace." He leans forward to emphasize his point. "We are a menace to no-one but the country's traitors."

It is not hard to understand why the open shop reactionary forces in Mexico fear and hate Lombardo Toledano above all men, why his life has been openly threatened many times of late. Nor is it hard to understand why he is universally trusted in labor's ranks.

For Mexican labor feels as he does, they share his aim: "We must make Mexico a country of free men, a country bettering itself every day."

Labor and the Law

By Lee Pressman

CIO General Counsel

Significance of the Hague Case

For organized labor the significance of the U. S. Supreme Court's decision in the Hague case lies in the fact that it gives the federal courts the power to protect the constitutional rights of workers and organizers against interference by state and local officials.

In order to understand precisely what the decision means, one must keep in mind the terms of the injunction against Mayor Hague which won the high court's approval; for while the five justices who supported the injunction gave different reasons for doing so, they all agreed on its provisions.

RESTRAINS LOCAL OFFICIALS

Under the terms of this injunction, local officials will no longer be able to prohibit the holding of lawful meetings. They will no longer be able to interfere with the peaceful distribution of leaflets. They will no longer be able to seize union organizers and run them out of town. They will no longer be able to keep up a general campaign of harassment and intimidation, such as shadowing organizers and breaking up small groups meeting together. They will no longer be able to hold people in jail without charges, and upon making arrests, and they will have to specify reasonable charges and immediately bring the person arrested before a judge to admit him to bail, or to bring the case to trial.

The next important thing which the Supreme Court's decision has done is to uphold the validity of the civil rights statutes. These statutes were passed in 1870 when Congress realized the necessity of protecting the civil liberties and constitutional rights of the American people.

GUARANTEE CIVIL LIBERTIES

The civil rights statutes guarantee complete protection to the exercise of all constitutional rights of freedom of speech, freedom of press and freedom of assembly—and also the rights established by United States laws, such as the National Labor Relations Act.

The important thing about the statutes is that they establish several remedies whereby any violation can be stopped, as follows:

1. By providing for the right to bring an injunction in the federal courts against local officials who are interfering with the rights of workers and organizers;

PERMIT DAMAGE SUITS

2. By authorizing an action for damages in the federal courts against these officials;
3. By authorizing an action for damages against any official who negligently permits violations of constitutional rights to be committed;
4. By providing for criminal actions against any violators of civil rights;
5. By authorizing a civil action against any federal official who refuses to prosecute violations of civil rights;
6. By authorizing the United States local district attorney, marshal, deputy marshal, and commissioners to arrest all persons who may be charged with violations of the civil rights statutes and hold them for bail, and then bring them to trial.

CAN ASK FEDERAL ACTION

Thus, if any union organizer or member is deprived of his constitutional rights, he may immediately begin an action in the federal courts for an injunction, or for damages, or for both. At the same time he can demand that the federal authorities immediately take action to arrest and bring to trial the local officials who are responsible for these violations of his rights.

The legal department of the CIO stands ready to give all the advice and assistance it can in the important cases where such violations are shown to exist.

Full use should be made of the civil rights statutes to open up those sections of this country where corrupt and lawless local officials still prevent organization by denying fundamental civil liberties.

This is a new decision by the Supreme Court and it will probably take some time before the federal courts and the federal authorities all the way down the line become accustomed to the idea that the federal courts must be just as zealous to protect human rights as they are to protect property rights.

Your WPA Job

By Ralph Hetzel

CIO UNEMPLOYMENT DIRECTOR

It's strange but it's true. The worse the reports on the WPA that come from the House Sub-Committee on Appropriations, the stronger grows the support back of the Murray-Casey Bill.

New Dealers and progressives in Congress are rapidly realizing that the Committee will bring out such a bad bill that the only way left to save the WPA will be by supporting the Casey measure in the House of Representatives.

The Sub-Committee of the House Appropriations Committee—which is dominated by Congressman Woodrum of Virginia—is reported to be busily occupied in preparing a bill the real purpose of which is to smash the WPA.

MAY TRY MANEUVERS

Since the House Appropriations Commitee has made it a habit to be considerate of the delicate sensibilities of reactionary Congressmen, it will probably try to introduce its vicious bill under such parliamentary maneuvering that no record vote will be necessary. This practice has made it easy for them to slash relief appropriations in the past. They are now more eager than ever to spare their fellow-legislators the painful necessity of deciding whether to go on record as favoring the drastic curtailment of the entire program.

It is becoming perfectly clear what the attempted strategy will be to force a vicious attack on the WPA down the throats of the American people. The House Appropriations Committee will so delay the bringing of the measure to the floor of the House that, when it reaches the floor, they will try to shut off all debate on the excuse that, unless action is taken immediately, the WPA will have no money at all. They will seek to force a vote on the floor, just as they did on the $875,000,000 deficiency appropriation, under rules which will prohibit a record vote.

IF STRATEGY SUCCEEDS — — —

If this strategy succeeds in the House, the Senate will then be faced with consideration of a bill which will in substance break down the WPA principle. Every reactionary voice in the Senate will then be raised against improving the bill or support of the Murray-Casey Bill, "because," they will say, "the Senate must approve the House bill. If the Senate does not do so," they will say, "and changes the bill for the better, it will have to go back to the House for approval and that will cause a long fight which will delay the WPA appropriation so much that the WPA will be without any money at all on July 1st."

The strategy of the reactionaries is so clear on this bill that it is possible to predict every step.

"INVESTIGATION" OF WPA

Another thing the House Sub-Committee will do is to hold hearings all through the consideration of the Bill on the "investigation" of the WPA. They will do everything possible to smear the WPA with fantastic charges of all sorts. Before there is any opportunity to answer these charges, it will be too late as far as the consideration of the WPA appropriation is concerned.

But the very thoroughness and intensity of the reactionary drive to destroy the WPA is serving to rally around the Murray-Casey Bill the progressive forces in Congress and throughout our country.

Senator Murray has already announced that he has been assured the support of over half the New Deal Senators.

Reports are coming into the national office from CIO unions all over the country that they have been receiving pledges of support of the Murray-Casey Bill from their Congressmen.

CIO Nurses Greet Mooney

Members of the nurses' local of the State, County & Municipal Workers of America greet Tom Mooney as he steps to the speakers' platform in New York's Madison Square Garden. Heard by 20,000 in New York, Mooney has addressed other meeting in Washington, Philadelphia and Detroit.

Mooney Cheered by Growth Of U. S. Labor Unions

WASHINGTON, June 10.—The most hopeful and gratifying thing Tom Mooney sees after 23 years in prison is the growth in the American labor movement, he told a cheering audience of 2,200 CIO and AFL unionists and progressives in a mass meeting here.

"When I went to an unjust imprisonment back in the summer of 1916, the American labor movement was only a little more than 2,000,000 strong," he said. "Trade unionism was just a small fragment among the many millions of people engaged in the industry of our country.

"Now, when I come out to freedom, the American labor movement has grown to a gigantic and powerful force in the affairs of our country. It has nearly 8,000,000 members, and not only has it grown to great size, but we now see it spreading over the country and overflowing the boundaries of the past, entering into all of the industries and bringing true Americanism, independence and self-respect to the workers of this country."

Warning that reaction threatened the American people with slavery, Mooney described the labor movement as "the most powerful and vigilant force that stands between a free people and slavery."

"It is our responsibility to inspire and stimulate the entire nation to unite in defense of our constitutional rights and civil liberties," he said.

Mooney was introduced by Senator Murray of Montana and preceded Sen. Downey of California, who spoke briefly. Congressman Marcantonio, American Labor Party Representative from New York, brought down the house when he remarked "Its a long trail from San Quentin to the Mayflower"—Washington's swankiest hotel.

Job Congress Meets; Hears Mrs. FDR

Washington, June 10. — Far greater than any financial debt is the cost to the nation of underfed, under-privileged workers and their children, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt told the National Right to Work Congress here in the fifth day of its week-long session.

"That is a debt you will pay for alright, in tuberculosis hospitals, in prisons and insane asylums," Mrs. Roosevelt said. "There is an awful lot we are paying for today that none of us really think about, and I think we don't think about it because many of us don't know our country.

ALL OUR DEBTS

"I think we want to take stock of all our debts. I think we have reached a point where we have to take stock of what civilization has brought us."

The Congress, organized by the Workers Alliance of America, has brought close to 2,000 delegates from unemployed workers' organizations all over the country to Washington to discuss their problems and bring them to the attention of Senators and Representatives—particularly those who speak and vote against WPA.

Principal demands of the Right to Work Congress are for passage of the CIO-backed Murray-Casey Bill for 3,000,000 WPA jobs, and for a living standard of $2,000 per year for every American family.

The Congress has met in the Labor Dept. Auditorium, and has been addressed by leading Congressional liberals as well as New Deal officials.

Rubber Union Bares Goodyear Attempt To Slash Wages

By ROBERT CRUDEN

AKRON, June 10.—Plans of the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., for reducing wages and lengthening hours were revealed as the National Labor Relations Board resumed hearings on a board complaint charging the company with four major violations of the Wagner Act.

Stanley Denlinger, general counsel for the United Rubber Workers and a member of the union negotiating committee which attempted to reach an agreement with the company, testified under oath that Fred W. Climer, personnel director of the company, told the union committee:

"Wages in our Akron plants must be reduced.

"It's like taking candy from a kid to ask them (workers) to take a cut. You must do it, and not ask them.

"We have made all our money in foreign plants and it's been eaten up by losses in the United States."

SOUGHT LONGER HOURS

Denlinger testified that Climer had demanded that the union take a 10 per cent wage reduction and the eight-hour day, 40-hour week in place of the prevailing 6-hour day, 36-hour week.

Counsel for the company failed to deny or cross-examine Denlinger on the wage-cut proposal. They said that by the eight-hour day proposal the company meant a "flexible" work week.

This was flatly denied by Denlinger, who declared that the company repeatedly rejected union offers a flexible work-week in emergencies.

FOUGHT CONTRACT

The union counsel also substantiated previous testimony by Goodyear Local Pres. John D. House that on two different occasions, company officials told union negotiators the company had decided not to sign a contract with the union although the company had ostensibly held meetings with the union on such a contract.

These revelations came as the board developed its charge against the company that it did not bargain in good faith with the union.

The board's other charges are interference with and coercion of workers in their legal bargaining rights, domination of the Akron Goodyear Employes Assn., and discrimination against union members.

3,000 Doll Makers Win Pay Raise

NEW YORK, June 10.—Renewal of a collective agreement covering about 3,000 doll workers in four states was announced this week by the International Union, Playthings & Novelty Workers, CIO.

Signed by the Associated Doll Manufacturers of New York, Inc., representing 80 per cent of the total doll production, the contract applies to workers in factories in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts.

A. H. Esposito, general president of the union, pointed out that the renewed agreement provides that wages and piece-work rates in the second six months of the year are to be increased five per cent.

This unique provision was inserted to encourage manufacturers to spread manufacturing over a 12-month period instead of crowding production into the last five or six months of the year. In his report to the membership, Esposito said:

"In my estimation the five per cent wage increase for the second half of the year will be of great importance in curbing the major evil of the industry; that is, its highly seasonal character."

New York CIO Urges Special Legislative Session for Labor Bills

NEW YORK, June 10.—Demands for a special session of the state legislature voiced today by Pres. Allan S. Haywood of the New York CIO Industrial Union Council were coupled with a warning that cuts in the state budget "have started to raise havoc with vital social services."

The New York CIO group, which has upwards of 700,000 members, urged Gov. Lehman to call the special session to restore cuts in the finances of the departments of education, health, labor and other spots "where the will and welfare of the people were made subservient to the demands of the utility companies and real estate interests."

SCHOOLS CURTAILED

Action of the Republican-controlled legislature resulted in an order calling for dismissal of 1,000 New York City school teachers and crippling retrenchment of the entire school program.

"The cuts in the health department very definitely will bring curtailment of the public campaigns against the spread of tubercular and other controllable diseases and a bogging down of necessary aid to hospitals," Haywood said.

"The reduction in the appropriation for the state labor department will bring collapse of the Workmen's Compensation Bureau and would make ineffective any efforts to enforce the recently-established state minimum wage and hour laws for women and children in industry."

Haywood thanked Gov. Lehman for vetoing the Bewley bill, which would have seriously restricted the activities of the AFL teamsters union.

Ease Charge Against 20 Oil Strikers

Tulsa, Okla., June 10.—Having failed to convict 106 striking workers of the Mid-Continent Oil Company indicted by a Tulsa county grand jury of "unlawful assembly", the county prosecutor recently dropped a charge of conspiracy against 20 of the strikers and substituted a "riot" charge, local officials of the International Oil Workers Union here said this week.

"It is believed the action of the county prosecutor was prompted by the Mid-Continent Oil officials, who apparently believe conviction of the strikers on riot would be upheld in case of appeal", a statement issued by the Strike Committee said.

CITE AFL CASE

A recent decision of the Oklahoma Supreme Court upholding the conviction of two AFL leaders convicted on an alleged "riot" charge nearly two years ago, was considered to have given the prosecutor new hope of getting a conviction against the strikers of the CIO oil workers union.

The CIO oil workers strike against the refiners of D-X gasoline which has been going on for several months, "has been characterized by a spirit of solidarity and harmony", the union Strike Committee declared.

"Unable to break the strike by other methods, the corporation has changed its strategy, and is now trying to break the union financially."

Rescue Miner

Robert Galligan is rescued from a Shenandoah, Pa., mine after being imprisoned for 65 hours under tons of rock and dirt by a landslide over the pit. United Mine Workers are now supporting the Neely-Keller bill, providing for efficient U. S. inspection of mines in an effort to lower the high accident rate.

Oliver Plow Contract To Steady Work Loads

CHARLES CITY, Iowa, June 20.—A plan to relieve the evil of seasonal work is one of the outstanding points included in a contract signed this week between the Oliver Plow Company plant here and Local 115, United Farm Equipment Workers, CIO.

The new agreement which covers around 1,000 workers, brings the number of contracts now in effect in Oliver plants to three.

Company policy in the past has been to hire men from miles around during the peak season and shut down almost completely for at least three months a year.

TO BUILD WAREHOUSE

Under the new agreement, the building of a $250,000 storage warehouse is announced. This will enable the company to store machinery and avoid the big seasonal fluctuations which formerly have meant insecurity and low annual incomes for Oliver workers.

Other outstanding terms in the new contract provide for continuous seniority, regardless of layoffs; permission to collect union dues on company property; plant-wide seniority; and the right to post notices of special and division meetings on the plant bulletin board.

Newsmen Picket

New York members of the American Newspaper Guild march outside the store of Lane Bryant, one of a chain which continues to advertise in the struck Hearst papers in Chicago. Leading the procession are Executive Vice-Pres. Jonathan Eddy of the Guild and CIO Director John Brophy.

Boatmen Ask Security Act Extension

Seattle, Wash., June 10.—The Inland Boatmen's Union of the Pacific went on record in favor of extension of the Social Security Act to include seamen and workers on inland water craft at the annual meeting of the union's executive council just concluded here.

Preservation of the National Labor Relations Act in its present form and continuation of the WPA through a long-time program of government enterprise was also advocated by the Council.

ON RAILROADS

C. W. Deal, president of the Pacific Inland Boatmen, in advocating support for the Labor Act said that similar legislation had been in effect for several years in the railroad industry and was functioning with great effectiveness.

"There is no reason why employers nationally should not accept the same principles that have been so successful in the railroad industry," he said.

Convention In San Francisco Oct. 10

SEE STORY PAGE SIX

NATIONAL EDITION

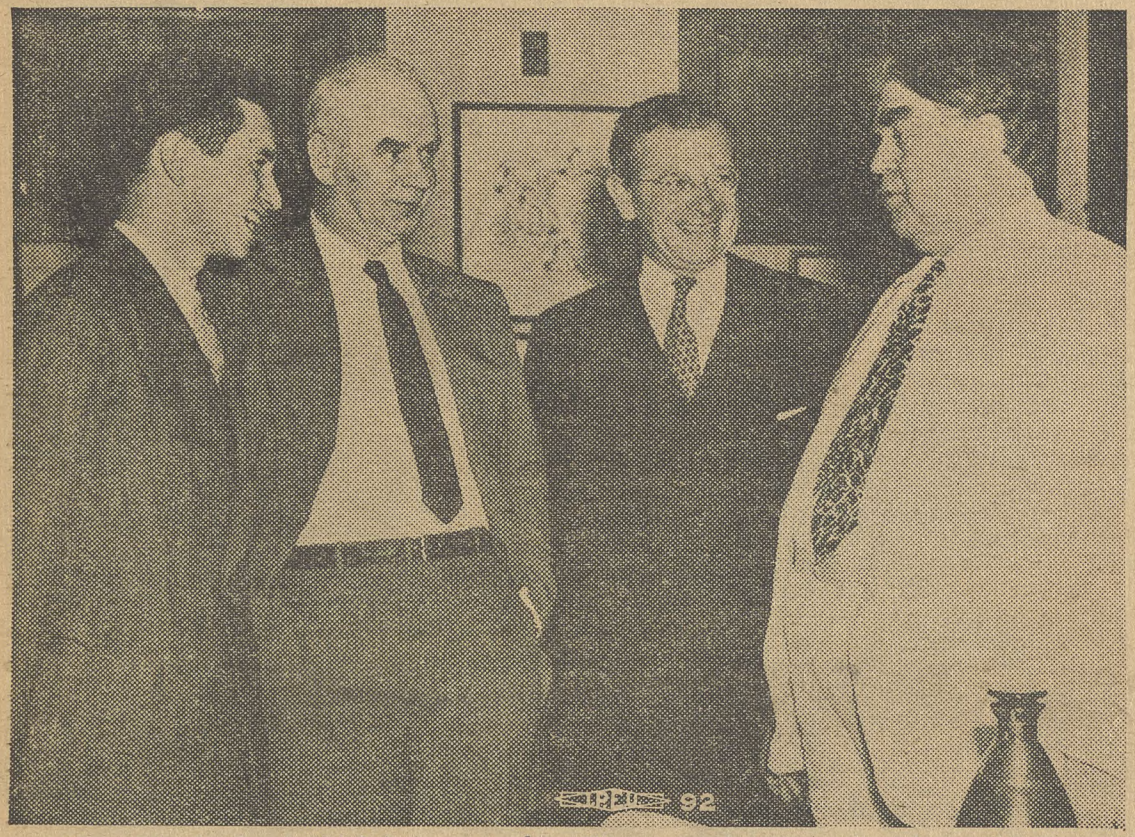
THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 25 20 JUNE 19, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

CIO BOARD GIVES SIGNAL FOR BIG FORWARD DRIVE

CIO Heads Together



Pres. John L. Lewis (right) seems to be telling a good story to Sec. James Carey and Vice-Presidents Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman just before Executive Board meeting opened in Washington. The CIO leaders, looking back over accomplishments of the past half-year, are in jovial humor.

Demands Security For Nation's Aged And Jobless

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

WASHINGTON, June 17 — Heartened by recent successes, the Executive Board of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, meeting in Washington, gave the signal for advance on both organizational and legislative fronts.

High-spots of the three-day sessions were:

(1) Decision to expand organizing activities in a number of industries, following reports of heightened morale as a result of the United Mine Workers victory and other CIO union gains.

(2) Denunciation by Pres. John L. Lewis of the failure of Congress to advance any program to cope with unemployment, and decision to throw the full weight of CIO behind the Murray-Casey bill for 3,000,000 WPA jobs.

BIGGER PENSIONS FOR AGED

(3) Launching of national campaign, in cooperation with old age and progressive groups, for pensions of $60 a month at 60 years of age, and $90 for married couples.

(4) Decision to concentrate on building the CIO, organizing the unorganized and aggressive defense of CIO union rights, following report on breakdown of negotiations with the AFL.

(5) Decision to take the offensive against anti-CIO discriminations in respect to International Labor Office representation and on PWA jobs, and to initiate litigation, if necessary, against AFL unions boycotting CIO products or violating the Wagner act by collusive contracts directed against CIO organizing activities.

It was decided to hold the next CIO convention, beginning October 10, 1939, in San Francisco.

The News In Brief

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

Annual Wage

Detroit.—The General Motors council of the United Automobile Workers heard demands that the union seek a guaranteed annual wage, together with the 30-hour week, in coming contract negotiations with the big auto manufacturer.

Anti-Semitism

Chicago.—Hearst's management in Chicago was charged with Hitler-like anti-Semitism by the American Newspaper Guild, following publication by company unionists of a poem aimed at five Jewish strikers on the American and Herald-Examiner.

Council

Pueblo, Colo. — Demands for a state Wagner Act won support from delegates to the second annual convention of the Colorado Industrial Union Council here.

Auto Union Wins At Allis-Chalmers

West Allis, Wis., June 17.—Local 248 of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, won a major victory here as the Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Co. won a week-old strike, gaining improved working conditions, provisions for a national company contract and guarantees that the union would be protected as sole bargaining agency.

Harold Christoffel, Local 248 president, gave credit to the unity of the 6,000 members who formed a solid strike unit. Ratification of the agreement was expected at a meeting today.

CIO Union Asks Verdict For Boycott

New York, June 17—Seeking an injunction and damages of $250,000, the CIO United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers filed suit here against the AFL Electrical Brotherhood and the National Electrical Products Corporation.

The suit grew out of a boycott of CIO-made products by the AFL union, which refused to install or handle products from factories under contract with the CIO-affiliate. Defendants cited by the suit include two Brotherhood locals, seven officers, 13 contracts, and the National Electrical Products Corp.

American Can Signs Another Contract

San Francisco, June 17 — The American Can Company, largest can manufacturing firm in the country, has signed an agreement with the Steel Workers Organizing Committee granting sole bargaining rights for workers employed in its San Jose plant.

The contract which is effective until June 1, 1940, provides that basic rates of pay shall not be changed during the term of the agreement. A 40-hour week, time and a half for overtime, seniority rights, and other union conditions are specified.

American Can has 63 plants, 56 of them located in the United States, five in Canada and two in the Hawaiian Islands. In California the company has factories in Los Angeles, Monterey, Oakland, Sacramento, and San Francisco, in addition to the one in San Jose. CIO contracts are in effect in a number of these plants.

Thousands Cheer as CIO Wins Aluminum Poll

EDGEWATER, N. J., June 17.—Thousands of trade unionists here celebrated a sweeping victory won this week by the Aluminum Workers of America, CIO, in an election among the production employes at the Edgewater plant of the Aluminum Company of America.

Local 16 of the AWA defeated an independent union in the plant by a vote of 780 to 587 in a poll conducted by the National Labor Relations Board. Only 51 voted for no representation. The tremendous interest of the workers in the election was shown by the almost 100 per cent turnout, 1,418 out of a total of 1,499 eligible, casting ballots.

4,000 IN PARADE

When the results of the tally became known as the night shift was at work, the factory whistle blew excitedly, and a tumultuous outburst of cheers and honking of automobile horns broke forth outside.

A long line of autos quickly fell into parade formation, and 4,000 or more members of both CIO and AFL unions in the vicinity took part in celebrating the victory of the CIO Aluminum Workers.

Midwest Firm Signs Closed Shop Pact

Mt. Carmel, Ind., June 17—The Meissner Coil Company, one of the largest plants of its kind in the Midwest, has signed a closed shop contract with Local 1110, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, CIO.

The agreement which renews with improvements a pact signed last year grants check-off of dues, a general 40-hour week, time and one half for overtime with double time for Sundays and holidays and seniority rights. Discrimination against women employes is provided for in a clause calling for equal pay for similar work.

Union Leaders Tell of Gains, Set New Goals

WASHINGTON, June 17.—Reports on organizational progress and future plans occupied the attention of the CIO Executive Board members on the third and final day of their session here this week.

The note throughout the reports was one of pride in reporting achievements and confidence in the progress the CIO will make in organizing new fields in the immediate future.

R. J. Thomas, president of the United Automobile Workers, reported a satisfactory settlement of the Briggs strike and a consolidation of union forces that will lead the organization to new achievements. Briefly discussing the attempts of Homer Martin to disrupt the union, Thomas pointed out that Martin's anti-CIO conspiracy has completely failed, and that the automobile workers are ready now to extend their union to cover the entire industry.

At the close of Thomas' report, the delegates rose in a standing vote to commend Thomas, the other UAW officers and members for their successful handling of a difficult situation and their defeat of Martin's rump outfit.

WEST COAST CONGRESS

Harry Bridges, CIO west coast director and president of the Intl. Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, reported on the successful work of his organization in consolidating progressive forces behind the election of a New Deal governor and the defeat of a vicious anti-labor law in California.

Reid Robinson, president of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, one of the founding unions of the CIO, outlined achievements in the nonferrous metal industries and presented a plan for organizing brass, copper and zinc plants into a powerful industrial union group.

Reporting for the Pacific Northwest, Harold Pritchett, leader of the Intl. Woodworkers of America, revealed that Big Bill Hutcheson's AFL Carpenters Brotherhood had spent $350,000 to fight the CIO Union—"and succeeded only in helping to build our union."

DIE CASTERS, PACKERS

George Peacock and Edward Cheyfitz of the Natl. Assn. of Die Casting Workers, told of possibilities of completing organization of their important branch of the machine industry.

Don Harris, director of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, reported on progress in his industry and prospects of a national contract with the "Big Four" packers.

NEW FIELDS

Powers Hapgood, speaking for the United Shoe Workers, urged the establishment of a CIO union label department, both by the national CIO and by the affiliated unions. This point, together with suggested plans for CIO expansion in aircraft, metal fabricating, die casting, and many other fields' was referred to the executive officers for further action.

President Lewis, summing up the CIO record and urging all CIO members to go ahead to complete the job of organizing the unorganized, said:

"The present basis the CIO has created allows it to expand. Great progress can be made and will be made in the future, if the CIO carries out the promise it has already given in such large measure."

Smethurst Asks Drives For Gains

Washington, June 17.—Organizational achievements and possibilities in such industries as aviation, paper making, distilling and shipbuildng were stressed by Walter Smethurst, executive assistant to Pres. Lewis, in his report to the CIO Executive Board meeting here.

"Since the signing of the United Mine Workers contract, there is renewed hope in the hearts of the workers," Smethurst said. "If the CIO can find ways and means of conducting a reasonable organizational drive, I am confident that we can greatly expand our movement.

ONE DIRECTION

"The CIO is the only force at work in this country that has done anything of a constructive nature to alleviate the distressful conditions that exist.

"Congress will adjourn without making a single constructive contribution to the welfare of the workers. We must not fail them! There is only one direction open to the CIO—and that is forward."

Brophy Hails Councils As Aid to CIO

Washington, June 17.—The need for building Industrial Union Councils both as an organizational and a political factor wherever the CIO is organized was stressed in the report of Director Brophy to the CIO Executive Board meeting here.

Organizationally, Councils are of great value in maintaining contact between CIO affiliates in the communities, he pointed out, and of great help to the national CIO rendering necessary services both to locals of national affiliates and to Local Industrial Unions.

"Politically, such Councils have a great and increasing role to play in the cities and states and counties," he said.

"Repressive laws passed in Pennsylvania, New York, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Oregon are a clear example of the need for organized labor action to defeat such administrations in the future and to prevent them from destroying the gains labor has made in the past few years. Such action can best be organized by Councils, which provide a rallying point for labor and progressive forces in the area."

203 COUNCILS

As of June 1, Brophy reported that 203 such Councils had been set up, of which 27 were state bodies. "This is merely a beginning," he said. "We must continue to build Councils in every area where the CIO is organized."

Brophy also dealt with services of the CIO office to national and international affiliates, citing the recent amalgamation of the Fur and Leather Workers and the Fishermen as examples. He reported the existence of 601 Local Industrial Unions, and urged that all jurisdictional problems arising be referred to the national office for possible settlement.

Tots Picket GOP

"We want to go to kindergarten," say these New York kids—but they won't be able to if an 'economy law' passed by the state's Republican-controlled legislature stays on the books. Other slogans used by pickets as they marched around the GOP state committee's office were: "A democratic nation needs education" and "Night must not fall on the evening schools."

Rap Chiseller

Pickets from the Pecan Workers Union, CIO, march outside the plant of the Sunshine Pecan Shelling Co. in San Antonio, Tex., where the union charges the federal wage-hour law is being flouted.

Hearst Stooges Use Anti-Semitism To Fight Guild

Chicago, June 17.—William Randolph Hearst's struck Chicago papers turned to anti-Semitism today in the hope that it would prove a more satisfactory strikebreaking method than a dozen other devices used in the past six months.

Immediate reaction to a "poem" which appeared in a tabloid issued by the Hearst company unions on the Evening American and Herald-Examiner was a tremendous wave of protest from both Jewish and Gentile organizations.

That the use of Hitler tactics may prove a serious blow to the Hearst empire was indicated when various Jewish societies and organizations meeting over the weekend laid plans to bring to the attention of the nation "this newest evidence of the crude and un-American tactics employed by the Hearst management in fighting the American Newspaper Guild."

Attacked in the poem were Pres. Harry Wohl of the Chicago Guild and four other Jewish strikers. The doggerel bore the signature "F. T.", frequently used by Rev. Irwin St. John Tucker (who likes to be known as (Friar Tuck). Tucker is an Episcopalian minister who augments his ecclesiastical income by strikebreaking work on the Herald-Examiner copy desk.

Hosiery Mill Signs With Union

Atlanta, Ga., June 17.—A five-year contract between the American Federation of Hosiery Workers and the Real Silk Hosiery Mills of Dalton, Ga., was announced here this week by union officials.

Emil Rieve, president of the Textile Workers Union of America, to which the AFH is affiliated, initiated the negotiations. Terms of the agreement include a 40-hour week, check-off of dues and a preferential shop.

A one-year contract with Dallas Mills the Dallas Manufacturing Company, operators of a cotton mill in Huntsville, Alabama, was also announced here by the TWUA. The new agreement contains substantially the same points covered in the previous contract in effect for the past six months, with the addition of a few improvements asked by the union.

Macy's Signs Closed Shop Contract

New York City, June 17.—After four weeks of negotiations, the R. H. Macy Co. has signed a closed shop contract covering approximately 800 of its non-selling employes with the Department Store Employes Organizing Committee, CIO.

In addition to the closed shop, the contract provides for wage increases of from 5 to 15 per cent, overtime at time and one-half, seniority, mediation of discharge, the check-off, and a continuation of the present vacation plan by which employes get from one to three weeks' annual vacation according to years of service.

The union was represented by Samuel Wolchok of the DSEOC, John F. O'Donnell, attorney for the Committee; T. Darcy, General Organizer for the Committee.

Ask 'Wagner Act' Passage In Colorado

Pueblo, Colo., June 17. — Demands for a "baby" Wagner Act for Colorado were voiced at the second annual convention of the state's CIO Industrial Union Council, just concluded here.

Support was voted for an immediate organization campaign among rubber and iron workers in Denver, the state capital; for the drive of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee; for the Newspaper Guild strike against the Chicago Hearst papers.

Pres. Frank Hefferly of the council was re-elected for another term, as was 1st Vice-Pres. O. F. Nigro. A. S. Embree, official of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers was elected a vice-president, while Frank Price of Colorado Springs, another metal union member, was named council secretary.

Board Maps Organizing Campaign, Support For Jobless And Aged

AFL's Tory Leaders Cause Unity Plans To Fail, Board Hears

WASHINGTON, June 17.—The failure of the recent peace negotiations, due to the unwillingness of the AFL leadership to agree to any plan for genuine unity, was reported to the CIO Executive Board by the CIO peace committee, consisting of John L. Lewis, Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman. The committee's report was unanimously accepted by the Board.

Reporting to the press on the discussion and action on this subject, President Lewis declared:

"There was complete unanimity of expression by the members of the CIO executive board that the primary purposes of the CIO were in attaining its objectives as first declared, namely to organize the unorganized and to build a great progressive labor movement.

ORGANIZING COMES FIRST

"The Board felt that peace as such was secondary to the organization of the unorganized, the improvement of working conditions and the forming of articulate groups of workers in every industry which will make possible their expression on matters of industrial and public interest.

"The Board also felt that the AFL is still in the control of a group of leaders who are reactionary on public questions and who tolerate many evil conditions in the AFL.

AFL - EMPLOYER LIASON

"These conditions are exemplified in the liason and the entente cordiale between AFL leaders and industrial and financial interest opposed to labor in order to fight the CIO, and attempt to emasculate it and to bring about a crystallization of anti-New Deal sentiment in the country."

Lewis related some incidents to explain why the AFL representatives did not want peace with the CIO. He told of the monopoly of advertising in the American Federationist, official organ of the AFL, held by the late John Morrison. Morrison recently died, leaving an estate of more than half a million dollars. He made bequests to various members of the AFL executive council, including President William Green, Secretary Frank Morrison, and Vice President Thomas Rickert.

VESTED INTEREST

Rickert, a member of the AFL peace committee, received a bequest of $25,000, plus a one-fifth interest in the profits of the Morrison Agency, amounting to about $20,000 a year. Matthew Woll, another member of the AFL committee, receives his main income from an insurance business which is greatly helped by the fact that he is a vice president of the AFL, Lewis said.

"I am citing this as incidental to the main problem," he said, "but it was reported to the CIO Board so its members would see how impossible it was to negotiate peace with such men as Thomas Rickert and Matthew Woll."

Work For All Is Biggest Task - - Lewis

Washington, June 17.—Unemployment is America's No. 1 problem today, and any political party or candidate looking for support from the American people must offer a solution, John L. Lewis, CIO president, told the CIO Executive Board in his closing speech at the Board meeting here.

"Any party or candidate who seeks the support of the people will have to be qualified to offer a program that will give the people work," Lewis said.

"Congress has been an intellectual vacuum on this problem and I know of no budding statesman who has made any suggestion for its solution. It is a problem that runs to the right to live. Assuredly we cannot agree that a large segment of our population shall be permanently dispossessed of the right to a job."

SOLVENCY DESTROYED

"Meanwhile technological improvement runs on apace and becomes progressively more serious. The United States has the greatest producing machine in the world, but it is a machine that will not operate unless it finds a market.

"The national buying power for the products of that machine goes down as unemployment rises. The solvency of the people is destroyed, and the solvency of government becomes a myth—if only because the population cannot pay taxes.

"This problem must be solved. Jobs for workers at a wage to hold up buying power is America's No. 1 public question. As the CIO expands and becomes a greater and greater factor in national affairs, it will maintain the right of the American people to a job and the right of the American people to live. This is basically the most important problem of the United States today."

Lewis Flays Congress For Failure to Cope With Basic Problems

WASHINGTON, June 17.—Expansion of organizing activities and legislative drives for security for the unemployed and aged, were authorized by the semi-annual meeting of the Executive Board of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, held in Washington, June 13-15.

The Board members, representing every CIO national and international union, hailed with enthusiasm the various reports on organization and legislative progress, and adopted a program for CIO advance on a number of fronts.

Noting the failure of the recent peace negotiations with the American Federation of Labor, the Board resolved to redouble its efforts to build the strength of the CIO. Instead of remaining on the defensive against attacks on CIO unions, it served warning that the CIO was fully capable of striking back at its attackers.

DISCUSSES UNEMPLOYMENT

President John L. Lewis described unemployment as "the overshadowing and basically the most important problem of the United States today."

"Jobs for workers at a wage to hold up buying power is America's Number 1 public question," he said.

Lewis attacked the record of the present Congress for its failure to do anything to meet this problem. Instead, he said, "the responsible agencies of Congress have busied themselves, in open cynicism, with tearing the vitals out of the meager provisions already existing to help the unemployed eke out a living."

BACK CASEY-MURRAY BILL

As a means of coping with unemployment, the Board gave its full approval and support to the Murray and Casey bills for a WPA appropriation of $2,250,000,000 and a minimum of 3,000,000 WPA jobs for 1940. It described these bills as "the only practical alternative to the vicious proposals of the House Appropriations Committee which would destroy the WPA."

$60 PENSIONS

In regard to security for the aged, the Board described the present federal and state schemes as "utterly inadequate." It resolved that the CIO "undertake a national campaign in cooperation with old age and progressive groups to achieve a program of real security for our aged people upon the basis of a pension of $60 per month at 60 years of age for individuals and $90 per month for

Continued on page five

Board Votes $60 Pension Campaign

Washington, June 17.—The CIO was on record today for $60 a month pensions for all persons over 60 years of age.

Accepting a recommendation from the Social Security Committee, the CIO Executive Board joined forces with those progressive groups which are seeking more adequate protection for the nation's elderly population.

The resolution pledged the CIO "to undertake a national campaign in cooperation with old age and progressive groups to achieve a program of real security for our aged people" on the basis of the $60-60 plan.

APPEALS BEFORE CONGRESS

Less than 48 hours after the Board had taken its action, Pres. Sherman Dalrymple of the United Rubber Workers, head of the Committee, appeared before the House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee with a demand for incorporation of the CIO recommendations into the Social Security laws.

The CIO Board acted favorably on the entire committee report, which called for $90-a-month allowances for couples over 60 years, combining of present federal and state funds for payment of pensions, use of payroll taxes as a means of securing revenue rather than as a measure for determining the size of benefits, and the securing of further social security funds out of general revenue, especially from estate and gift

Continued on Page Five

Demand CIO Member On Geneva Delegation

WASHINGTON, June 17.—Criticism of the U. S. Dept. of Labor for its failure to name a CIO representative to the American delegation to the International Labor Office at Geneva came from the CIO Executive Board meeting here.

A resolution said that the Board "strongly condemns this discriminatory action on the part of the Labor Department and calls upon that Department hereafter to recognize the injustice that has been done to the CIO and to provide for full CIO representation to the International Labor Office and to all conferences of any character having to do with the welfare of labor."

CIO requests for representation —demanded at the Pittsburgh convention last year—were "ignored," the Board charged, and only AFL officials were named.

Speaking to reporters later, Pres. John L. Lewis charged that the AFL top leadership had gone so far as to threaten to defeat the ILO appropriation pending in Congress unless it was granted a monopoly on the American delegation.

In the discussion, Sec.-Treas. Thomas Kennedy of the United Mine Workers called attention to the fact that the last meeting of the executive committee of the Miners Intl. Federation in Paris had been concerned by the collaboration of the Intl. Federation of Trade Unions and the AFL "in its tactics to defeat the CIO."

Victory on Dotted Line

Pres. R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers (left) and Pres. W. P. Brown of the Briggs Manufacturing Co. in Detroit put their signatures to a contract which spelled victory for the CIO auto union. A strike of 17,000 workers, which affected 55,000 others, brought the UAW sole bargaining rights at the body plant.

Harlan Cracks

Harlan, Ky., June 17 — Signs of weakness in the anti-union front of the Harlan Coal Operators' Assn. were seen today in an announcement that member corporations were privileged to sign individual contracts with the United Mine Workers of America.

Locked out since April 1, the 10,000 miners affected have been seeking the union shop which has become standard in almost every section of the anthracite and bituminous coal fields. With each Harlan operator now permitted to sign a contract with the UMW, the number of idle will be sharply reduced, it is expected.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II June 19, 1939 No. 25

The Signal to Advance

There is great cause for encouragement in the reports made to the recent meeting of the executive board of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, and in the decisions of the assembled representatives of the millions of workers organized in the progressive labor movement.

The CIO board reviewed the accomplishments of a sound and growing movement, which has survived all the problems of depression and all the attacks of its enemies, and which is now in a position to advance to new gains for American labor and American democracy.

The board gave the signal for this advance, by authorizing extensive organizing campaigns in a number of industries whose workers do not yet enjoy the full benefits of unionism which the CIO has already brought to many other mass-production industries.

The CIO board also voted to take the lead in legislative campaigns for real security for the aged, for adequate provision for the unemployed, for civil liberties and for other pressing needs of the American people—besides intensifying its efforts in defense of the Wagner labor relations act and other existing social legislation.

An examination of the actions of the board will show that American labor has in the CIO such a champion as it never had before, and that this champion has just begun to fight.

Sixty Dollars at Sixty

No country can call itself civilized which does not provide adequate care for its old people who can no longer care for themselves.

The failure of the United States to provide proper pensions on which elderly Americans can live in decency and comfort, has led to pension movements which have aroused the enthusiastic support of millions of people of all ages.

The advocates of the various plans advanced correctly point out that generous pensions will not only benefit the old people concerned, but will put into circulation purchasing power which will benefit the whole country.

The CIO, at its recent board meeting, noted that the present government old age schemes are "utterly inadequate." It adopted a feasible pension program for security for our aged people upon the basis of a pension of $60 per month at 60 years of age for individuals and $90 per month for married couples of 60 years of age."

In launching a national campaign for this pension program, the CIO will seek the cooperation of existing old age and progressive groups.

It is natural that labor, representing millions who are in the most dire need of adequate pensions, should be the backbone of such a movement. If other old age and progressive groups will join with it in a common campaign, the day should soon come when rich America will at last provide real security for its aged people.

Taking the Lead for the Unemployed

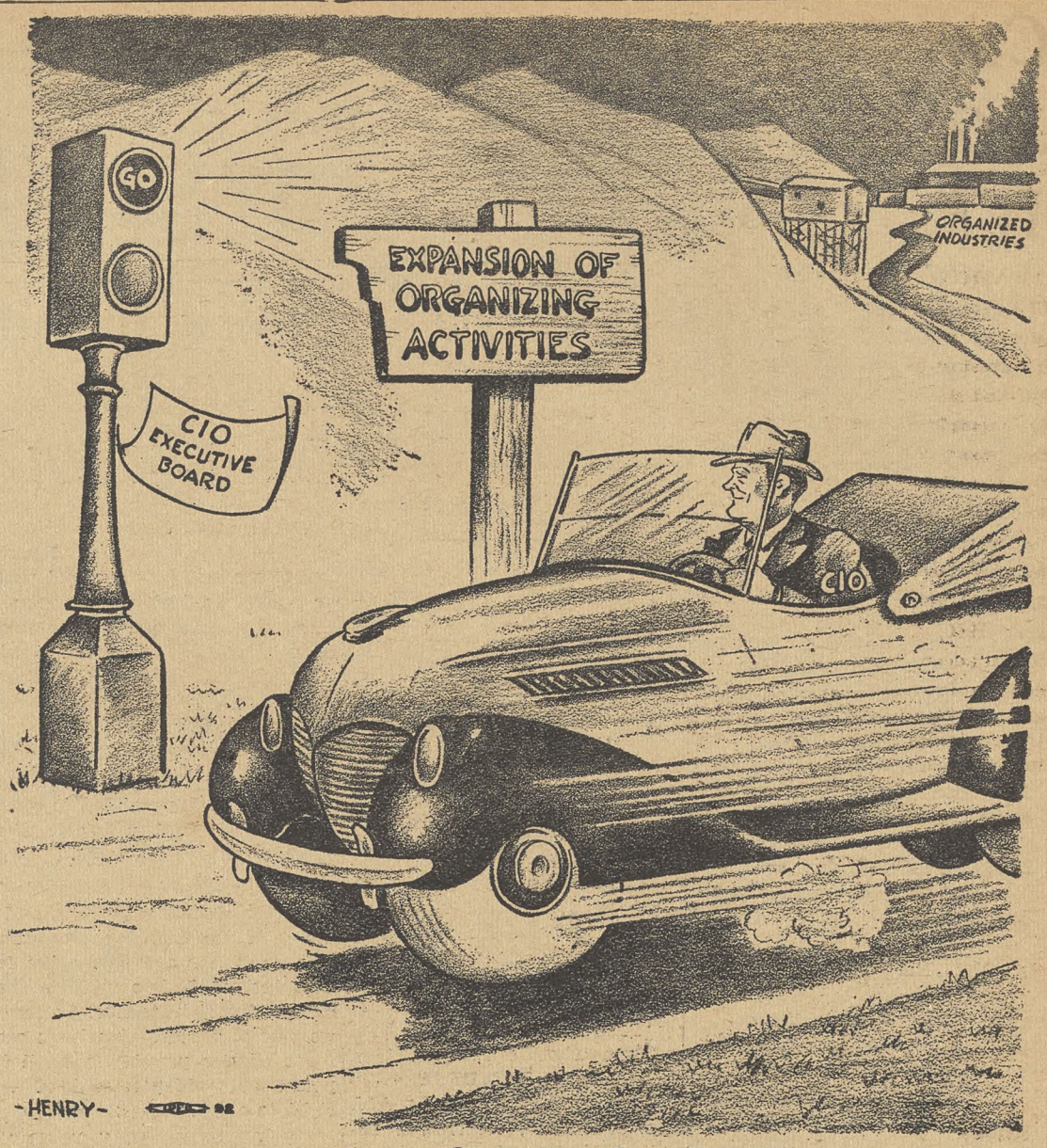
The failure of the present Congress to meet the pressing problems of unemployment and economic depression, was noted by President John L. Lewis in his opening speech before the executive board of the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Instead of advancing constructive plans to bring back employment to the millions of unemployed, or increasing provisions for their care, he said, the reactionaries in Congress "have busied themselves, in open cynicism, with tearing the vitals out of the meager provisions already existing to help the unemployed eke out a living."

The record of the leaders of the American Federation of Labor is no better than that of Congress in this situation. In spite of all the benefits the AFL and its members have received from WPA, for instance, it has not joined in the campaign of the CIO against Congressional efforts to strangle the WPA program.

"The CIO alone has stood in defense of WPA," the CIO unemployment committee reported to the board. "The AFL, with hundreds of thousands of members benefitting extensively from the WPA, has stood idly aside or has engaged in legislative activities to break down the WPA."

The CIO, at its board meeting, sounded a clarion call for proper provision for the unemployed. It voted full approval and support for the Murray and Casey bills for a WPA appropriation of $2,250,000,000 and a minimum of 3,000,000 WPA jobs for 1940. These bills it described as "the only practical alternative to the vicious proposals of the House appropriations committee which would destroy the WPA."



The Green Light

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Out of the Doldrums

LIKE a fresh breeze that drives a sail-boat forward was the recent CIO executive board meeting in Washington.

John L. Lewis, in his opening speech, referred to the rising spirits of the progressive forces after the "doldrums of the past winter."

Doldrums (for the information of landlubbers) is a sailor's term for tropical zones of calms in which sailing ships find it difficult to advance. It is a word usually used to describe depression of spirits.

Labor in the past winter has had to meet many onslaughts of reaction. It has resisted them valiantly. But such defensive fighting is a severe test of the morale of any movement.

Lately, however, the great victory of the United Mine Workers, the notable stand against destruction of the Wagner Act, the squelching of Hague, and other CIO successes, have shown that progressive labor has met this test and is now on the march forward.

The CIO executive board meeting registered this turn from the defensive to the offensive, and gave the signal to advance on all fronts.

Clearing the Air

The straight-from-the-shoulder discussion of relations with the AFL cleared the air of much befuddling propaganda which has tended to obscure the real issues and to dampen the spirits of progressive unionists.

The union representatives, coming from direct daily contact with the workers in industry, were unanimous in expressing their members' determination to safeguard the gains made through industrial organization; and not to sacrifice the progressive policies for which the CIO stands by submission to the reactionary leadership of the AFL.

They reaffirmed the primary purpose of the CIO to organize the unorganized and to improve the workers' economic conditions, and declared that the cause of eventual labor unity can best be served by building the strength of the CIO and adhering firmly to its constructive principles.

Anti-Union Practices

In line with this attitude, the board made plans for expanding organizing activities in a number of industries and resolved not to continue passive in the face of attacks on CIO unions.

In answer to lawsuits brought by the AFL against a number of CIO unions, for instance, the board authorized the initiation of suits against the AFL, where it boycotts CIO union products, and against AFL unions which scab on CIO unions "by entering into collusive contracts with employers where they have no members, solely for the purpose of defeating organizational activities of the CIO."

The board also demanded an end to discrimination against CIO members on PWA projects. It denounced the AFL graft whereby workers desiring to work on PWA jobs are forced to pay excessive fees for temporary membership—only to be dropped from membership at the end of the job, or to find themselves soon fired so that AFL grafters may enjoy a continuous income from a succession of new workers required to pay their exorbitant initiation fees.

Gravy from Ads

Another factor which accounts for some AFL leaders' unwillingness to agree to real labor unity, was also brought to the attention of the CIO board.

John Morrison, the man who had a monopoly on advertising in the American Federationist, official monthly organ of the AFL, recently died, leaving an estate more than half a million dollars. His will revealed that he had left bequests of $5,000 apiece to William Green, William Hutcheson, Frank Duffy and Frank Morrison, all AFL officials.

Thomas Rickert, a member of the AFL committee to negotiate with the CIO, was not only left a bequest of $25,000 but was also given a one-fifth interest in the Morrison agency handling AFL advertising, which should net him $20,000 a year.

Yielding to Threats

Another sample of AFL tactics which the CIO intends to defend itself against is the method whereby the Department of Labor was bulldozed into denying the CIO representation in the International Labor Organization.

President Lewis revealed to the board that the AFL leaders made threats to the Labor Dept. that they would defeat the ILO appropriation pending in the Senate, if they were not given exclusive representation in the ILO by the government.

The department yielded to these threats by recommending appointment of only AFL leaders as labor delegates to the ILO.

Name Scholle CIO Director In Chicago

Washington, June 17.—August Scholle of Toledo has been named CIO regional director in Chicago, succeeding Frank Rosenbloom, resigned, it was announced here.

Scholle has been regional director in Toledo, where he won a high record for building the CIO into a powerful force in that city. Recently, he has been doing organizing work in the automobile industry.

Call For 3,000,000 WPA Jobs

WASHINGTON, June 17. — Full CIO support for an adequate WPA program and a review of CIO work in pressing for the Murray-Casey bill and similar moves to give jobs to unemployed workers featured the report of CIO Unemployment Director Ralph Hetzel, Jr., to the Executive Board meeting here.

The report pointed out that the Murray-Casey bill, which calls for 3,000,000 WPA jobs for the fiscal year 1940, fulfills the conditions for an adequate WPA program laid down in Pres. Lewis' letter to Congress of May 11, which expressed the minimum needs of the jobless in five basic points:

1. Jobs for all unemployed willing to work.

2. Full right of organization of project workers.

3. Jobs suited to workers' skills.

4. Socially useful and productive projects, e. g. housing, flood control, construction, health, white collar and cultural work, vocational training.

5. Wages sufficient to maintain an American standard of living.

DUE TO CIO

Describing the nationwide demand for such a program, Hetzel's report declared: "Much of this activity from the field has been due to the vigor and alertness of the CIO—and this has been widely recognized in Washington."

While the CIO has consistently pressed for an adequate WPA program, the AFL has either been inactive or has helped Congressional tories to break down WPA, the report pointed out.

"The AFL has received extensive benefits from the WPA," Hetzel said. "In many places it has been the object of special privileges and favors from WPA officials. In spite of these facts, the CIO has stood alone in defense of WPA. The AFL, with hundreds of thousands of members benefitting extensively from WPA, has stood idly aside or has engaged in legislative activities to break down WPA."

WINS APPROVAL

At the conclusion of Hetzel's report, the Board voted unanimously to support the Murray-Casey WPA bill as "the only practical alternative to the vicious proposals of the House Appropriations Committee that would destroy WPA."

"Unless this kind of program is established by Congress," the Board declared, "the Representatives in Congress will take on themselves the responsibility for a serious economic and political condition in this country."

For Decent Living

Murray-Casey Bill

The following report of the Unemployment Committee won unanimous approval from the CIO Executive Board at its meeting here:

The Committee on Unemployment recommends to the Executive Board that it give full approval and support to the so-called Murray and Casey Bills for a WPA appropriation of $2,250,000,000 and a minimum of 3,000,000 WPA jobs for 1940. These bills are the only practical alternative to the vicious proposals of the House Appropriations Committee which would destroy the WPA.

Under the guise of limiting the size of projects done by the WPA, the Appropriations Committee actually would prevent the WPA from carrying on the vast majority of its current projects.

'DISCRIMINATION OF WORST KIND'

The proposal to assign certain funds to the PWA is absolutely untenable. It would both stifle adequate PWA appropriation and also cut funds from WPA appropriations already too meagre. The destruction of the WPA arts and theatre projects and other white collar occupations would be discrimination of the worst kind against a highly important group of citizens.

In addition, the proposals of the Appropriations Committee would establish a starvation period for workers unable to get jobs after a certain period of time. The appropriation which is presented by the Committee is completely inadequate and would cause a cut to practically half the present WPA enrollment.

ALTERNATIVE TO VICIOUS PROPOSALS

The only alternative to this group of vicious proposals is the Murray-Casey Bill. This measure is one which would correct in many ways some of the abuses which have arisen in WPA, largely because the WPA never has been given a chance to operate under a satisfactory law. It provides a practical workable program of public works. Unless this kind of program is established by Congress, the representatives of Congress will take upon themselves responsibility for a serious economic and political condition in this country.

The officials of the CIO should be directed to convey to the proper authorities immediately the most vigorous support on the part of the CIO of the Murray and Casey Bills, S. 2507 and H. R. 6470, respectively.

$60 a Month for Aged

The following resolution was passed by the CIO Executive Board:

"RESOLVED that the CIO undertake a national campaign in cooperation with old age and progressive groups to achieve a program of real security for our aged people upon the basis of a pension of $60 per month at 60 years of age for individuals and $90 per month for married couples of 60 years of age."

CIO Board Discusses Organizing Drives, Aid for Aged, Jobless

Continued from page three

married couples of 60 years of age."

Reports on organizing progress were heard from most of the industries in which the CIO is active, and the executive officers were authorized to aid in pushing aggressive organizing campaigns in a number of these industries.

'WE CANNOT REST'

"We are here to determine upon new fields of organization and new directions in which to employ our resources," Lewis declared. "There are still in this land twenty million unorganized wage earners, and in many important industries we have only begun the jobs of organization. We cannot rest. We are a vital labor movement and there is no stopping or no rest for us until all who work for their living in this country have a union for their protection."

In announcing the breakdown of peace negotiations with the AFL, the CIO peace committee, whose report was unanimously accepted, placed the blame squarely on the shoulders of the AFL leadership for refusing to agree to reasonable proposals for a unity which will preserve the gains of industrial organization.

The Board noted the boycotts conducted by AFL unions against CIO union products, their lawsuits against CIO unions, and the "collusive contracts entered into by AFL unions with employers where they have no members, solely for the purpose of defeating organizational activities of the CIO."

It authorized the executive officers, at their discretion, "to initiate affirmative litigation against corporations and AFL unions which have been active in attacking the CIO or its affiliated organizations."

The Board protested vigorously against the denial of CIO representation in the International Labor Office. President Lewis reported that the Labor Department had yielded to AFL threats to defeat ILO appropriations, if they were not given exclusive representation in the ILO.

DENOUNCE AFL RACKETS

The Board also protested against discrimination against CIO members in employment on PWA projects. It denounced the AFL racket, whereby PWA workers are required to pay exorbitant initiation fees for temporary membership, and are repeatedly laid off so that AFL officials may get more of these fees from newly hired workers.

Action was taken in favor of adequate appropriations for the National Youth Administration and the Farm Security Administration.

The Board heard and approved extensive reports from the CIO committees on legislation, unemployment, housing and social security, as well as from the various CIO department heads.

San Francisco was chosen by the Board as the site for the next CIO convention, which is to begin October 10, 1939.

AFL Rackets On PWA Under Attack

Washington, June 17.—Backing for the Public Works Administration program was coupled with demands for an end to anti-CIO discrimination on public works projects in a resolution passed by the CIO Executive Board, meeting here.

The policy statement came in the form of approval of a CIO Unemployment Committee report, which in turn had endorsed a discussion of the PWA problem by Ralph Hetzel, Unemployment Director.

Hetzel told the committee that reports from many parts of the nation have shown it is almost impossible for CIO members to get employment on PWA unless they become AFL members. PWA has promised not to influence "in any way" the choice of unions to work upon its projects, Hetzel said, pointing out that the CIO is "completely in favor" of PWA's hiring workers through unions.

In addition to anti-CIO bias of some minor PWA administrators, certain AFL officials are "abusing PWA" by forcing its workers to take out temporary union memberships at "excessive rates," Hetzel charged.

Board Votes $60 Pension Campaign

Continued from page three

taxes on the wealthy.

CONDEMNS EXEMPTIONS

The report analyzed the Byrnes amendments to the Social Security Act and condemned in particular the exemption of large numbers of agricultural workers.

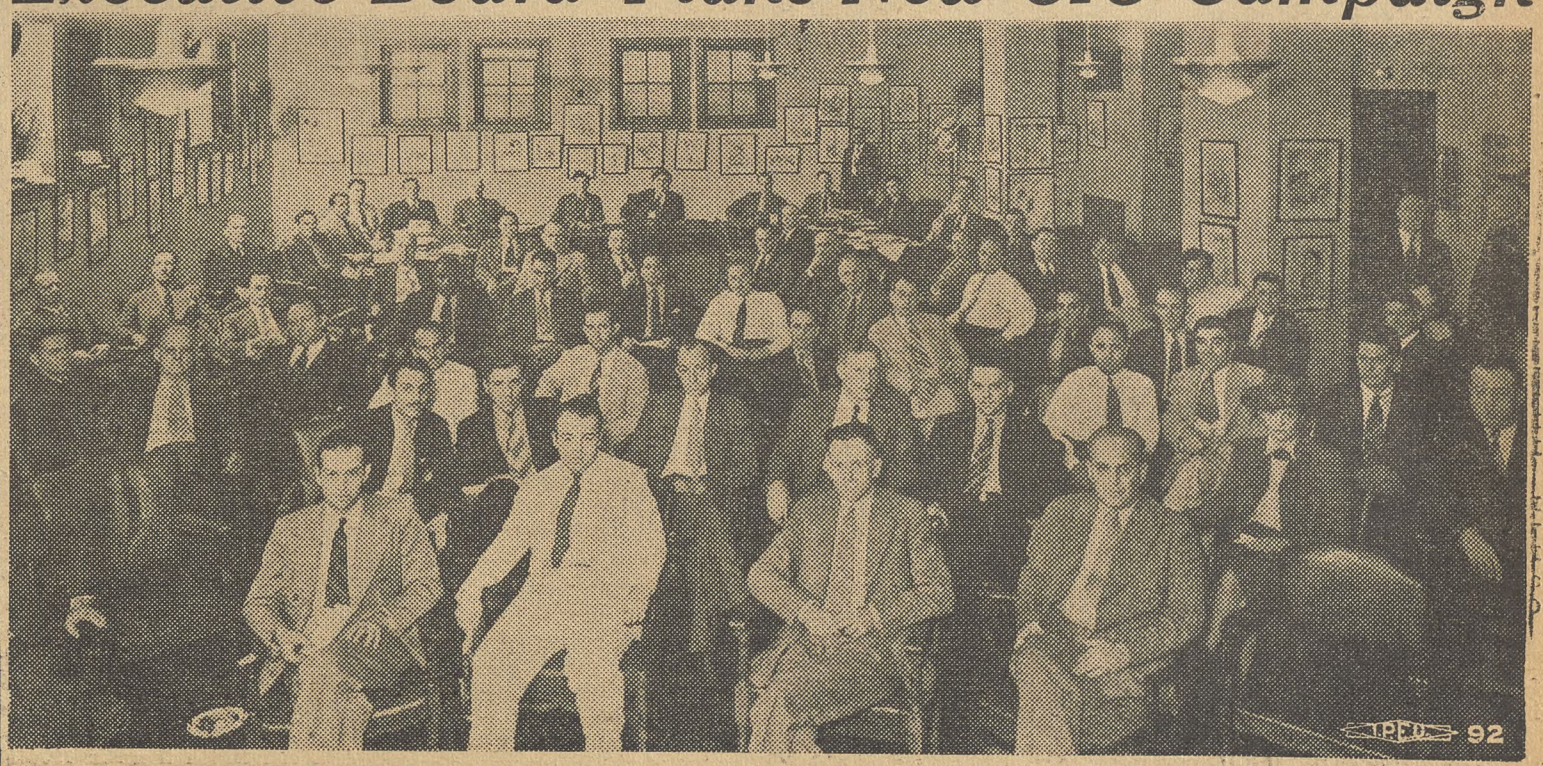
"This," the report charged, "is due to the high-powered lobbying of commercial cannery and packing interests masquerading in the name of the small farmer. It is absolutely without any justification."

In his appearance before the Congressional group, Dalrymple called attention to the fact that the CIO rests its social security program "upon the assumption that this country will have a continuously expanding economic system, returning increasingly larger yields of income to the nation.

NEED NATIONAL PLAN

"We know that a program of this kind will require the determined development of a national plan and policy to bring about the maximum use of our productive capacities."

Executive Board Plans New CIO Campaign



Members of the CIO Executive Board, shown as they gathered in the meeting room at United Mine Workers headquarters in Washington for their second meeting and mapped plans for future organization drives. Officers and staff members are seated around tables in background.

Recent Gains Strengthen Labor, Lewis Tells CIO Board; Urges Congress to Act

Nation In Crisis, He Notes

WASHINGTON, June 17.—The CIO NEWS herewith prints excerpts from the report of Pres. John L. Lewis to the CIO Executive Board, meeting in Washington on June 13:

Recent Victories

Within the past few weeks the spirits of the progressive forces in this country have risen from the doldrums laid upon them by the reversals of the past winter. Not least among the factors creating this change was the realization that the great industrial union movement is stronger than ever, ready to move forward again in the cause of the organized and unorganized workers. The victory of the mine workers, the notable stand against destruction of the Wagner Act, the great decision on behalf of labor's rights against Hagueism, have reminded the nation that progressive labor is not retreating.

Sometimes political leaders forget how enduring and deep-rooted the labor movement is, and then they attribute to themselves the strength that organized labor has bestowed on them. But such politicians soon find that it is they who depend upon the goodwill of labor, and not otherwise.

* * *

Nation In Crisis

In many ways the nation is still in crisis. Economically we now stand little ahead of where we stood four years ago. Politically we have suffered because there has been economic paralysis. When, in nations in crisis no leadership appears which can resolve the crisis, the people become disheartened. They turn to the dangerous and irresponsible who for the sake of power offer benefits they cannot deliver.

Today, therefore, a responsibility greater than ever lies upon political and industrial leaders. I do not think the people will much longer have patience with the nostalgia and the reaction of the powers of corporate business. Nor will they be content with timid solutions offered by government, solutions fearfully withdrawn before they can be really tested.

Unless the nations is lead unhesitatingly and courageously forward to the solution of its problems, we stand in danger of being engulfed by a wave of despair and black reaction. Fascism is built upon such despair and such reaction.

* * *

'Do-Nothing' Congress

Since we met in convention in November, 1938, there has convened in Washington a Congress faced with some of the most pressing problems that ever confronted America. When that Congress met in January, 11,000,000 of our people were unemployed — 11,000,000 able-bodied workers with their millions of dependents, the little children, the ill, and the aged. Their plight is a disaster more overwhelming than any flood or hurricane that ever struck the land.

The slow undermining of the faith of these people in the ability of our nation to provide them with a job constitutes an ever-growing menace to the stability of our form of government. So does their exile from the economic system of the nation raise increasing doubts as to the ability of that system to survive.

What has Congress done? Worse than nothing, for the responsible agencies of Congress have busied themselves, in open cynicism, with tearing the vitals out of the meager proviosions already existing to help the unemployed eke out a living.

Not one constructive measure to bring back employment of these people. Not one advance in provisions for their care during those heartbreaking days when they cannot receive jobs. That is the record of Congress so far for our American unemployed.

Confronted by a long record of vicious violations of civil and labor rights, jeopardizing our traditional liberties, Congress has failed so far to act in any way to conserve our precious heritage.

FLAGRANT VIOLATIONS

A record of flagrant violations of the right of labor to bargain collectively stands before Congress, demanding provision for more rigid enforcement of the law. Has Congress sought more rigid enforcement? Not at all. We find, rather, those corporations who have violated the National Labor Relations Act most viciously are fattening on new government contracts.

More than that, committees of Congress have busied themselves with the examination of the amendments of those enemies of labor, within and without its camp, who would destroy the National Labor Relations Act. Had it not been for the thunderous voice of labor, the CIO united with the rank and file of the American Federation of Labor, this Congress might have destroyed the National Labor Relations Act.

RECORD TO PONDER

Upon unemployment compensation, upon provision for the aged, upon improved protection of minimum wages and maximum hours, upon the right to health and upon Federal aid to education, there has been no substantial move by this Congress.

This is a record labor must ponder long and carefully. Labor fights for those who can act and act in behalf of the betterment of the welfare of the people. It must judge not upon promises but upon facts, not by words but by food and clothing, by wages and work.

* * *

Conspiracy

I will outline to you later in these sessions the extensive evidence proving my accusation that certain high officials of the American Federation of Labor conspired with the representatives of reactionary big business to destroy the National Labor Relations Act; proof of a conspiracy which no vague and categorical denials can wipe out.

* * *

Unions Move Forward

A few weak and treacherous ones who joined our ranks when the way was easy have fallen by the wayside. They have been replaced by thousands of honest and loyal union members.

Our unions have been through the throes of unemployment, through vicious attacks by those who would destroy us and they have come out more vigorous and more determined than ever before. The mine workers stand secure under contracts which guarantee them their hard-won right to their union.

The automobile workers are moving ahead with a new faith in their great union. The textile workers have just established upon a permanent basis a magnificent union that holds promise of rivaling in numbers the more extensive of our organizations. The organized workers in the packing houses are moving rapidly to national negotiations with the great packers.

* * *

New Fields To Organize

We are here to determine upon new fields of organization and new directions in which to employ our resources. There are still in this land 20,000,000 unorganized wage-earners. In many important industries, such as the rapidly expanding aircraft and shipbuilding operations, we have only begun the job of organization.

We cannot rest. We are a vital labor movement and there is no stopping or no rest for us until all who work for their living in this country have a union for their protection.

* * *

Patience Nearing End

The CIO did not set out to reorganize the organized, but to organize the unorganized. We have not struck back the foul blows delivered by the American Federation of Labor. We have not, as has the American Federation of Labor, organized unions to absorb existing unions. Some AFL unions, incapable of organizing after long years of inaction, slink behind the organizers of the CIO and try to steal what the CIO has won.

The CIO will not long tolerate that policy. Until now we have done no more than merely to defend ourselves. The CIO is capable of inflicting injury upon an adversary, and the day will come when its patience and tolerance in the face of the vile and lying attacks upon its integrity and its policies and its organizations will end. Then let those who attack us beware.

Pres. John L. Lewis puts his name on the "adoption paper" of Anne Tonchick (at right), striking business office employe of the Hearst papers in Chicago, while Jonathan Eddy, American Newspaper Guild vice-president, looks on. Under the plan worked out by the strike committee, individuals, unions or organizations can "adopt" a striker by paying the Guild $5 a week. The plan has met with great success.

AFL Heads Given Warning

Urge Union Support For The CIO News

WASHINGTON, June 17.—Increased support for The CIO NEWS so that it may "develop further into a great national weekly of more popular character than is possible as yet, and with scope and influence commensurate with our movement," was urged upon CIO affiliates, in the report of Publicity Director Len De Caux to the CIO Executive Board meeting.

The report covered the intensive publicity campaigns in connection with defense of the Wagner Labor Relations Act and other legislative and organizational drives of the CIO.

BETTER PRESS

It noted some improvement in fairer coverage of CIO activities in the general press, stating:

"The stability, strength and constructive character of the CIO has been demonstrated so conclusively over a long period now, that only the most reactionary papers give any credence to the irresponsible slanders which are periodically issued by anti-CIO propagandists.

STILL FACE HOSTILITY

The report warned, however, that the CIO is still confronted with editorial hostility on the part of most of the business-controlled press, and may again suffer the more extreme forms of anti-CIO propaganda "when industrial interests with whom we may clash again feel sufficiently aroused to spend large amounts of money for anti-CIO campaigns."

San Francisco to Play Host To CIO Convention Oct. 10

WASHINGTON, June 17.—San Francisco, most highly-unionized large city in the country, will be host to the CIO convention next autumn.

The Executive Board set the date of the CIO's second convention for October 10, and the place as the Golden Gate City. In doing so, the Board accepted an invitation to meet in the city made several months ago by Pres. Harry Bridges of the Intl. Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union.

The Bridges' request followed a decision by the AFL to move its convention site from San Francisco to Cincinnati. San Francisco is closely linked to the birth of the CIO, for it was at the AFL convention there in 1934 that the industrial union forces in the Federation made their demand that organization of mass-production workers be undertaken.

Fight for Labor's Legal and Civil Rights Recounted

WASHINGTON, June 17. — Broad fields of activity in defense of the Wagner Act, the Wage and Hour law, civil liberties, and the right to collective bargaining were covered by the report of the CIO Legislative Committee, submitted to the Executive Board by Sidney Hillman, chairman, and Lee Pressman, executive secretary.

The report also dealt with the decision against Mayor Frank (I Used to be the Law) Hague in the Supreme Court and with the question of litigation against certain AFL unions that have illegally attacked the CIO.

On the Wagner Act, the report pointed out that the CIO had successfully withstood a frontal attack from the leadership of the AFL in collusion with reactionary employers, on this basic statute for workers' rights, and had uncovered the conspiracy between AFL leaders and the Natl. Manufacturers Assn. to destroy the act by amendments.

OUTSTANDING VICTORY

The report also described the decision against Boss Hague as "an outstanding victory for all organized labor" and one that was secured by the initiative and militancy of the CIO.

In regard to litigation against AFL unions, the report cited illegal boycotts against CIO unions, strikebreaking attempts, and scab-herding conducted by the leaders of the AFL in the attempt to damage the CIO. The Committee recommendation that CIO officers be empowered to start lawsuits against such AFL leaders was unanimously accepted by the Board.

Anti-alien bills now passed or pending in Congress were described by the report as being in reality aimed against labor unions, and affiliates were urged to carry on a vigorous fight against them.

The work of the CIO Legislative Committee in pressing for guarantees of collective bargaining in U. S. government contracts was reviewed, and a recommendation to carry on this struggle endorsed by the Board.

Librarian

Archibald MacLeish, noted liberal poet, who has been appointed director of the Library of Congress by Pres. Roosevelt.

CIO Supports Youth, Farm Programs

WASHINGTON, June 17. — Declaring that the National Youth Administration has "done yeoman service in behalf of the young people of this country," the CIO Executive Board called for passage of the $123,000,000 appropriation requested by President Roosevelt.

"Similarly," the Board said, any cut in the President's demand for a like amount for the Farm Security Administration, "would be deeply resented by labor."

"The men and women helped by the Farm Security Administration," the Board resolution declared, "would be deeply resented by labor, for the men and women helped by the FSA are working people, and it is to labor's interest to see that the welfare of the farm population is properly protected."

PROTECTS EDUCATION

The National Youth Administration, the resolution noted, "has enabled many who otherwise would be thrown upon the streets, hopeless and helpless, to continue their education and to gain training in useful occupations."

A nationwide attempt by employers to discredit labor organizations by "telling young men and women that unions prevent the employment of youth in industry" was called to the Board's attention by the Committee on Unemployment, with a recommendation for a counter-attack to correct "the false impression of labor's attitude" which has been spread by Tory groups.

VICIOUS SMEAR CAMPAIGN

The employers' propaganda campaign, the committee charged, "is simply a vicious attempt on the part of reactionary interests to absolve themselves of the blame because there are no jobs for young people.

"The CIO is following a policy designed to create greater employment throughout the nation. It has heartily supported the NYA. It has endorsed apprenticeship provisions for young people. It has laid down in its convention support of the proposals of the American Youth Congress."

Praise Housing Program For Increasing Jobs

WASHINGTON, June 17.—Extension of the U. S. Housing Authority slum-clearance program will provide employment for thousands of workers in CIO - organized industries, the CIO Committee on Housing advised the Executive Board here.

The committee, headed by Pres. Michael Quill of the Transport Workers Union and Anthony Wayne Smith of the CIO legal department, predicted a rise in the present ratio of 15 workers employed in the production of building materials for every 10 men engaged in constructing USHA homes.

ASK ACTION ON BILL

A demand that the House Banking and Currency Committee take favorable action on the Wagner-Steagall bill, providing for an additional $800,000,000 in loans and $45,000,000 in rent contributions, was issued by the committee at its meeting here. The Senate has already passed the bill designed to expand the USHA program.

"There can be no question about the popularity of the measure, and no question that if it is reported out of committee promptly, as it should be, it will pass the House by an overwhelming vote," the letter said.

District 50 Hits Pay Scale For Fertilizer

Washington, June 17. — Sharp objections to wage recommendations of 40c an hour by the Public Contracts Division of the U. S. Department of Labor for the fertilized industry were expressed today in a statement by Pres. James Nelson of District 50 of the United Mine Workers.

The union official charged that the rates had been put into effect "without giving adequate weight to the well-known fact" that the companies most affected are the largest in the industry and have far greater production than the large number of small, inconsequential companies which have a lower scale.

Marine Union Ousts Official For 'Sabotage, Disruption'

NEW YORK, June 17.—Suspension from the union for 99 years was the verdict returned this week against Jerome King, secretary-treasurer of the National Maritime Union in a trial before the NMU membership committee.

King was charged with disruption and sabotage on 14 counts, ranging from failure to carry out his duties to accepting money from the Standard Oil Company for sabotage.

The committee's verdict was unanimous on seven counts, divided on six and not guilty on one. Division was geographical in the divided verdicts, representatives of the Gulf District finding King not guilty.

The recommendation, voted unanimously by the committee, was accepted by a membership meeting in New York and will become final when a majority of the Atlantic and Gulf district ports concur.

The resolution passed by the committee recommends:

"That Jerome King, national secretary-treasurer, Engine (membership) book No. 103, be suspended from the National Maritime Union for a period of 99 years and that his picture and a history of this case be carried in the Official Organ of the union, "The Pilot," and that it be submitted to labor papers generally."

Signed confessions by Walter Carney, suspended NMU member now in jail, and Octave Loones, former editor of the "Rank and File Pilot," defunct anti-union paper, implicating King in disruptive activities were introduced at the trial.

Lorillard Still Unfair

Middletown, Ohio, June 17.—Members of CIO Pioneer Tobacco Workers Local Industrial Union 55 point out that products of the P. Lorillard Co. are still on the union's unfair list.

Lorillard products include Old Gold, Murad and Sensation cigarettes, Between the Acts, Ripples and Bounty little cigars, Climax, Muriel and Rocky Ford cigars and Union Leader, Briggs, Friends, Beech Nut, Bag Pipe and Havana Blossom tobacco.

They Want Cooperation

Judge Dorothy Kenyon welcomes women from European nations at the opening of the Cooperative Center, near New York City's Grand Central Station. The center, containing exhibits and information about work of consumer cooperatives, is open to the public.

Maritime Union Ends Strike on Tankers

NEW YORK, June 17.—The National Maritime Union voted this week to terminate the present strike against four big oil companies to forestall establishment of a company union for unlicensed men on Standard Oil tankers. The other three companies involved are Socony-Vacuum, Tidewater Oil and C. D. Mallory.

The union announced, however, that the companies would not be taken off the unfair list until full union crews are back on the ships under contract.

FORMING COMPANY UNION

Action to call off the strike was initiated by the Strike Policy Committee shortly after it was learned that an Esso Tanker Men's Association was being formed and had already petitioned the National Labor Relations Board for an election on Standard Oil of New Jersey ships.

Recommendations drawn up by the committee and the NMU National Council were accepted at a membership meeting in New York. Other ports were asked to act on the recommendations as soon as possible.

CITE REASON

A statement issued by the union declared that the formation of the company union was part of Standard Oil's anti-union strategy and the main reason why the company had forced the strike, which would have become a lock-out if continued.

Nearly a score of Standard Oil tankers in the domestic trade, the NMU stated, were transferred to foreign runs when the strike started, and still have their NMU crews aboard, but the company plans to bring these vessels into American ports during the next two weeks and "dump" the NMU crews.

CONVICTED

New York—The first prosecution of a violation of the State wage-hour law as it applies to women and children brought a $150 fine on three counts for Frank Franghi of the Star Beauty Shop.

Urge Annual Wage at General Motors

Reuther Suggests 30-Hour Week At Present Pay

DETROIT, June 17.—Recommendations that an annual income guarantee and the five-day, 30-hour week at present wage rates be written into a new General Motors contract were heard today by the United Automobile Workers' GM council.

Presented by Walter Reuther, director of the council, the plan had won previous acceptance from the UAW international executive board, it was revealed. The council consists of 22 GM local representatives from all sections of the nation and Canada.

Other proposals made by Reuther included: Complete recognition of the shop steward system; improved seniority systems, with elimination of special or preferential lists of employes; time and a half for Saturday work and double time for Sundays and holidays; ten-cents-an-hour premiums for night work and vacations with pay.

SEASONAL DIPS

Pointing out that the industry has failed to pay an adequate annual wage to its workers, Reuther commented on the fact that "we have months of hectic activity including night work and speed-ups, which are followed by long months of unemployment and complete loss of income to the workers."

The UAW leader anticipated in advance two GM "alibis" to the union's proposals—that it can't afford it, and that technological improvements are steadily reducing the need for human labor in its plants.

"Can GM and the auto manufacturers afford to pay a guaranteed annual wage?" Reuther asked. "No industry in the United States can afford it better. The current report of the Federal Trade Commission shows that 11 automobile corporations from 1927 to 1937 earned net profits of $2,375,000,000—and that period, it must be remembered, included five depression years.

"We recognize that improved machinery means smaller working forces. But we are not inclined to accept fatalistically a situation which each year throws more and more of our people on the scrap heap of unemployment and poverty.

LABOR MUST SHARE

"We are not against technological improvements, have no quarrel with the introduction of more efficient machinery. We have no desire, even if we could, to stop progress.

"But we do insist, and emphatically, on sharing the gains of such progress. Improved machinery should not merely mean greater profits for corporations. It also should mean greater income for labor and more leisure—not the leisure of unemployment but the leisure of a 30-hour week and wage adequate enough to make the leisure a blessing rather than a curse."

Win $10,000 In Increases

New York, June 17—Pay increases amounting to nearly $10,000 were won for the workers of the Superior Felt & Bedding Company in a contract signed between the firm and Bedding Local 140, United Furniture Workers. The wage boost, which ranges from 5 per cent to 25 per cent, covers 100 workers employed at the shop.

Rump Outfit's Auto 'Strike' Goes Boom

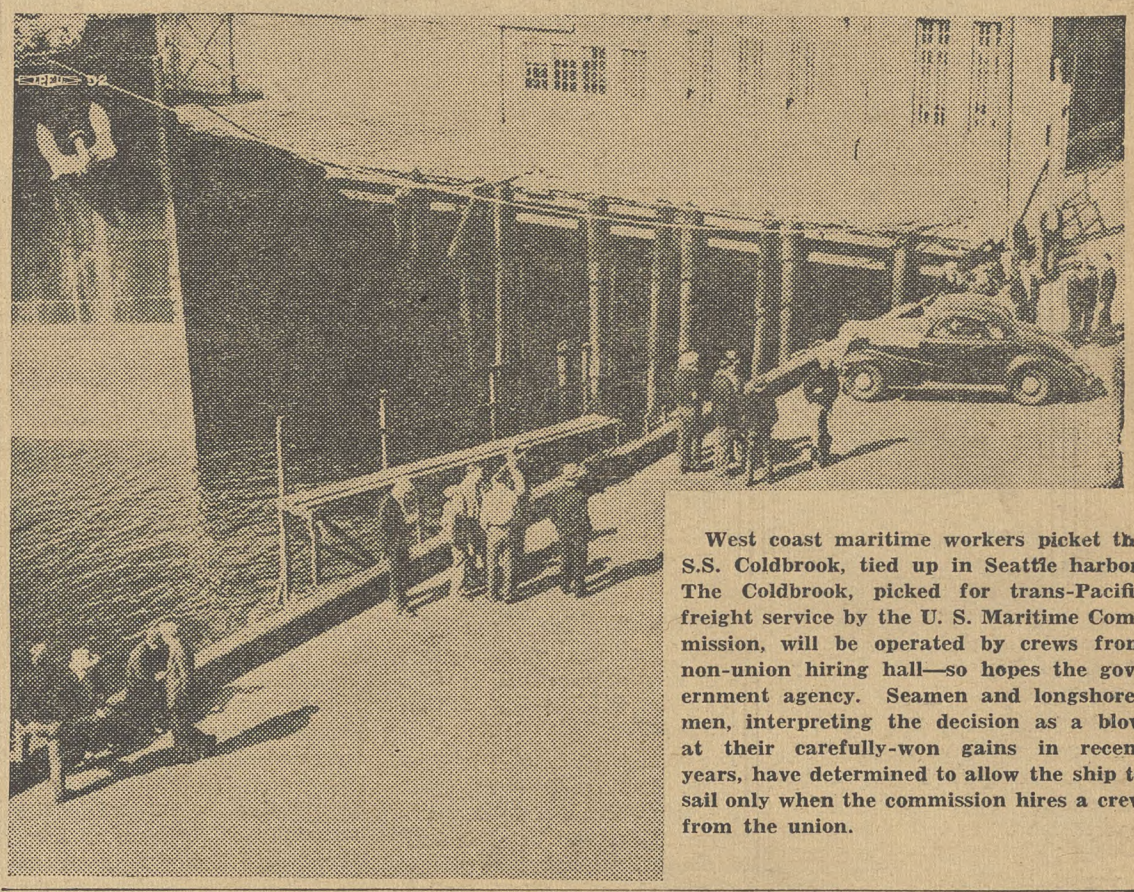
Detroit, June 17.—Homer Martin, newest member of the AFL's scab-herding department, lost his second bid for power in a week as General Motors plants in Flint continued to operate despite a "strike" called by the rump organization which split away from the United Automobile Workers, CIO.

The Martin demonstration, called June 8, found few auto workers following the discredited former leader of the UAW. Of the dozen plants affected by the appearance of Martin pickets—many of them imported from other cities—only the Buick plant closed, and that only for one shift because of a temporary lack of bodies.

Previously the rump group had failed to disrupt the strike at the Briggs Manufacturing Co., where the UAW-CIO won sole bargaining rights in its new contract.

UAW Pres. R. J. Thomas charged in a statement that "the AFL-chartered rump is not a labor organization in any sense of the word. It has no responsibility. It has no contracts. It has no members."

Storm Center



West coast maritime workers picket the S.S. Coldbrook, tied up in Seattle harbor. The Coldbrook, picked for trans-Pacific freight service by the U. S. Maritime Commission, will be operated by crews from non-union hiring hall—so hopes the government agency. Seamen and longshoremen, interpreting the decision as a blow at their carefully-won gains in recent years, have determined to allow the ship to sail only when the commission hires a crew from the union.

Court Dismisses AFL Stab At Union Shop Contract

SCOTTVILLE, N. Y., June 17. — An AFL petition for a temporary injunction to restrain the Textile Workers' Union of America, CIO, and the A. D. Juillard & Co., Inc., mills here, from carrying out the terms of a preferential union shop contract was dismissed this week by the New York Supreme Court.

In applying for the temporary injunction, the AFL sought to restrain the company from discharging or threatening to discharge any of the plaintiffs for failure to pay dues to Local 96 as provided in the agreement.

Previously the National Labor Relations Board had upheld the Regional Labor Board in refusing to certify the AFL as collective bargaining agent at the Atlantic mills of the Juillard chain here. The AFL attempted to win recognition as bargaining agent in face of the fact that the TWUA has had an agreement for the past two years.

Get Laundry Contract In Indianapolis

Indianapolis, Ind., June 17—A CIO contract covering workers of the Dry Cleaning & Laundry Plant Owners of Princeton, Indiana and vicinity was announced this week by James Robb, CIO regional director.

Extension of an agreement with the Inland Container Corporation for 15 days, pending further negotiations for a new contract was also announced by Robb.

An Artist Who Paints For The Workers

Emanuel Romano, artist, sympathizer with the worker, rebel — and now painter of murals for an insurance company's exhibits at both San Francisco and New York World's Fairs.

The situation is an anomaly, especially when you discover in the vivid paintings a keen sympathy which manifests itself in a tender portrayal of the old farmer and his wife, the laborer in the city, the tenement dwellers.

But Emanuel Romano is himself an anomaly. Even his name is not what it seems. For he is Emanuel, son of Enrico Glichenstein, the eminent Polish sculptor, who settled with his wife, also an artist, in Italy, just before Emanuel was born.

PARENTS WERE REFUGEES

"My father and mother thought that after Poland, Italy would be a haven, a refuge, a land of glorious freedom and liberty for all. And so they named me Emanuel Romano — for the city which 35 years ago gave them a welcome, which a quarter of a century later it was to take back."

And so, ten years ago, when Enrico Glichenstein came here with his son, already known in Europe for several one-man exhibitions, it was as "Emanuel Romano" that the artist was to emerge when friendly Boston showed his works.

One of the first things Romano did when he came to this country was to join the CIO Artists Union, and as members of Local 60 will tell you, he is one of the most vociferous and active members.

"I never had a chance to join a union in Fascist Italy," this slight, dark, typically Italian young man said. "That is, there is nothing but Fascism to join, and if I had told my real opinions I would have been clapped in jail. And I still don't see any way to do work while I am in jail," he said.

Although the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company refused to allow him to put Negroes into their murals, it is Negro life in America which has fascinated hi mfrom the first. Among the Negroes whom he plans to paint this coming winter is Paul Robeson, a good friend of his. Among the most successful of his oil portraits, many of which will be exhibited in a one-man show in New York this fall, are the Harlem studies he has made, the stevedores, the farm workers, the subway-riders.

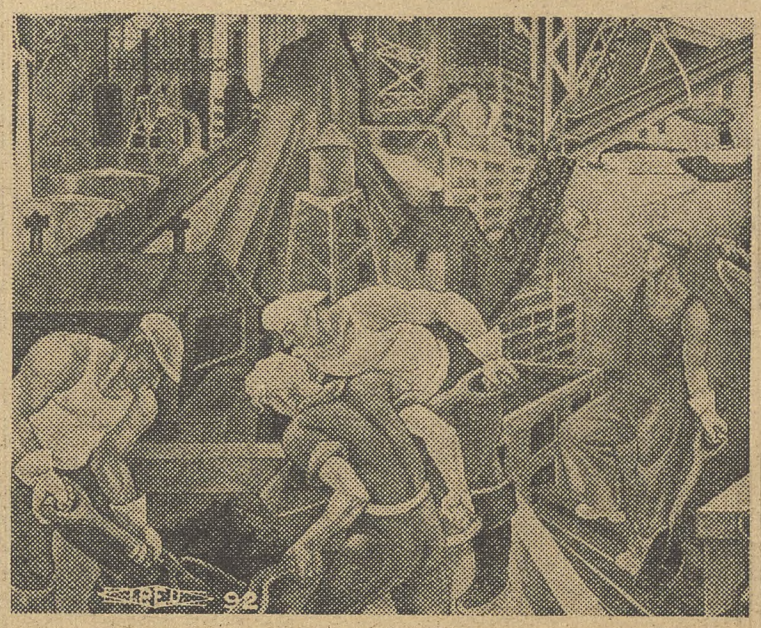
"They express America to me," he says. "They are so strong, so full of life, so full of laughter under heavy burdens."

The theme of the Metropolitan murals which are to become a permanent part of the company's collection in New York, is "a panorama of American life."

"I wanted to make it a panorama of America's workers," Mr. Romano said, "but the Metropolitan thought that was too —what shall I say — proletarian!"

So you will find in these immense canvasses which at the New York World's Fair, half the wall at the end of the Business Systems Building, the capitalist with his white carnation in his buttonhole alongside of the laborer with his shovel in his hands. And the women he depicts are working women, girls with muscle and brawn like their brothers — like the peasants he used to paint in Italy.

"I never had a chance in Italy to do what I wanted to do," he said. "But here in America I am bursting with ideas. If the WPA art project would only continue, and give artists a chance to express themselves, how much they would and could do for America! It is the REAL America we would show!"



AMERICA AT WORK: Detail from a panel painted by Emanuel Romano for an exhibit at the New York World's Fair.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 26 | JUNE 26, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

CIO PUSHES DEMAND FOR 3,000,000 WPA JOBS

The News In Brief

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

NAM & AFL

Washington.— The National Association of Manufacturers supports the Walsh Bill—also backed by the AFL high command—to amend the Wagner Act, John Gall, NAM counsel, announced this week.

Jersey

Jersey City, N. J. — With three victories in the last fortnight behind it, the CIO will launch an organizing campaign in Frank Hague's domain with a giant mass meeting June 27.

$75,000

Washington.—Possible fines totalling $75,000 face the Ruben Bros. Footwear Co. following charges of second-time violation of the federal wage-hour law.

Victory

Portland, Oreg. — Oregon progressive forces succeeded in halting a tory attempt to put the choice of delegations to next year's party conventions in the hands of state political bosses.

Conventions

Michigan Industrial Union Council, Grand Rapids, June 29.

Ohio Industrial Union Council, Sept. 29.

Harlan Mine Signs Contract

Harlan, Ky., June 24—(FP)— Miners, their wives and local merchants paraded four miles to celebrate the first union shop contract to be signed by a member of the Harlan County Coal Operators Assn.

The Creech Coal Co., employing 350 bituminous miners, reached the agreement with the United Mine Workers this week.

The pact came five days after the operators' association had released its members to negotiate individually with the union. At the same time national guardsmen on duty for the past five weeks in the Harlan coal fields allowed the UMW to hold its first mass meeting since the operators attempted to resume operations on an open shop basis.

Miss Ann Tonchick, Chicago Hearst striker, seems mighty happy about having CIO Pres. John L. Lewis as an "adopted" father. Lewis signed the "adoption" papers just before the CIO Executive Board meeting last week, agreeing to pay $5 weekly to help support the striker, under a plan worked out by the Newspaper Guild.

"It is an honor and responsibility to be 'adopted' by Mr. Lewis," she said. "I'll have to be a good striker and work twice as hard to win. I can't get accustomed to the idea of being Mr. Lewis' honorary daughter."

Strike committee leaders described Miss Tonchick as one of the most active Guild members, noting that she has not missed a day's work on the fund raising committee during the six and a half months of the strike.

Warns Slashes Will Hurt Entire Nation

(See Story Page Three)

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Demanding passage of the Murray bill for 3,000,000 WPA jobs as "a decent provision for the unemployed," the CIO presented testimony before the Senate Appropriations Sub - Committee to show that present Tory plans would wreck WPA and sabotage recovery.

The CIO testimony, presented by Ralph Hetzel, Jr., unemployment director, attacked the vicious Woodrum bill that would destroy WPA through crippling limitations on funds and on the nature of WPA projects.

Hetzel cited a CIO survey on employment possibilities to show that private industry could not hope to absorb dismissed WPA workers, and called on Congress to "consider profoundly" the severe effect cuts would have on the national economy.

Joining the CIO in testifying for the Murray bill and against the Woodrum measure were the United Automobile Workers, Labor's Non-Partisan League, and several AFL groups.

Hetzel also sharply attacked Pres. Green of the AFL for his refusal to oppose the Woodrum bill, even though its final passage would be a blow to hundreds of thousands of AFL workers.

New York CIO Fights Cuts

New York, June 24 — Launching a mass campaign here against the Woodrum bill for WPA cuts, the New York CIO Council called upon all its affiliates in greater New York to make a fight against the bill "the first order of business."

"Unless the tory-inspired Woodrum sabotage of the Federal WPA and relief program is checked at once," President Allan S. Haywood of the Council declared, "New York faces its greatest relief crisis amid the most chaotic conditions since 1930."

Flay AFL 'Do-Nothing' Attitude on WPA

Washington, June 24 — Failure of AFL officials to oppose the vicious Woodrum WPA bill was described by Ralph Hetzel, Jr., CIO unemployment director, as "a betrayal of their membership for the benefit of the building contractors associations."

Hetzel declared that hundreds of thousands of AFL workers "will be thrown out on the streets" if it goes through the Senate without change.

"A gallant and unprecedented fight was made against it by the supporters of the Casey bill," Hetzel said, "but a solid reactionary front of the Republicans and a group of Democrats headed by Congressman Woodrum prevented any real improvements.

SOLD OUT

"The high officials of the AFL have sold out in this fight the interests of their membership for the benefit of the building contractors associations."

"Just as Green has joined the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers and the Chamber of Commerce in the Wagner Act fight, so has he in the fight for WPA aligned himself with the interests of reactionary contractors rather than with the interests of his membership."

Pickets—as far as the eye can see—marched last week around the Allis - Chalmers Manufacturing Co. plant at West Allis, Wisc. Six thousand members of United Automobile Workers Local 248 halted operations and won a big victory.

Allis-Chalmers Pact Brings Big Union Gains

WEST ALLIS, Wis., June 24. — The membership of Local 248, United Auto Workers, at a meeting attended by about 5,000 Allis-Chalmers plant employes today had voted to accept the contract agreed upon by the union's bargaining committee and the management. The vote to ratify was 97% to 3%.

The contract itself is a vast improvement over last year's contract and, from the union's standpoint is a 100% improvement over the company's "last and final proposals" which the membership voted to reject a week ago. In addition to the written contract, an oral understanding was made with the company and witnessed by Gov. Heil and U. S. Mediator Carl Gill, which provides for the full protection of the union.

GET PROTECTION

The union had demanded a union shop clause for the purpose of protecting its organization against attack and disruption of anti-union elements in the shops. The union obtained this protection in a different, but for practical purposes no less effective form.

The company agreed that those persons who have been breaking the company's rules and interfering with the union will be severely disciplined and discharged if necessary.

IMPORTANT GAINS

In the written contract itself important gains for which the union has fought for the past five years were obtained.

The new grievance structure provisions give the union's bargaining committee full rights of investigation of complaints and empowers it to act in an advisory capacity to the management. This compares with the company's "final" proposal last week under which these rights would have been completely eliminated.

The company then wanted to eliminate the bargaining committee from functioning in the shop entirely. It wanted to forbid the bargaining committee chairman entrance to the shop. It wanted to allow the bargaining committee only half pay while adjusting grievances.

Under the contract now the chairman is back in the shop, unrestricted. Members of the bargaining committee are paid full time.

LONGER VACATIONS

Under the new contract every man will get at least one day, and in 50 per cent of the cases, two days more vacation than under last year's contract.

Last year the Pittsburgh contract was signed in June and the Boston contract in August, and both were bargained for independently of the West Allis plant. There was no assurance that gains made here would be obtained in the eastern plants.

Under the new agreement, the representatives of the CIO United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers who bargained here will bargain for the two eastern plants, and the contract here will not be signed by the union until the terms for the eastern plants are acceptable to the UE. This procedure obtains for the employes of all three plants the full assurance of equality that was the intent of the joint agreement demand.

John T. Jones Gets Post In Maryland

Annapolis, Md., June 24 — John T. Jones, President of District 16 of the United Mine Workers, won public recognition for the CIO in Maryland when Governor O'Conor appointed him this week sole labor member of a commission to study "all practices and conditions affecting the State Industrial Accident Commission."

Governor O'Conor's action came after the Maryland-District of Columbia Industrial Union Council had expressed opposition to passage of an occupational disease bill which will be administered by the Industrial Accident Commission.

TESTIFIED

At hearings on the occupational disease bill presided over by the Governor, Jones charged that the Accident Commission has failed to adequately protect the workers interests. Mr. Jones carefully prepared testimony at that time created a public stir.

Protests by the Baltimore Bar Association that accident commission procedure was so tied up in red tape that it was useless to take cases involving such claims made the Governor decide to appoint the investigating body of which Jones is a member.

Social Workers Urged to Aim For 1940 Victory

BUFFALO, N. Y., June 24. — Reaction is running wild in Congress and in many state legislatures today, and only the hard work of organizing for a progressive victory will prevent it from taking complete power in 1940, John Brophy, CIO director, told the Natl. Conference of Social Work meeting here.

Speaking to a section of the conference, whose annual meeting brought close to 5,000 social workers to this city, Brophy said:

"Reaction is running wild in this country today. We are facing — all of us — no matter how we earn our living—a headlong drive against every progressive measure or every social improvement the people have ever secured.

"The drive is taking place on all fronts. Since 1937, when a profound industrial depression got under way, almost every device has been tried to beat labor back to the days of Hooverism."

Brophy urged his listeners to meet this attack in the way the CIO and progressive labor has been meeting it—by organization and a firm defense of democracy and social progress wherever it is threatened.

"I want you to go out and tell the people that they must organize and work for progress, that they must organize and fight for a solution of their problems if they want a solution," he said.

THE HARD WAY

"No person and no group gets things done by waiting for them. The CIO didn't organize the basic industries by waiting. The CIO was built because people were willing to go out and work for it, to organize, to make sacrifices, to give it their time and their energy.

"Organization, aggressive action, unity will keep our democracy alive and will push it beyond its present bounds. This is the hard way, I know, but there is no other."

Prelude to Victory

Striking members of Local 248, United Automobile Workers, CIO, underwent baptism by tear gas as they picketed the Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Co. at West Allis, Wisc., their strike ended in a big union victory.

Shipyard Union Wins Big Victory in Maine After 11-Day Fight

BATH, Me., June 24.—An all-day suspension of work at the Bath Iron Works won a "victory of the first magnitude" for the welders of Local 4, Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, Lucien Koch, regional director for the union in New England, announced today.

The stoppage also affected 400 men in other trades, all of whom returned to work after the settlement with the company.

The victory, Koch said, brings gains not only to the 182 welders concerned, "including the minority who tried to cut their fellow-workers' throats by unsuccessful scabbing," but will benefit all the men in the yard. The company employs 2400 workers.

$150,000 PAY RAISE

The settlement provided: An increase in the annual payroll of $100,000 to $150,000, through a pay increase of about five per cent; reclassification of work reducing the number of rates from 30 to four or five; installation of a $50,000 ventilating system; recognition of seniority rights, and a five per cent bonus to the second and third shifts.

Local 4 welders accepted the settlement at a membership meeting held after every attempt to smash their solidarity had failed and production throughout the yard was being threatened.

The company's offer of settlement was made in a "Code of Bath Iron Works Corporation and its Employes," a one-sided statement of policy concerning the dispute, and not an agreement with the union. The code was drafted by Stanley White, commissioner of conciliation from the U. S. Dept. of Labor, who was sent in at the request of National Union President John Green.

Form Council In Scranton

Scranton, Pa., June 24 — Organization of an Industrial Union Council to bind together all CIO unions in Lackawanna County, one of Pennsylvania's key industrial sectors, was announced here today.

Coal miners, clothing and textile workers, furniture workers, and cleaners and dyers are among the unions affiliated with the new body.

Its president is Garfield Lewis of the UMW, while Lazarus Marcovitz is vice-president, Genieve Patrick second vice-president, William P. Dattit, recording secretary and Harry Welby, financial secretary. Organizing activities will be under the general direction of Joseph Cannon, CIO director in Philadelphia.

Firm Doesn't Believe in Wage-Hour Act; Faces Fines Of $75,000

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Pretty soon the Ruben Bros. Footwear firm of Waycross, Ga., is going to learn that there's a law on the books called the Fair Labor Standards Act.

The company, a sweatshop which fled New York City for what it expected would be the easier climate of Georgia, has won the dishonor of being the first wage-hour law offender to face second charges. If found guilty in federal district court, the company will be out a handsome pile of cash.

Early in May the company was found guilty of failing to pay the required 25c minimum wage rate, falsifying its records, and failing to pay overtime wages for overtime work. The firm was fined $3,000 and put on 3-year probation for another $12,000, and ordered to make full restitution of the amount due its employes. It didn't.

PROBATION MAY END

As a result, the sweatshopper now faces ending of the probation — which will mean payment of the $12,000.

In addition, it has been charged with six further violations of the wage-hour act, and possibility of $10,000 fines on each count. Thus, the government may collect $75,000 in all from the firm—an expense far greater, leaders of the United Shoe Workers point out, than a union contract with normal wage rates should have cost.

Altogether the CIO shoe union has found, seven corporations in its industry have been convicted on wage-hour violations, and have been forced to pay a total of $23,500 in fines and large amounts in back wages.

LOCAL ASKS $15,000

Meanwhile a USWA local at the Selby Shoe Co. plant in Portsmouth, Ohio, has filed a suit for $15,000 overtime pay due since the company increased the work week to the legal maximum of 42 hours in violation of an exhausting union agreement.

Although a contract providing overtime pay for work over 40 hours did not expire until May, 1939, the company increased the work week from 40 to 42 hours.

Stress Need For More Kindergartens

Washington, June 24—The kindergarten idea, first put forward in Germany long before Hitler and developed in the U. S., has been praised by countless educators, doctors, penologists, sociologists, etc., as the most valuable kind of training in social responsibility for the very young.

But today there are only 600,000 children of pre-school age who can go to kindergarten in the U. S., out of a total of 5,000,000 who should go. The reason always given by state authorities for refusing to set up enough kindergartens is "lack of funds."

SUPPORT FOR BILL

This situation would be met by a bill introduced in Congress for federal aid to states for kindergartens, sponsored in the House by Rep. Caroline O'Day of New York, and in the Senate by Sen. Pepper of Florida. The bill appropriates up to a maximum of $10,000,000 annually, to be given to the states under the supervision of the U. S. Education Office.

CIO Warns of Disaster If Tories Throw Million Men Off WPA

New York WPA workers, fearing starvation conditions if the Congressional Tory bloc succeeds in mangling WPA, demonstrate before Republican party national headquarters. Carrying placards and an effigy of Rep. Woodrum of Virginia, leader in the drive against the work relief program, the WPA workers demanded passage of the Casey-Murray Bill to provide 3,000,000 WPA jobs.

Announce CIO Mass Meeting In Jersey

JERSEY CITY, N. J., June 24. — The CIO launches a streamlined organizing campaign in this domain of Czar Frank Hague on June 27.

Thousands of workers are expected to assemble in Pershing Field to hear leaders of the CIO and Jersey union officials speak unmolested for the first time in what has long been a police-protected sweatshop haven.

Vice-Pres. Philip Murray, Director John Brophy, Pres. Heywood Broun of the American Newspaper Guild and William Carney, head of the state CIO Industrial Union Council, will deliver speeches.

THREE VICTORIES

Three CIO victories have already been rolled up in Hague's Hudson County since the historic U. S. Supreme Court decisions restating workers' rights to freedom of assembly and speech.

At South Kearny, the United Furniture Workers swept through a National Labor Relations Board election at the Decorative Cabinet Co. plant, and won sole bargaining rights for more than 250 employes.

A week earlier the Aluminum Workers of America, also a CIO affiliate, turned a 1938 defeat into an overwhelming 1939 Labor Board victory at the Mellon-dominated Aluminum Co. of America factory at Edgewater. Thousands of workers marched through the streets when announcement was made of the 3-2 majority rolled up by the AWA—a majority which spelled doom for a carefully nurtured company union.

WIN CLOSED SHOP

Meanwhile, the Intl. Fur and Leather Workers Union won a 10 per cent wage boost, the closed shop and vacations with pay through settlement of a 14-week strike at R. Neuman Co.

CIO petitions have been filed for NLRB elections in a number of other local plants since the Hague court decision, it was revealed.

Auto Union Moves To New Office

Detroit, Mich., June 24 — The United Automobile Workers has moved into new international headquarters at 281 West Grand Boulevard, President R J. Thomas announced this week. Former offices were in the Griswold building, in Detroit's Wall Street area.

In addition to President Thomas and Secretary-Treasurer George Addes, the new headquarters will house the union departments for General Motors, Chrysler and Ford, and the publication, education, research and health departments.

REFUSE TO BARGAIN

Akron, O. (FP)—The Goodyear Rubber Co., only big open shop rubber firm, has rejected NLRB Trial Examiner Tilford Dudley's proposal to suspend hearings and start negotiating with the United Rubber Workers in the presence of a government representative.

CIO Asks Reversal Of Apex Decision At Court Hearing

PHILADELPHIA, June 24. — Arguing on the Apex case appeal before the Circuit Court here, Lee Pressman, CIO counsel, and Isadore Katz, counsel for Branch 1 of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, told the court that the Sherman Act was never intended to apply to labor unions and that such decision in the past should be reversed now.

"In some cases," Pressman said, "the Supreme Court intended to strike down unions and their activities, but in others they were fearful that if they did so they would give Congress a reason to exercise its right to legislate, which the court did not intend Congress to have."

NEW LEGISLATION

Asked by Judge Clark if he wanted "us to reverse the U. S. Supreme Court," Pressman replied:

"I see no vital reason why not, in view of the new legislation which puts a different social, economic and industrial aspect on the rights of labor."

Ohio CIO Convention September 29

COLUMBUS, Ohio, June 24—The second annual convention of the Ohio CIO Industrial Union Council will be held at the Neil House hotel, here, September 29-October 1, Ted F. Silvey, secretary-treasurer of the Council announced this week. John Owens, who is CIO regional director in this area, and district president of the United Mine Workers, as well as head of the state CIO Council, will preside at the convention.

Transport Head Raps 'Union-Busting' Law

NEW YORK, June 24.—The Wicks bill, putting New York transit workers under "civil service" and depriving them of hard-won collective bargaining rights was described by Michael Quill, president of the CIO Transport Workers, as "the most insidious and vicious union-busting legislation" to come out of Albany this year.

Pres. Quill's comment came after Gov. Lehman had signed the bill over protests of Mayor LaGuardia, the CIO, and hundreds of AFL unions, American Legion posts, church, civic, fraternal and small businessmen's associations, who helped in the unsuccessful fight against the measure in the N. Y. Assembly.

GAINS IN DANGER

Quill pointed out that the gains of the Transport Workers, who have organized all lines in the city, including wage increases from 10 to 30 per cent, shorter hours, sound pension plans, paid vacations and the like, were endangered by the bill.

"Certainly organized labor will not take this setback lying down," he said. "The transit workers will fight to retain their jobs, seniority and decent working conditions won after many years of struggle, the right to collective bargaining and bona fide union conditions under unification."

Interwoven Signs CIO Agreement

Philadelphia, June 24 — A history-making contract in the men's half-hose industry was announced this week by the American Federation of Hosiery Workers.

Covering 1500 workers in the key unit of the Interwoven Stocking Company, largest plant of its type in the world, the contract "represents a major and strategic advance in the seamless industry," the union stated.

Interwoven, the leading producer of nationally advertised men's half-hose, has a chain of plants in West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Tennessee. The new agreement, covering workers in AFHW Branch 92, Martinsburg, W. Va., was signed by Emil Rieve, AFHW president and William Smith, secretary-treasurer, following its ratification at a mass meeting a few weeks before.

The AFHW said that this contract, along with another at the Phoenix half-hose plant in Milwaukee, establishes union standards in fully 50 per cent of the branded branch of the men's half-hose industry.

Pay Waiting, Men Missing

Winfield, Ala., June 24—Back pay is waiting here for Will Erwin and Coy Griffin, former textile workers at the Alabama Mills, Inc., but the men are missing.

Anyone who knows where they are is asked to get in touch with Mrs. Carry Jones, recording secretary, Local 154, Textile Workers Union of America, Winfield, Ala.

The back pay was awarded in a case before the National Labor Relations Board. All the other workers except Erwin and Griffin have received their checks.

Supports Murray Proposal

WASHINGTON, June 24—Passage of the Murray bill for 3,000,000 WPA jobs was demanded by the CIO in testimony before the Senate Appropriations Sub-Committee here, both as a decent provision for the unemployed and as a substitute for the vicious Woodrum resolution on WPA passed in the House.

The CIO statement, presented by Ralph Hetzel, Jr., unemployment director, characterized the Woodrum measure as "a new low in provision for the unemployed since the Federal government seriously attacked the problem."

LISTS DAMAGE

According to Hetzel's statement, submitted together with testimony by representatives of the United Automobile Workers Labor's Non-Partisan League and several AFL unions, the Woodrum bill, if passed by the Senate, would wreck WPA and sabotage recovery by:

1. Throwing at least 1,000,000 workers off the rolls by Aug. 1, with 4,000,000 dependents;

2. Destroying the WPA construction program by limiting construction projects to $40,000. In another statement, Hetzel pointed to the serious effects this would have on AFL members in the construction trades, and denounced Green for refusing to oppose it;

3. Cutting off all WPA workers who receive Social Security payments, no matter if the payments are as low as $2.00 or $3.00 per week;

4. Throwing all WPA workers who have been on WPA more than 18 months off the rolls;

HITS YOUTH, ARTS

5. Reducing the President's request for $123,000,000 for the Natl. Youth Administration and wiping out the Theatre Project and seriously crippling all the arts projects;

6. Wiping out the hourly wage scales that unions have fought for since the Federal job program began; allocating $125,000,000 of WPA money to PWA, and hitting at remaining aliens on WPA rolls.

"The effect, as closely as we can calculate, of the House resolution would be to throw out of WPA by the first of August over 1,000,000 workers," Hetzel said. "These 1,000,000 workers have

Continued on Page Six

$6 Raises In Fur Pact

Detroit, Mich., June 24—Wage increases averaging $5 to $6 a week and reduction of working hours from 44 to 40 were won by the Detroit Fur Workers Union, Local 38, in a contract signed with Murray's Fur Shop. The local is affiliated to the International Fur Workers Union, CIO.

Formerly an open shop, Murray's signed a closed shop agreement with the local following a one-day strike involving 10 workers. Harry Rothenberg, organizer, said that the union is conducting a campaign to organize other open shops in Detroit.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II June 26, 1939 No. 26

A Warning To All Of Labor

The CIO has repeatedly warned that the present attempts to destroy the effectiveness of the Wagner labor relations act by amendments are part of a wider campaign directed against all progressive labor legislation.

In supporting and even leading the drive against the Wagner act, AFL leaders have frequently taken occasion to praise the Railway Labor Act.

But now the rail labor organizations are taking alarm at a growing movement by the companies to do to the Railway Labor Act what the anti-union manufacturers and the AFL leaders are trying to do to the Wagner act.

The rail union paper, Labor, describes this campaign as "one of the most vicious attacks ever launched against railway labor" and says that its objective is to destroy the Railway Labor Act by discrediting the adjustment and mediation boards set up under the act.

In fighting to defend the Wagner act, the CIO is protecting not only its own interests but also those of the AFL and rail union memberships. If the Wagner act goes down, it will open a wide breach for the destruction of all other legislation for the protection of labor.

Anti-Alien Bills

More than 60 bills have been introduced in the present Congress for the harrying of alien workers and for the alleged purpose of suppressing alien and subversive influences.

Organized labor is justified by experience in viewing this type of legislation with the deepest suspicion.

In the first place, it knows that anti-alien drives of this character are usually launched in periods of reaction by the same kind of people as are leading the attack on labor and progressive legislation generally.

Secondly, labor knows that its strength is built on the unity and solidarity of all workers, regardless of national extraction; and that one of the favorite tricks of its enemies is to try to divide its ranks by creating antagonism between native and foreign-born, between Negro and white, and by any other divisions it can create.

Finally, labor knows that criminal syndicalism laws and the like have been repeatedly used against union organizers and to break strikes, rather than for the purpose for which they were supposedly passed.

That is why the recent meeting of the CIO Executive Board approved the report of its legislative committee, which pointed out the loose drafting, the unfairness to foreign-born workers, and the general dangers to labor in the various anti-alien and criminal syndicalism bills at present before Congress.

True Americanism calls for the protection of our civil liberties and democratic rights, not the panicky persecution of innocent foreign-born workers which reactionaries advocate to camouflage their attacks on labor.

Telling Them Where To Get Off

Efforts of AFL leaders to split the labor movements of Latin-American countries by reviving the defunct Pan-American Federation of Labor are meeting with a very cold response in those countries.

The Cuban labor movement, for instance, has just neatly told the AFL splitters exactly where to get off.

Upon being sounded out about the proposed revival of the Pan-American Federation, the Confederation of Cuban Workers, representing all of organized labor in that country, has replied:

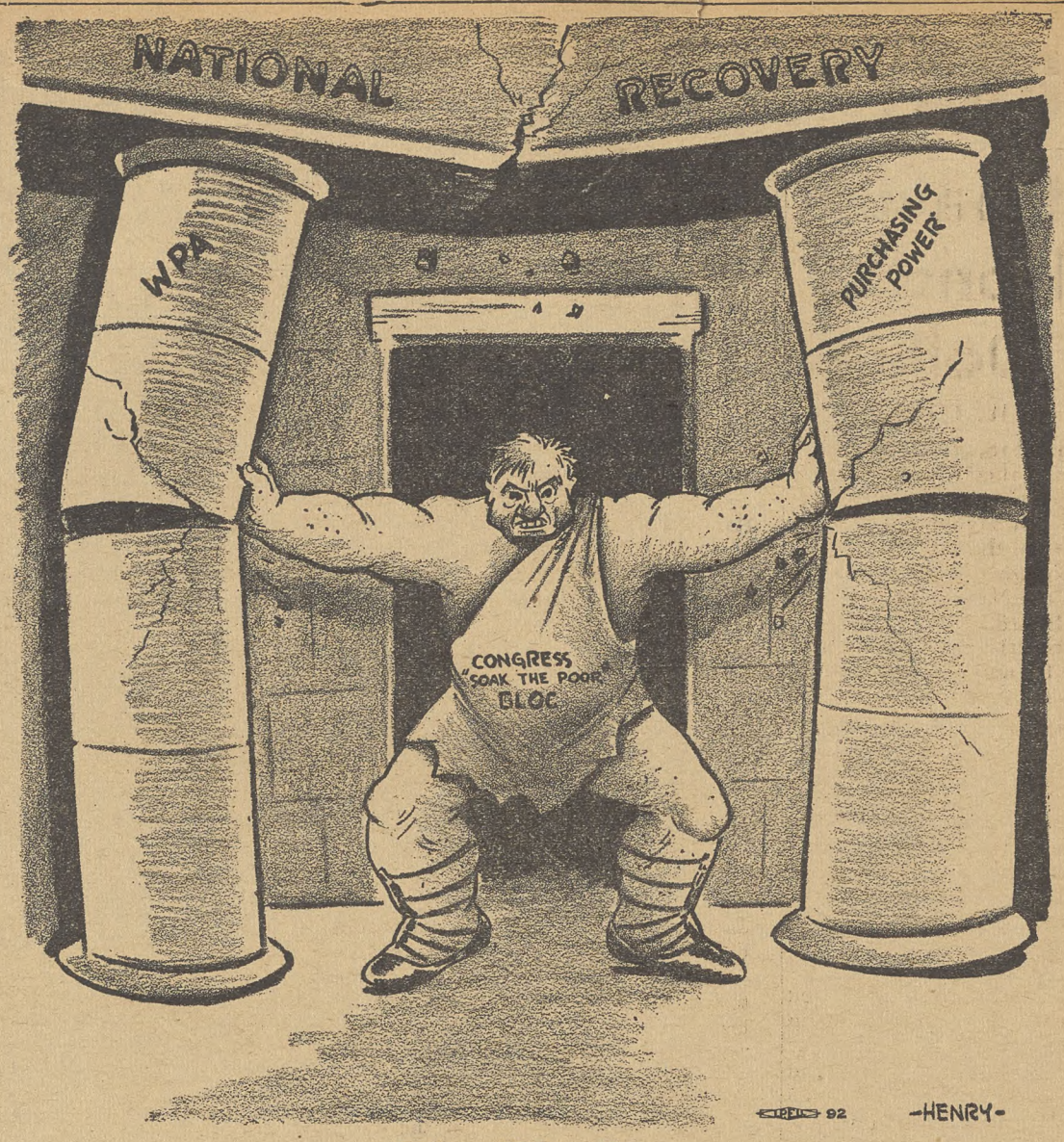
(1) That it is affiliated with the Confederation of Latin American Workers (at whose formation Pres. John L. Lewis of the CIO was a fraternal delegate), and that this organization includes almost all the labor movements of the Latin-American countries.

(2) That the Pan-American Federation has not met since 1928, and that it is doubtful whether it has a single affiliate outside of the AFL.

(3) That the Cuban labor movement prefers industrial unionism to craft unionism.

(4) That only the reactionary and Fascist press applauds the AFL efforts to revive a dead movement for the purpose of dividing the existing solidarity of Latin-American labor.

The successes of the CIO have inspired labor to unite and advance in nearly every country to the South. And so far as labor is concerned in these countries, the AFL leaders who try to split their Confederation can go jump in either the Atlantic or the Pacific ocean.



The Wrecker

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

The CIO Fi_ht for Recovery

HARDBOILED HANNAH, the vamp of Savannah, has many imitators in the present Congress.

It will be recalled that Hannah took pleasure in "a-pouring water on a drowning man."

The House of Representatives, in its WPA bill, has just prescribed similar treatment for America's drowning unemployed.

In response to the cries for help of the unemployed, the House has voted to add to their misery by:

(1) Decreeing that between a million and 1,200,000 shall be laid off WPA jobs within the next few months, without any other provision being made for them.

(2) Voting to restrict the size of WPA building projects.

(3) Making ineligible for WPA work all who receive any kind of social security benefits, even though these may be as low as $2 or $3 a week.

(4) Throwing off WPA those who have been on it more than 18 months.

(5) Discriminating against aliens, even though they may have taken out first papers, by denying them WPA work.

(6) Threatening the union wage structure, by breaking down the whole principle of the prevailing wage.

(7) Discontinuing the theatre projects which have given employment to unemployed actors, stagehands and other theatre workers.

Not Too Late

It is not too late, however, to defeat the virtual destruction of the WPA program which has been voted by the House.

The Senate has still to act on the subject, and it has before it the Murray bill, supported by the CIO, which would provide a minimum of 3,000,000 WPA jobs and insure more adequate wages and conditions for the unemployed.

If the full measure of the wrong which the House plans to do to the unemployed is widely realized, and if sufficient cries of outrage reach the Senate, it is still possible to undo this wrong.

AFL Leaders' Role

It is one of the most shocking episodes in American history that a House of supposed representatives of the people should not only advance no program to cope with the continuing unemployment, but instead should occupy itself with trying to deprive the jobless of even such meager relief as has been accorded them to date.

There is also food for thought in the fact that the only organized effort on behalf of the unemployed has come from the CIO and organizations of the unemployed themselves.

The role of the AFL leadership in this situation is particularly worthy of note. It will explain one of the many reasons why the CIO has risen to its present strength, in revolt against this leadership.

The AFL leaders have failed to lift even a little finger on behalf of the unemployed and against the virtual destruction of WPA planned by the House.

The only time that Pres. Wm. Green of the AFL raised his voice was to endorse the proposal to destroy the WPA construction program. He did this, despite the fact that this proposal will throw out of work thousands of AFL building mechanics.

The hundreds of thousands of workers of all kinds who will be thrown off WPA by the House bill include many members of the AFL. Yet their supposed leaders have done nothing to oppose this vicious bill. It has been left to the CIO alone to carry on the fight for all of labor.

The CIO Program

While Congress has occupied itself with relieving the rich of taxation and the poor of jobs, the CIO is the only organized voice raised on behalf of a constructive program to cope with the prevailing unemployment.

The CIO program approaches the problem from several directions.

In the first place, it calls for the preservation, improvement and expansion of WPA, PWA and other existing projects to provide work for the unemployed.

It demands reasonable pensions for the aged, on the basis of $60 a month at 60, and an expanded program for the relief and training of young people.

These proposals are a measure of justice for the aged and the young, which has long been overdue. But more than that, they are designed to relieve unemployment by keeping young people from competing for jobs as long as possible, and by removing older people from the labor market when they are entitled to retire on a decent pension.

The CIO program also calls for shorter hours and more purchasing power, through the better conditions won by organization.

And finally, the CIO demands that the government assume its responsibility for providing constructive work at decent wages for all the unemployed, in a far wider sense than has yet been attempted.

Engineers Win Pact

Detroit, June 24 — The Society of Designing Engineers, affiliated with the CIO Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians had won today a contract with the Detroit Lubricator Co.

Signed in conjunction with another contract gained by the United Automobile Workers, the agreement makes the FAECT-SDE sole collective bargaining agency for engineering employes of the company.

Manufacturers Admit Support for AFL Bill

Act Saved Millions Of Dollars

By C. W. FOWLER

Washington, June 24—Wide gains in collective bargaining in previously unorganized industries and savings of millions of dollars to the American public are shown in two reports issued by the National Labor Relations Board.

Both reports sharply disprove charges by anti-union industrialists and the AFL leadership that the Board, and consequently the Wagner Act, have failed and should be abolished or drastically changed.

On organization, the Board's report points out that the greatest gains have been in the mass production industries where there was "little or no collective bargaining" before the Wagner Act was passed.

These industries, now organized by the CIO, show an astonishing record of growth in number of members enrolled in unions and in union contracts won, prepared by the NLRB research department, headed by David Saposs, declares the report.

STEEL, AUTOS, ETC.

Citing steel, the Board report lists 15 small steel concerns under contract with the Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers in 1933, and 565 in 1938 under contract with the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, covering 48 states and Canada.

NEW FIELDS

The report also shows contracts in new fields where union agreements were previously unknown, such as cannery, aluminum, cement, petroleum, etc. Even in industries where unions were solidly established before passage of the act, the Board found many gains, citing clothing, coal, maritime, as examples.

This progress was not confined to CIO unions, the report points out, since such AFL organizations as the Machinists and Typographical Union have made substantial progress since the Wagner Act became effective.

$33,400,000 SAVED

Confining its survey only to those workers who have been directly concerned with the Board, another report shows that a "conservative minimum" of $33,400,000 has been saved to the public through the operation of the Board during 1938.

This figure, the report says, "does not take into account the indirect service of the Board to the millions of workers, never involved in any Board case, who benefited from the rights guaranteed under the act."

It is confined to the workers involved in strikes that would have taken place unless the Board had intervened, and takes in both wage losses and losses to employers. Offset against this report gives the cost of running the Board for the same year, $2,700,000.

"Ths is a conservative monetary evaluation of the work of the Board," the report concludes, "and should be weighed along with other considerations of its tangible and intangible contributions to economic justice and industrial democracy in any description of the results of its operations."

As Predicted:

Tories Open Attack On Rail Labor Act

CHICAGO, June 24.—Taking their cue from AFL-supported attacks on the Wagner Act, anti-union railroad managements have launched a campaign against the Railway Labor Act.

Leader of the newest battle on organized labor is the Santa Fe Railroad, which midst a flare of newspaper publicity, laid down a barrage against the National Adjustment Board—described as the supreme court of railway labor relations. Created by the Railway Labor Act, the Board adjudicates disputes which cannot be settled by rail managements and representatives of the railway brotherhoods.

Though the rail unions have lost many decisions before the Board, they have given it loyal support as an instrument for maintaining peace in the transportation industry.

LIKE FIGHT ON WAGNER ACT

"It is regarded as especially significant that the railroads' attempt to destroy the Adjustment Board and discredit the Mediation Board comes at the same time as the attack on the Wagner Labor Relations Act by the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers, and other interests intent on crippling labor unions, and, incidentally, discrediting the present national administration," declares the brotherhoods' official organ, "Labor".

The paper warns the rail managements that unless they wish to see present harmonious relationships smashed by the actions of propagandists and "labor relations advisors," it would be well to "check up on the situation before it is too late."

PREVIOUSLY PREDICTED

This new development in the anti-labor fight was predicted at Wagner Act amendment hearings several weeks ago by William Leiserson, former head of the National Mediation Board and now a member of the National Labor Relations Board.

The veteran labor expert warned—as CIO leaders had done previously—that the Wagner Act, the Railway Labor Act and the Norris-LaGuardia Anti-Injunction Act are so closely-linked that an attack on one will soon become a war on all. Realization of this fact on the part of thousands of AFL workers has seriously crippled the efforts of the federation's top leaders to join with the NAM and the Chamber of Commerce in fighting the Wagner Act.

Wake Up!—Mailers Local Tells Green

Detroit, June 24.—A sharp reminder to Wm. Green that the AFL could use its time better in promoting unity of the workers than in attacking the Wagner Act and trying to "bedevil the CIO" was sent by the members of Local 40 of the Mailers Union here.

The reminder went to Green in response to his circular letter urging support for the Green-Walsh-Chamber of Commerce amendments to the Act. "Any attempts to revise the NLRA can only lead to the emasculation of the act by subversive and reactionary elements," the local told Green.

"Union labor should not seek to tamper with this act just to hinder another labor organization. What is most important is that union labor organize the unorganized workers."

Five More AFL Locals Rap Amendments

San Francisco, June 24—Five more AFL locals have gone on record opposing changes in the Wagner Act. They are the San Francisco millmen and auto mechanics, the Sacramento teachers, the Fresno hod carriers and the San Rafael carpenters.

NAM Tells Of Distrust For Unions

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

Washington, June 24.—Gall was divided in three parts — all of them anti-labor — before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, hearing testimony on amendments to the Wagner Act.

Appearing in behalf of the National Association of Manufacturers, which he serves as general counsel, John C. Gall indicated in the course of a 114-page statement that his sympathies and those of the reactionary business group are behind a three-point program:

1. Supporting the Burke, Ellender and Walsh amendments —the last-named sponsored by the American Federation of Labor's top leadership.

2. Ending labor's rights to win the closed shop and the check-off.

3. Restricting labor's right to strike.

IN HEARTY ACCORD

While claiming not to endorse any of the pending bills "in their entirety," Gall put the NAM on record as being "in hearty accord with most of the provisions of the Walsh, Burke and Ellender bills."

Senators Burke and Taft, both of them admitted foes of the Wagner Act and the Labor Board, resembling two robins watching their nestling learn to fly, listened attentively as the suave employers' representative — flanked by two assistant counsel and a sizeable staff—hummed his Tory story into the record.

After reciting a lengthy list of alleged grievances against administration of the Act, Gall argued that his suggestions would aid both employers and workers.

WHAT THEY WANT

How Labor's Magna Charta would look when the NAM got through with it was amply indicated by Gall's list of desirable amendments, which included proposals for:

1. A re-written preamble.
2. Revised definition of "employes" and "current labor disputes," obviously designed to weaken workers' standing before the NLRB.
3. Elimination of the closed shop and the check off.
4. Restrictions on the right to strike, and with-holding of strike benefits from workers engaged in certain forbidden types of disputes.

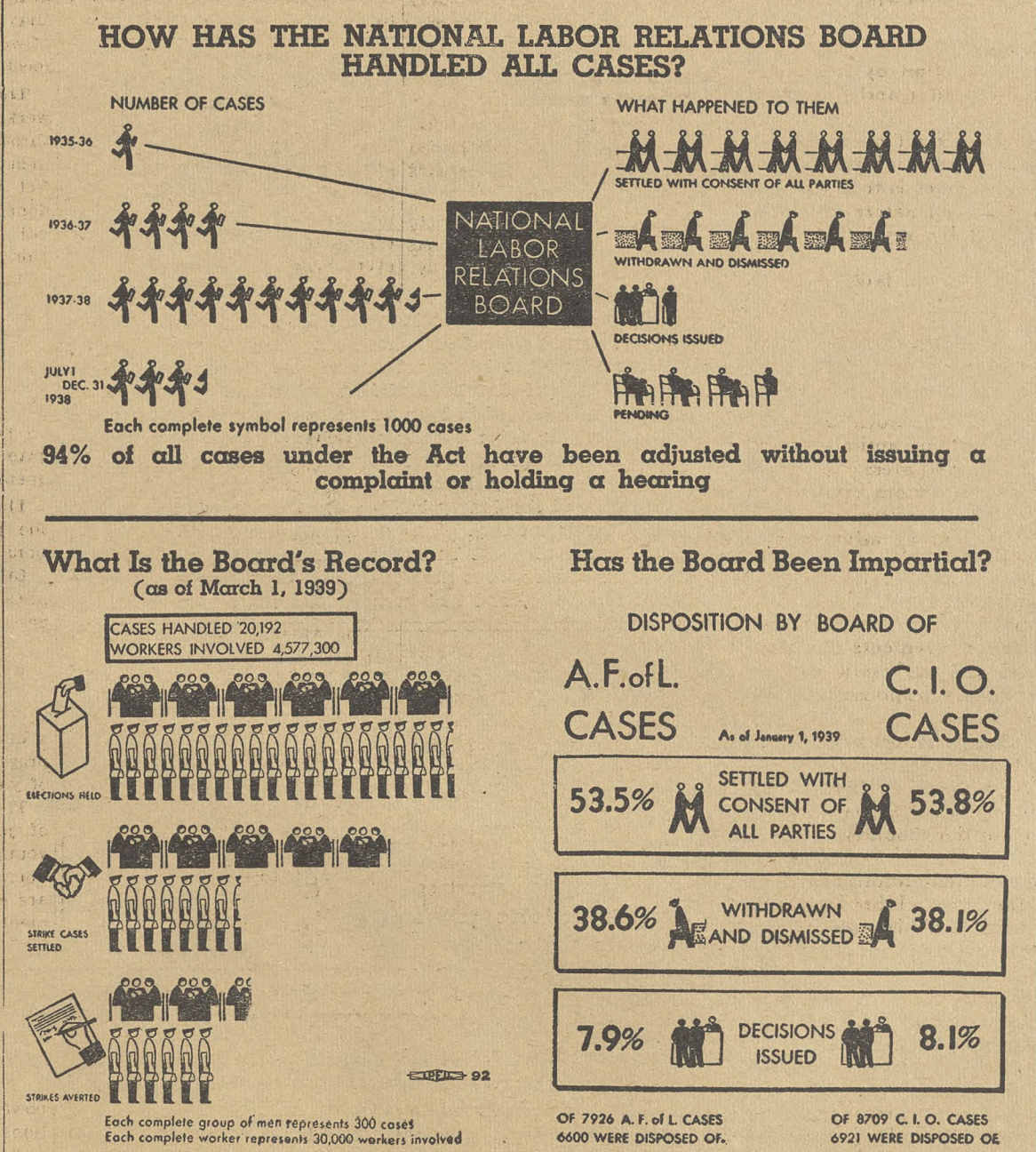
END MAJORITY RULE

5. Elimination of the majority rule provision, and permission for employers to petition for elections —both calculated to restrict the rights of majority unions.
6. Amending procedure to force unions to bear the expense of conducting suits before the Labor Board, with the Board being placed entirely in a judicial position, with no authority to initiate action against Act offenders.

Perturbed because the NLRB is given wide powers of discretion, Gall demanded taking power out of the Board's hands—in order, he explained, to protect workers if at some future time a hostile Board were in power!

LEAGUE VICTORY

Cincinnati. — Decision of local voters to retain their proportional representation system, despite a furious attack by reactionaries, was hailed as a victory by Labor's Non-Partisan League.



This is the evidence, in pictorial form, showing how the Natl. Labor Relations Board has conducted its cases. Put out by the American Assn. for Economic Freedom, and sponsored by prominent churchmen, educators and civic leaders, the chart once again contradicts the old fabrications of anti-union employers and AFL leaders about Labor Board "unfairness", "partiality to the CIO", etc.

CIO Asks No Cuts In WPA

Continued from page three

some 4,000,000 dependent on them.

"The blow that this one bill alone would have, therefore, upon our economy is one which the responsible members of Congress must consider profoundly. We believe that approval of such action would be a terrible mistake. The way to avoid such a mistake is by the passage of Sen. Murray's bill in place of the House resolution."

PRAISES MURRAY BILL

The Murray bill, introduced in the House by Rep. Casey of Mass., and in the Senate by Sen. Murray of Montana, would have none of these vicious defects, Hetzel pointed out. He described it a "decent, honest provision for the unemployed, though an extremely modest one."

It would provide for 3,000,000 WPA jobs for the coming fiscal year, he explained, and would maintain that level until there are less than 3,000,000 eligible workers.

CITES BOARD ACTION

Hetzel cited the action of the CIO Executive Board in its meeting here last week in endorsing the Murray bill as the minimum necessary to prevent mass starvation and economic disaster in many parts of the country. Each Board member, he said, was polled on possibilities of employment in the industry organized by his union, which included all major industries except construction. "The opinion was nearly unanimous that there was no indication of an improvement substantial enough to absorb any cut in WPA," he reported.

Jacob Baker, president of the United Federal Workers added the voice of his organization to the wave of union and progressive protest against the Woodrum Bill. "The WPA has never had an opportunity to operate under a satisfactory law," Baker said. "We urge the Senate to incorporate the provisions of the Murray Act as the Murray bill would provide for a practical and workable program of public works."

TESTIFIES FOR MIDWEST

Testifying for the United Automobile Workers, George Edwards, union welfare director, told the Senate sub-committee holding hearings on the Murray bill that the entire midwest, where the auto workers were organized, would suffer a sharp economic and social setback if the Woodrum bill went through.

"The present bill, which nominally continues WPA, as in the eyes of labor a stab in the back to an American work relief program," Edwards said. "It will mean the destruction of wage standards not only for work relief but for private industry.

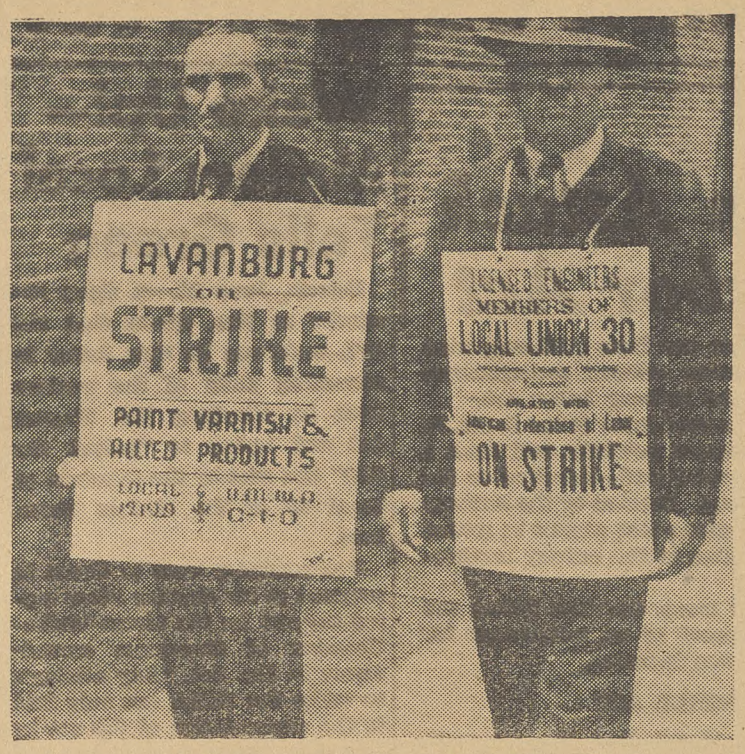
"It will mean sentencing hundreds of thousands of workers to the dole and it will mean all of the tremendous social unrest which was occasioned by inadequate relief and soup lines in the 1932 depression days."

LEAGUE SPEAKS

Speaking for Labor's Non-Partisan League, Eli Oliver, executive-vice-president, declared that the Woodrum bill would "return America to the dole with a vengeance," and cited League membership of AFL, CIO and Railroad Brotherhood unions as supporting the Murray bill.

A number of AFL groups from unions of actors, stagehands and other professional organizations testified for the Murray bill and against the Woodrum measure. One witness asked Green why the leadership of the AFL couldn't help AFL theatrical and other members as the CIO has done. Green had no answer.

Joint Picket Line



Members of District 50 of the United Mine Workers and the AFL's Intl. Union of Operating Engineers picket side by side at the Lavanburg Color Works in Brooklyn, N. Y. Both unions are on strike for recognition and improvement in working conditions.

Protect Wagner Act, Join A Union, Priest Tells Workers

WASHINGTON, June 24.—It is the duty of all Catholics both to join and help build the trade union movement, and to take part in the defense of the Wagner Act, the Rev. John P. Monaghan told listeners on the Catholic Hour network program this week.

Pointing to the number of workers still unorganized, Father Monaghan urged his listeners to join unions so that labor can become, as it should be "one of the most vital organs in a democratic social order."

The employers are organized, he pointed out, and while their hostility to trade unions has kept many millions of workers from organizing for their protection, the Wagner Act as it is now written offers an opportunity to the workers to secure their "natural rights" under the protection of law.

"The company-dominated union, the so-called independent union, labor spies, the discharge and the blacklist, are still too frequently the American industrialist's answer to man's fundamental right to organize," he said.

"To offset this bias against labor, the Wagner Act made this moral right to organize a legal right. This is the only purpose of the act; namely to give labor an opportunity to organize. Very few of the objections against this act have any validity because they accuse it of failing to do what it was never intended to do.

"Since the law is designed to protect the natural right to organize and since, as Leo XIII insists, 'The government must protect natural rights, not destroy them,' Catholics should rise to the defense of the law as an essential use of the government power."

NO FAIRER SHARE

Only through building strong unions can the workers hope to equalize the present inequalities in the distribution of national income, and thus contribute to the successful functioning of democracy, Father Monaghan said.

"The workers of the nation can expect no fairer share of the products of our national resources and services, other than by organizing into unions," he said. "By unionism in the past we obtained political security and independence. Only through trade unionism will economic security come to the workers."

Michigan CIO Meets Thursday

DETROIT, Mich., June 24—Adolph Germer, president of the Michigan CIO Industrial Union Council, announced this week that the annual convention of the State Council will be held in Grand Rapids, June 29 to July 1.

Furniture Was A Bargain For CIO; Company Union Records Came Free

Cumberland, Md., June 24.—A rare story of how documents and letters in the files of a union-smashing outfit which set up shop in this town some months ago fell quite legitimately into the hands of a CIO union was told here today.

About a year ago, amidst much fanfare from the Cumberland press and radio station, an organization known as the "American Federation of Justice" began telling the citizens that it was enrolling "thousands of members" among the workers in the textile, rubber, coal mining and other local industries.

SUSPECTED TIE-UP

Suspecting that the sudden advent of the "Federation" had something to do with the fact that a contract between the Textile Workers Organizing Committee and the Celanese Corporation was due to expire soon, and that the TWOC was seeking an improved agreement, the Voice of Labor, weekly labor paper which revealed the story, decided to do a little investigating.

When it discovered that "the officers of the outfit were company dicks and that application blanks were being none too secretly peddled in the Celanese plant by some foremen," the paper sent a reporter to the FJ office in the Jenvey building to see what he could find out.

Under the pretense of making inquiries about joining, the reporter asked some questions and while they were being answered he noticed a file on the desk containing the signed applications of the Celanese Employes Association, a company union formerly maintained in the plant.

ISSUED CHALLENGE

Convinced by this and other matters it uncovered, the paper began warning Cumberland workers to beware of the outfit. It printed challenges to the backers of the mysterious organization to come forward and identify themselves, and asked how the files of the Celanese company union came to be in the FJ office. No answers were made.

Some weeks later an evangelist known as Dan McNally came to town and set up a publication known as The Searchlight, which began attacking the CIO and its leaders, working hand in hand with the "Federation."

In addition to his attacks on unions through the Searchlight and in "sermons," Brother McNally also talked over the radio. It was in one of these talks that libelous statements were made against John T. Jones, district president of the United Mine Workers, for which the radio station was later sued. Among other things, McNally charged Jones with being a Communist.

Jones just recently received a public apology and $750 damages from the radio station in a settlement made out of court after a trial had been set.

EX-CONVICT SKIPPED TOWN

But long before this, "Brother" McNally, who had been exposed during an investigation made by union counsel, as having been convicted of criminal libel in Los Angeles in 1935, had disappeared. As for the "Federation of Justice," little more was heard about it.

Weeks passed and as CIO union activity continued to increase, the Western Maryland CIO Industrial Union Council decided to open an office. Needing some furniture, the Council officers went to look at some pieces they heard the management of the Jenvey building had for sale cheap.

They found that the furniture had formerly belonged to the Federation of Justice, and had been taken for non-payment of rent.

RECORDS IN DRAWERS

Since it suited their needs, they bought it, and when it was carted up to the CIO office, they discovered that the records of the former union-smashing Federation had not been removed fom the drawers.

In addition to unpaid rent, telephone and other bills, a list of members, which the Federation had claimed ran into thousands, was found.

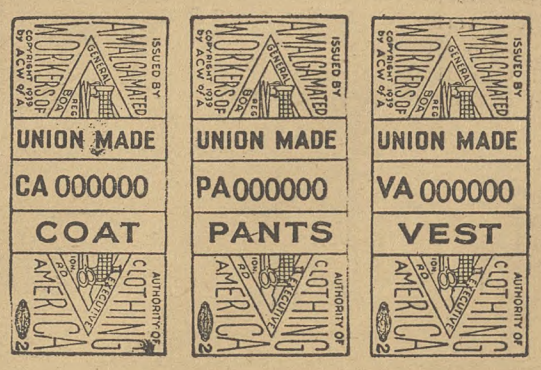
It contained exactly 23 names, including those of the backers.

Other much more damaging material was also found which the officers promise to release later with documentary evidence and names.

BE ON GUARD!

Look for the union label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America when buying men's and boys' clothing, overalls, shirts, undergarments, neckties, lumber jackets, gloves, and all other kinds of men's wearing apparel.

The Amalgamated Label is your guarantee that the articles you buy are of the best workmanship and produced under one hundred percent union conditions by members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.



By insisting on the Amalgamated Label you will help to guard against a return of sweatshop conditions to the industry. By helping the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America you help the labor movement generally.

Ask for the Amalgamated label on each part of the suit, coat, pants and vest. There are different Amalgamated labels for coats, pants, vests, shirts and undergarments, work clothes, neckwear and gloves.

Eliminating Slums—And Saving Money!

A typical Toledo, Ohio, slum section is shown at left; below is a corner of the Brand Whitlock housing development, built with government funds. The city saves $11,746 annually through the elimination of the slum housing, Donald Robinson, director of the Toledo Housing Authority, estimated recently. New homes and healthful surroundings have chopped down the amount needed for police, fire and health protection in the area where the Brand Whitlock homes stand.

New Homes for Old

A department dealing with the need for better housing and how to obtain it, conducted by the CIO Committee on Housing.

By THOMAS HUMPHRIES

Half the fight for an expanded low-rent housing program has been won.

The Senate has already passed, by a vote of 3 to 1, Senator Wagner's bill authorizing the USHA to make an additional $800,000,000 in loans and an additional $45,000,000 in annual contributions to bring rents down.

A companion bill, H. R. 2888, introduced by Representative Steagall, is now in the hands of the House Banking and Currency Committee. It is hoped that the friends of low-rent housing and slum clearance will exert enough pressure upon their Representatives to insure favorable action by the Banking and Currency Committee and a favorable vote on the House floor.

A HOUSING CENSUS

One of the obstacles in the path of a genuine rehousing program is the lack of essential information about the homes in which America lives.

There is insufficient information on hand about the extent of bad housing in general. There is an exceptional dearth of information about farm and rural housing.

Accordingly, Senator Wagner has introduced a bill (S. 2240) which would provide for a national housing census in 1940. This bill has the backing not only of labor, but of the National Association of Real Estate Boards and the B. S. Conference of Mayors also.

In many other countries housing surveys are always made in connection with a national census. And in practically every case the result of these surveys has been to bring housing problems more forcibly to the attention of the people and thus to give a forceful impetus to low-rent, public housing.

RURAL HOUSING

At times reactionary anti-housing interests have tried to incite the farmers against the national slum clearance program.

"Why should you pay taxes," they have shouted, "so that the Government should help the cities get rid of their slums? The USHA isn't helping you to improve your farm houses, is it?"

Today, it seems likely that the USHA program will be extended to the farmers as well as the city-dwellers.

The Senate has already approved an amendment to the United States Housing Act which would authorize the granting of USHA loans and subsidies to local housing authorities that would rent or sell homes to low-income farm families.

If this amendment is also approved by the House, the USHA and the Department of Agriculture will cooperate in working out the details of a public housing program for farm families.

PREDICT TWO RESULTS

Although it might be quite a few months before any concrete farm housing program could be developed, two results of such a program can be predicted even now.

1. First of all, it will enable a good deal of experimentation with prefabrication techniques. Experience has proved that it is easier to use certain mass production techniques on farm housing.

2. Second, it will provide a working basis in many communities for farmer-labor unity. With both farmer and worker suffering from bad housing, and with the means available to provide better homes for both, joint action will inevitably result.

Insurance Union Wins 7th Poll

New York, June 24—The seventh in an unbroken series of election victories scored by the Industrial Insurance Agents Union here and in other cities throughout the country was won last week when employes of the Unity Life & Accident Insurance Association voted two-to-one for the CIO union.

The local which is affiliated to the United Office & Professional Workers, won by a vote of 76 to 37. Negotiations for a union contract with Unity start soon, the UOPW announced.

The union also announced that it recently signed its first nationwide contract with a major insurance company, the Sun Life Insurance Company of America.

Walter Hardin — A Leader In Negroes' Fight For Justice

By SWANSON C. SHIELDS

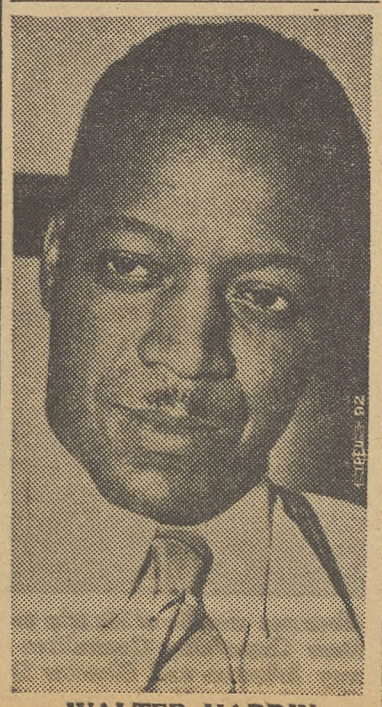
DETROIT, June 24.—Kidnapped and flogged, clubbed on the picket line, threatened with "bodily violence" a score of times and victim of other anti-labor uprisings . . .

That may read like a page from a fiction thriller but to Walter T. Hardin, outstanding Negro CIO leader in Michigan, it's all in a day's work.

Despite the blackjacks, the horsehide whip and other foul weapons turned on Hardin by the union-haters, the veteran Negro leader has not been silenced. Today he stands out as one of the gamest fighters for labor's cause in Michigan, his name an inspiration to both his colored and white brothers.

His courage in refusing to be bullied by vigilante mobs symbolizes the driving spirit of the CIO in this state.

Always a staunch supporter of industrial unionism, Hardin early deserted Homer Martin when the latter started his "union-busting" tactics. Hardin had been an appointee of Martin. One of the first steps of the new UAW-CIO president, R. J. Thomas, when he took office was to appoint Hardin General Negro Organizer.



WALTER HARDIN

Wheeling into action his first day back on the firing line, Hardin launched a vigorous drive among the more than 15,000 Negro automobile workers in Michigan.

AFL MISTREATED NEGROES

Martin's decision to leave the CIO and re-enter the AFL spelled his defeat among the Negro workers, Hardin reports.

"The overwhelming majority of Negro unionists are solidly behind the CIO today, because the CIO has given a new spirit of racial equality to the colored race," he points out.

"The Negro was never given democratic rights in the AFL. Green, Woll and their crowd discriminated against the Negroes so notoriously that Jim-Crowism became as widespread in the AFL as below the Dixie Line."

Smiling, Hardin added:

"For Martin to invite the Negroes into the AFL is tantamount for Hoover or Girdler to ask the support of the CIO in 1940."

IN BONDAGE AT FORD

What about Ford?

"Negro Ford workers, like their white brothers, are crying for unionism. They have been held in bondage by Ford terrorism for many years but today they are throwing away the yoke of Fordism and want to enjoy the protection offered by the CIO."

KIDNAPPED IN '31

Hardin had his first baptism in anti-labor violence in 1931 when he was kidnapped, taken to a desolate park outside Pontiac, undressed and then brutally whipped and forced to stagger 10 miles back into the city without shoes or stockings—in freezing weather.

His crime: Fighting starvation among Pontiac's unemployed.

TWO IN ASYLUM

Two other labor leaders, kidnapped and flogged along with Hardin, were clubbed so viciously and their vital organs crushed so violently that they went insane shortly afterwards. Today they are inmates in a State asylum, a living testimonial of the industrial terror that once stalked Michigan.

But the hightlight of this story is that the perpetrators of the bloody crime were never brought to justice. They were identified but a sympathetic judge gave them only words of praise. Among the vigilantes was the personnel director of a big auto plant here and the owner of a large foundry—both of them outspoken labor foes.

But Hardin's greatest thrill came when he personally watched the two "industrial floggers" sign UAW-CIO contracts two years ago.

Cuban Labor Tells AFL To Quit Dual Union Efforts In Latin America

WASHINGTON, June 24.—An AFL attempt to muscle into the Pan-American situation, with the help of discredited labor leaders and semi-fascists, has been slapped behind the ears by the militant Cuban labor movement.

The federation has been acting under a resolution passed by the last AFL convention, aimed at restoring the 9-years defunct Pan-American Federation of Labor and competing with the Latin American Federation of Workers, composed of the organized labor movements throughout Central and South America.

Attempting to sound out sentiment south of the Rio Grande, the AFL leaders received a letter from the Cuban workers pointing out that:

1. The AFL message had been sent to an organization which expired in March, 1935.

2. The last meeting of the Pan-American Federation was scheduled for 1930, but was opposed by the leadership of the AFL and its cohorts; and interest in a new meeting arose only after formation of the new bona-fide organization.

3. Cuba's labor movement is built on an industrial union basis, rather than the craft structure which the AFL is seeking to foster.

4. Reactionaries throughout the Latin Americas are hailing the AFL's moves as a blow at labor unity.

FASCISTS ARE PLEASED

In one of Cuba's most conservative papers, it is explained, the Green-Woll interest in splitting the labor movements of the Latin countries has won commendation. The Cuban workers expressed surprise that the AFL has resorted to red-baiting against the Latin American labor movements, rather than fighting the imperialist interests which are fighting Pres. Roosevelt's good neighbor policy.

The letter, signed by Sec.-Gen. Lazaro Pena and Sec. Jan Arevalo, concluded:

"Our organization cannot consent to the considerations expressed in your circular letter for the revival at this time of the Pan-American Labor Federation, which we believe to be practically dead in all the countries of Latin America, and intended now only to divide the workers and please the enemies of labor unity; that is, to serve the interests of totalitarian reaction."

Leon Renteria, director of the Cuban labor movement who passed through Washington recently pointed out that "in many aspects" the Cuban workers "take a position similar to that of the CIO—that is to say, we struggled for the protection of the rights of labor and the constant betterment of their moral and material conditions."

Ask Bridges Hearings Be Open to Public

SAN FRANCISCO, June 24.—Formation of a Harry Bridges Defense Committee, aimed at winning public support for the CIO west coast director in his coming battle against deportation, was announced here today by prominent labor and liberal figures.

Demands that the immigration division hearings be open to the public have been filed with the Dept. of Labor in Washington, E. E. Ward, vice-president of the California State Industrial Union Council and executive-secretary of the new group, revealed.

Pointing out that the committee wishes to change the usual procedure in immigration hearings, the statement asserted that "this is not just an ordinary deportation case.

VITAL INFORMATION

"The whole country will demand to know what goes on here. If this vital information is withheld from the public, there will be no way of bringing certain shrinking, sinister figures into the glare of full publicity. We want to drag such men as Larry Pat Morton Doyle out from behind closed doors, and let him array his paid and terrorized 'witnesses' before a public tribunal.

"We want our chance to prove, as we will prove, that Mr. Doyle, an entirely unofficial person, educated to the law but unable to practice in California, is the man responsible for the prosecution case against Bridges—and not any government official."

550 Benefit In Bakery Pact

Providence, R. I., June 24—New contracts covering 550 workers in six greater Providence bakeries provided for guarantees of 40-hour work weeks for regular employes and vacations with pay.

Michael F. Widman, Jr., New England regional director for the CIO; Joseph Mayo, director in Rhode Island, and Liam Donlon, field representative, negotiated the agreements.

Successful conclusions of the negotiations by Local 84, United Bakery Workers, will spur organization of other bakeries throughout the state, Mayo predicted in announcing a new organizing drive.

Elect Mooney To Shipyard Union Rolls

Camden, N. J., June 24—Tom Mooney was voted an honorary life membership in Local 1, Industrial Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers, after he addressed the executive board and all the members of the union who could squeeze into the packed hall.

Mooney's unscheduled talk was made during a surprise visit to Local 1, upon the invitation of National President John Green. Local President William C. Pommerer presided and presented the membership book to Mooney.

Baltimore CIO Asks Probe Of Anti-Semitic Attack

BALTIMORE, June 24.—Thorough investigation of an attack on 14-year-old Melvin Bridges, Jewish school boy, by a group of 40 others who inked a swastika on his forehead and scratched the letter "H" on his neck, was demanded today by Pres. Patrick Whalen of the Baltimore Industrial Union Council.

The CIO local leader charged that "certain people in the city educational system are aiding and abetting the growth of anti-Semitism," demanding that the situation "be invesitgated and the facts put squarely before the public."

"The CIO is diametrically opposed to racial and religious bigotry," Whalen said. "An attack on any national or religious group is an attack against the nation and the democratic principles on which it was founded.

"This deplorable incident is obviously a direct result of the anti-Semitic propaganda fostered by such fascist organizations as the Nazi Bund and the Silver Shirts and by such individuals as Gen. Moseley."

Ask Ouster of Cop Linked to Fascist Spies, Foes of Labor

LOS ANGELES, June 24. — Immediate ousting of Police Chief William 'Red' Hynes, longtime foe of unionism and accused in the current issue of Ken Magazine of being an ally of Japanese and Fascist spies, was demanded today by the Los Angeles CIO Industrial Union Council.

"Japanese agents," John L. Spivak wrote, "operating out of espionage headquarters established in three hotels in Los Angeles and San Francisco, are secretly caching arms, oil, gasoline and short wave radio parts just south of the American border."

Hines denied the charges, but his predecessor as head of the city's police force—James E. Davis, now employed by the Douglas Aircraft Corp.—admitted he contacted Japanese consular officials, though claiming he handed out only "public information."

RECEIVED $7,393

In its petition to Mayor Fletcher Bowron, labor-supported progressive, the CIO council charged that Hynes had been paid $50 a day by the Los Angeles Railway Co. to help break a strike in 1934 and that he received a total of $7393 for these services.

The chief's action in taking a leave of absence during his anti-strike services was "merely a fiction and a fraud," the council asserted.

LOTS OF TEAR GAS

"Actually, in his capacity of private citizen he continued to direct strikebreaking activities of the 'red squad' which was an arm of the city government, and that the Los Angeles Railway placed at his disposal $1717 worth of tear gas.

"This tear gas, incidentally, was obtained in violation of a California statute which requires that persons or corporations purchasing tear gas must obtain a permit from the state division of criminal identification and investigation. Records reveal no such permit was obtained by the Los Angeles Railway."

The letter was signed by Philip Connelly, state CIO president and secretary of the Los Angeles Industrial Union Council.

Discuss Chicago Meeting

CIO Pres. John L. Lewis discusses details of his trip to Chicago in mid-July with leaders of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee (left to right) Chairman Van A. Bittner, Asst. Director Henry Johnson and Director Don Harris. PWOC is preparing for a final drive to win signed contracts with Armour and other big meat packers. Pres. Lewis will speak at the union's national conference in the Windy City.

Harvester's Fake Unions On Trial

Chicago, June 24.—Intl. Harvester's company union empire, a pre-War relic, went on trial for its life at a National Labor Relations Board hearing today.

Charged with violation of the Wagner Act on three counts, the company faces possible NLRB demolition of its elaborate "association" machine in six mid-west plants. Organization and financing of company unions, entering into illegal contracts and discrimination against the Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee of the CIO are charged against the firm in the Board's complaint.

Leaders of the FEWOC, which now holds a contract at the IHC tractor plant in Chicago, have mapped plans for an intensive organizing campaign throughout the company system.

Ask U. S. Aid To Stop Labor Law Breakers

New York, June 24 — Emil Rieve, president of the Textile Workers Union of America, requested the U. S. Department of Labor this week, to use its good office with President Roosevelt in obtaining an executive order forbidding the granting of government contracts to violators of federal law.

In a letter to Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins, Rieve charged that concerns defying the National Labor Relations Act are among the largest beneficiaries of public contracts in the textile industry.

He expressed the conviction that President Roosevelt has the power, by executive order, to instruct various government departments to withhold contracts from the violators of federal law.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 27 20 JULY 3, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

SENATE ACTS TO SAVE WPA

Plea for Tolerance

Katharine Hepburn, movie star, poses with Artist McClelland Barclay beside the poster, "Spirit of Tolerance," for which she posed as model. The poster is being used for national bill-board display by the Council Against Intolerance in America, which is planning national ceremonies on July 4 to help preserve the American spirit of freedom and overcome prejudice and dictatorship.

Maritime Union Meets In New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS, July 3. — The National Maritime Union, an organization with a membership of 50,000 seamen on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, starts its second convention here today.

About 200 delegates from 21 ports and from NMU ships will attend. In addition, various marine unions on both the east and west coasts will send fraternal delegates.

The first convention of the union was held in New York in July, 1937, just eight weeks after its formation, at which time it had a membership of some 35,000 seamen.

A number of outstanding trade union leaders have been invited to address the two-week convention which will be held in Jerusalem Temple.

TO STRENGTHEN UNION

Chief problems to be taken up at the convention include reorganization of the tanker lines, strengthening of the constitution, unity and preparations for renewal of the passenger and freight agreement expiring on September 30th.

Officials said that the question of unity would be the most pressing faced by the convention. Jerome King, also known as Jerome Medeiros, former secretary-treasurer of the NMU, was expelled recently after a trial before the membership, on charges of conspiring with the shipowners and with the AFL to disrupt the union.

ACCUSE FIRM

Following his exposure, the union accused the Lykes Brothers Steamship Company of an attempt to "take the Gulf ports out of the union."

Joseph Curran, NMU president, who went to New Orleans to prepare for the convention, said he was barred from the union hall by a squad of goons armed with baseball bats and short chains. When another hall was obtained, a squad armed with baseball bats again broke in. Curran was arrested, but later released.

Over-rules House Formula

(See Story Page 3)

Washington, June 30—Hope for continuation of WPA on a New Deal basis rose sharply today, following action by the U. S. Senate in brushing away a dozen of the crippling amendments which a Tory-dominated House of Representatives had written into the work-relief bill.

Working far into the night, the Senate restored prevailing wage rate provisions for WPA pay scales, modified the Republican - conservative Democrat plan to slough off thousands of workers from work relief projects, and made provision for continuation of the federal arts and theatre projects.

Fate of the nation's jobless millions will not be definitely known, however, until a conference committee composed of House and Senate members work out a compromise between the sharply - conflicting WPA bills approved by the two branches of Congress.

Continued labor protest against a starvation program for the unemployed will be necessary to insure passage of a satisfactory bill, CIO leaders said.

The News In Brief

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

Textile Pay

Atlanta, Ga.—Warning that hundreds of thousands of southern workers are living on below - standard incomes, Pres. Emil Rieve of the CIO Textile Workers Union urged a wage-hour committee holding hearings to retain a recommended 32½c-an-hour minimum pay rate for the textile industry.

Rehearsal

San Francisco.— West coast union leaders charged that San Francisco maritime employers were staging a "rehearsal" for September when they shut down the port over a dispute concerning 10 men. The lockout ended in agreement to arbitrate, originally proposed by the union.

1940

Evansville, Ind.—The Indiana Industrial Union Council will support progressive candidates for office in next year's elections, delegates decided at the council's annual convention here.

Misinformed

Washington. — Leaders of the AFL are either "misinformed" or deliberately distorting facts in their arguments for Wagner Act amendments, declared Charles Fahy, National Labor Relations Board general counsel.

Conventions

California Industrial Union Council, August 25-27.

20% JOBLESS

San Francisco — (FP) — A WPA job survey shows, in a preliminary report, that 20% of the city's workers are unemployed and 8% more working less than 30 hours a week. Only a quarter of the jobless are on work projects, including NYA and CCC.

CIO Wins First Poll In Hawaii

Honolulu, Hawaii,, July 1 — To the CIO has gone the honor of winning the first National Labor Relations Board election held in the Hawaiian Islands.

In a secret ballot held at the Kalaheo High School in Kauai, packing plant employes of the Kauai Pineapple Co., Ltd., chose Local 76 of the United Cannery Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers as their sole bargaining agency. The CIO union received 162 of the votes cast.

"I believe the election was an event of great importance," commented A. L. Wills, field examineer here for the NLRB.

Die Casters Win Contract For 3 Plants

Toledo, Ohio, July 1 — A national contract covering 3,250 workers in plants of the Doehler Die Casting Company in Batavia, N. Y., Pottstown, Pa., and here, was announced this week by the National Association of Die Casting Workers, CIO.

Hailing the new contract as an important step toward a national agreement with the entire die casting industry, the union pointed out that it gives the workers the highest minimum hourly rate so far set in the industry.

Broun To Run For Congress

Stamford, Conn., July 1—Pres. Heywood Broun of the American Newspaper Guild will run for Congress in 1940.

The noted columnist, a strong supporter of the New Deal, announced he will seek the Democratic nomination from the district which includes Fairfield County, in which Stamford is located. Resident in the area are a large number of CIO workers.

Build CIO in Jersey

Part of the crowd of 8,000 workers who urned out in Pershing Field, Jersey City, for the mass meeting which launched the CIO's organizing drive in Hague-town. They heard half a dozen union leaders predict speedy action in ridding the city of its sweatshop menace.

(See Story Page Three)

Msgr. Ryan Hails Wagner Act

WASHINGTON, July 1 — "I regard the National Labor Relations Act as the most important piece of legislation not only for labor but for democracy," Msgr. John A. Ryan of Catholic University told the House Labor Committee.

"I have read Mr. Green's statement before the committee on various amendments, and they left me rather unconvinced about the necessity of the amendments he proposes," the distinguished Catholic liberal declared.

Southern Workers Live Below U. S. Standards, Rieve Tells Pay Board

ATLANTA, Ga., July 1.—Southern textile workers are underpaid, even in terms of standards for their respective states, Emil Rieve, president of the Textile Workers Union of America, CIO, said at a hearing held here this week under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Rieve urged immediate adoption of the recommendation for a 32½c an hour minimum for the textile industry.

Declaring that he represented 274,000 workers under agreement and an additional 100,000 who have signed union membership cards, Rieve pointed out that a comparison of average hourly earnings of all manufacturing employes in eight southern states indicates that the textile worker receives less than the average employe in each of them.

34.8c IN ALABAMA

In Alabama the textile worker receives an average of 34.8c an hour, the union president said, while the average for all other employes is 55c an hour. In Texas, textile workers are paid 29.5c an hour less than all other manufacturing employes; in Tennessee, 9c less; in Virginia, 13.6c less; Mississippi, 8.5c less; North Carolina, 7.9 cents less and in South Carolina, 3.2c an hour less.

The average median annual taxable wage reported to the Social Security Board for 1937, for workers in the textile states, Rieve continued, was $723 a year for the country, while the median wage for North Carolina was only $465; South Carolina, $399; Georgia, $381 and Alabama, $458.

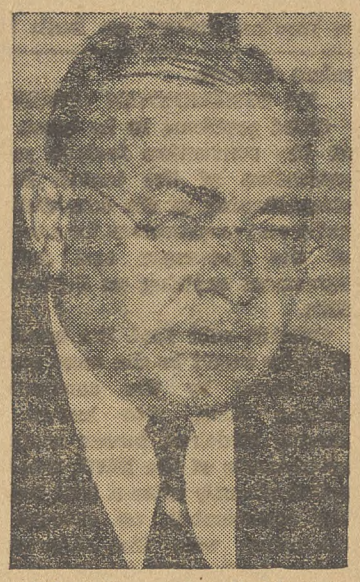
LOWEST AVERAGE

"The textile industry is the only large industry which pays average hourly earnings of less than 50 cents," Rieve declared.

"Low earnings cannot provide an adequate income to maintain the southern textile worker. He needs $1,260.62 to maintain his family on an emergency level. The apparent living standards of the textile workers are much below these standards.

"If a textile worker were employed 50 weeks per year, he would require $17.37 per week to maintain an emergency level budget and $24.24 per week to have a maintenance level budget. The proposed minimum will yield him only $13 a week.

Head New Agencies



John Carmody (left), appointed by Pres. Roosevelt to head the new consolidated federal works agency, and Jesse Jones, who has been named to administer the federal loan agency. Carmody, for the past two years head of the Rural Electrification Administration, has a reputation as a staunch New Dealer.

Green's Unpopularity Growing by Leaps And Bounds in Canada

TORONTO, Ont., July 1.—Objections to the suspension of the CIO unions are expected to feature the sessions of the 55th annual convention of the Trades and Labor Congress being held in London, Ontario, September 18.

For the first time since 1935, when the CIO was established, its affiliated unions will not be represented because of their suspension by the Congress executive council last January.

The suspension will undoubtedly be one of the major questions discussed at the parley when the executive council will ask the exclusively AFL and federal local delegates to endorse the ouster of the CIO unions.

KEEN INTEREST

Congress affiliates throughout the nation are already discussing the coming conclave and many resolutions demanding unity and urging pressure upon the AFL leaders for peace with the CIO are being prepared for submission to the convention.

Suspension of the CIO unions was not popular as evidenced by the vote of the Congress' last convention, attended by 625 delegates, who voted unanimously to retain the CIO unions and urged a meeting with AFL stalwarts to keep Congress ranks intact.

MAY REBUKE COUNCIL

It is not imposisble that the executive council's decision to suspend the CIO unions might be over-ruled by the convention. According to the pro-unity spirit of the average unionist, it is possible that the delegates will insist that the status quo be maintained.

CIO Local Urges Rail Legislation

Wilmerding, Pa. — July 1 — Workers at the Westinghouse Air Brake plant, members of Local 610 of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, have requested all Pennsylvania Senators and Congressmen and President Roosevelt to support them in a request for Government aid in reorganization of the nation's railroads.

They request that Congress consider favorably plans to lend Federal money to the railroads to "purchase and replace equipment and thereby stimulate industrial production, increase employment and bring benefit to workers, management and stockholders."

CIO Dental Technicians Win Strike

New York, July 1 — A seven-week strike of all employes of the Zuckerman & Lefkowitz Dental Laboratory ended today when the company signed a two-year closed shop contract with the Dental Technicians Equity. The organization is affiliated with the CIO Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists & Technicians.

The five employes will receive salary increases totaling $1,800 a year, together with a guaranteed 52-week working year, a one-week vacation, seven holidays with pay and the five-day week.

A. Glass, union organizer, predicted that the victory would "open the way to 100% unionization of Harlem dental laboratories."

Steel Union Holds District Confab

High Bridge, N. J., July 1 — Lodges of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee in the Reading district held their fourth convention here at the Villa auditorium. About 150 delegates and more than 100 spectators attended.

Joseph Cannon, CIO regional director, David J. McDonald, national SWOC secretary-treasurer, Garfield Lewis, CIO representative, and Edward McCrone were among the speakers.

Sherman Act Net Entwines Union Of Fishermen

PORTLAND, Ore., July 1. — A permanent injunction forbidding the Pacific Coast Fishermen's Union, CIO, from trying to get a closed shop agreement with the Columbia River Packers' Association, was termed by union officials here an "astounding" decision which threatens the life of the PCFU and other unions.

Federal Judge Claude McCulloch, in granting the permanent injunction against the fishermen's union declared that the closed shop provision in the contract with the packers gave the union a monopoly and was therefore in violation of the anti-trust laws. He assesed the union $1,800 for damages.

Under the closed shop provision, the packers have up to now agreed each year to buy fish only from members of the union, composed of some 1500 fishermen who catch salmon and tuna off the coast of Oregon, Washington, Alaska and California. The union agreed in return to sell their fish only to the Columbia River Packers' Assn.

LOOPHOLE FOR BOSSES

Judge McColloch's injunction, however, does not restrain the "monopoly" the packers have had on the purchase of the fish, but deals only with the union's "monopoly", and will enable the packers to "drive standards down by the simple procedure of dealing only with fishermen who will take starvation prices," the union charges.

The union won an agreement with the packers a short time ago after affiliates of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific refused to sail two Alaska ships, the Memmon and the William L. Thompson, unless the packers agreed to bargain collectively. Since then the Association has been stalling pending the issuing of the injunction.

UNION WILL APPEAL

Ben Anderson, attorney for the union, said the decision would be appealed to the U. S. Supreme Court if necessary. It was also pointed out that the case against the fishermen was in line with the attack on the Federation of Hosiery Workers through the Apex case, where the union was assessed $700,000 damages by a misapplication of the anti-trust laws, which were passed to curb Big Business monopolies, and were never intended to apply to unions.

California CIO to Meet August 25

SAN FRANCISCO, July 1. — California's lusty CIO Industrial Union Council will hold its annual convention here August 25-27, Sec.-Treas. Louis Goldblatt announced today.

Official call to the meeting will be issued this week under the name of Pres. Philip Connelly and Goldblatt. Members of the state CIO executive board will meet the day before the convention gets under way.

Meanwhile local union officials, elated at the decision of the executive board to hold the CIO national convention in this city on October 10, have already begun preparations for what they describe as "the peak event of labor's year."

CIO Forms Council In Coal Area

Shamokin, Pa., July 1 — CIO union in this area today launched the Northumberland County Industrial Union Council and elected John F. Oshinsky of the United Mine Workers as president. H. F. Kellegher of the painters' union was named secretary.

The new council, made up of miners, clothing and textile workers, building trades employes and others, has already swung into action, Joseph Cannon, CIO director in Philadelphia announced.

It has asked a thorough probe of AFL craft union activities on a WPA project in near-by Locust Gap, where union initiation fees of $150 and dues of $6 a month have been demanded before workers are permitted to go on the government-financed project.

"The Council is determined to permit no continuation of union racketeering in Northumberland County," Cannon warned.

Demand Steel Firm Sign Contract

Sydney, Nova Scotia, July 1— Big profits for shareholders — little consideration for the workers is a condition at the Dominion Steel and Coal Company's steel plant that the workers are determined to smash.

Executive officers of the Sydney local of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee have emphasized this challenge in a statement issued following unsuccessful negotiations with the corporation for higher wages and improved working conditions.

File Protest On Coercion During Poll

Portland, Ore., — A protest against the election held at the Plylock plant was filed with the Labor Board by the Plywood & Veneer Workers local here today on the ground that the company intimidated employees during the voting.

The local, affiliated with the International Woodworkers of America, CIO, which was defeated 237 to 204 by an AFL union, pointed out in exceptions filed with the Board that company representatives electioneered at the polls, thus intimidating the workers, and that the business agent for the AFL-chartered union, backed by the company was allowed to stand at the polls while no IWA official was allowed near.

8,000 Cheer CIO at Rally In Jersey

JERSEY CITY, N. J., July 1. — Eight thousand workers in Pershing Square here, right in the heart of Hague-land, heard John Brophy, Heywood Broun, Michael Quill, William Carney and other CIO leaders tell them that the CIO victory over the Czar of the Jersey meadows was a triumph not only for the labor movement but for the entire American people.

"Labor has won no more important victory in the U. S. than this victory over the forces of reaction and fascism in Jersey City," Brophy said. "Through its mouthpiece Hague, reaction told labor that it must not organize in Jersey, that it must accept whatever conditions and whatever wages reaction chose to offer, without complaint and without trying to better them.

USED TO BE

"Mayor Hague — who used to be the law but isn't any more — lost his fight against the CIO. Far more powerful and more sinister forces lost with him. The great anti-union corporations, the powerful labor-hating captains of finance were the forces behind Hague."

Immediate results of the victory over Hagueism were seen in CIO gains in the aluminum plant at Edgewater, in a victory by the United Furniture Workers at South Kearney, and a wage boost for CIO Fur and Leather Workers, Brophy declared. These gains were made in less than three weeks of the U. S. Supreme Court decision, Brophy pointed out, and more could be expected in the very near future.

OPENING GUN

The mass meeting, described by Leonard Goldsmith, CIO Council secretary, as "the opening gun in a drive on un-American wages and working conditions" in Jersey City plants, was in sharp contrast to a meeting a year ago when Hague organized hoodlums mobbed the speakers and ran a Congressman out of the city.

Sixty police were on hand, but the 400 CIO ushers were enough to handle any possible disturbance. William Carney, CIO regional director in New Jersey, thanked the police for their "cooperation," and pledged the CIO to renewed efforts to bring organization and decent living conditions to the industrial workers of the area.

Mike Quill, president of the CIO Transport Workers Union, described Jersey City as one of the last strongholds of the anti-union employer, and compared the CIO victory here with earlier workers' triumps in Homestead, Pa., and Harlan County, Ky.

Both Quill and Heywood Broun, president of the American Newspaper Guild, called on the crowd to give their full support to New Deal policies and received their answer in a roar of applause.

GREATEST TASK

Labor and the nation face their greatest task in the 1940 elections, Brophy declared. Re-

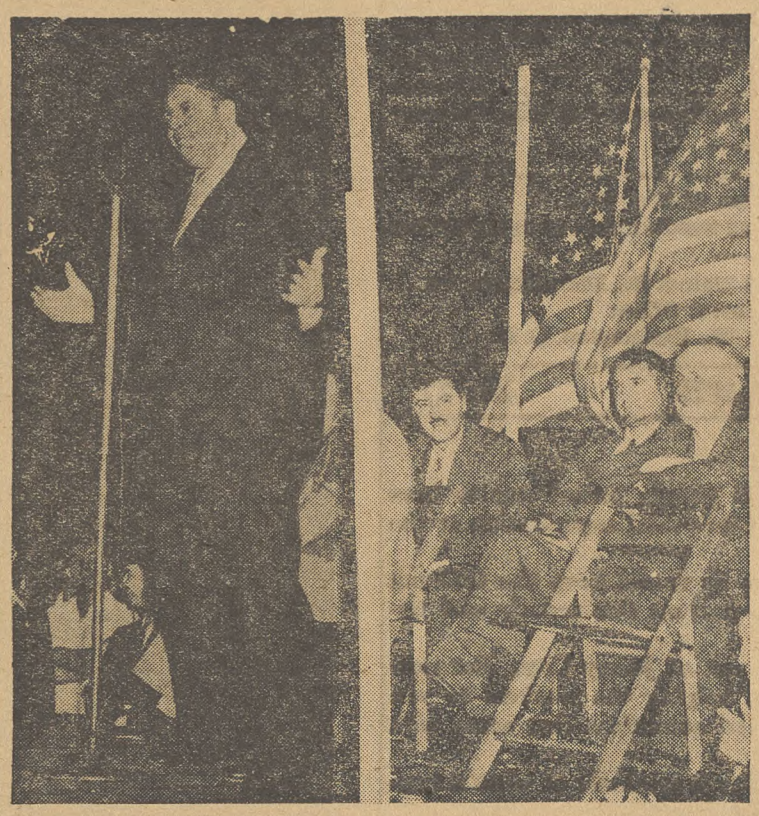
Continued on Page Five

District 50 Wins Strike In Jersey Plant

JERSEY CITY, July 1 (FP) — District 50 of the United Mine Workers won a 4-day strike at the Joubert perfumery plant here, the second CIO victory since the U. S. Supreme Court decision against Mayor Frank Hague.

The walkout of the plant's 60 workers forced the company to rehire a shop steward fired for union activity. The firm is operating under a closed shop agreement.

Labor Protest Heeded In Senate WPA Vote



Pres. Heywood Broun of the American Newspaper Guild, addresses CIO Jersey City meeting. Other union officials are seated on the platform.

Washington, June 30.—Responding to protests from every section of the country, the Senate today had sent to joint conference committee a WPA bill eliminating most of the worst features of the measure passed by the House at a rough-and-tumble session last week.

WPA's activities will be brought to a full stop unless funds are appropriated before July 1, beginning of the new government fiscal year. If the bill is not through the Congressional mill by that time, the House Appropriations Committee is expected to sponsor a resolution providing WPA funds for a month until an exact formula for the full appropriation has been decided upon.

The false economy cry which dominated the House of Representatives' "debate" on the work relief measure last week was missing in the Senate.

54-0 VOTE

The Senators labored over the terms of appropriations bill until late in the night, and it was after 1 A. M. before the 54-0 vote passing the liberalized measure had been taken.

Effectiveness of the nation's angry protest against the Representatives' attack on WPA was demonstrated in the Senate, as one after another the results of the House anti-WPA hurricane were cleared away.

RESTORE PREVAILING PAY

Thanks to the Senate action, the full $1,477,000,000 requested by Pres. Roosevelt was rewritten into the bill, while labor criticism against removing the "prevailing wage" provisions of the WPA statute met with favorable action.

Federal arts projects, faced with the possibility of being dependent on local sponsorship, were given full federal financing, and the theatre project, butt of the Tories' angriest attacks, was saved from the extinction demanded by the House anti-WPA bloc.

Clauses modifying the enforced rotation of WPA employes on the payroll also won Senate approval, and the crippling limitation of $40,000 to any project was lifted to a more satisfactory $75,000.

BOOST FUNDS

The Farm Security Administration was given $123,000,000 appropriation boost, National Youth Administration received an extra $23,000,000 and the appropriation for the Public Health Service Administration was doubled.

Thus the measure, while not meeting the 3,000,000 job proposal of the CIO-supported Casey-Murray bills, nevertheless registered a sharp improvement over the "soak the poor" action in the House.

LISTENING TO FIGHT

Heavyweights Joe Louis and Tony Galento were indirectly re-

Continued on page six

Miss Lewis Hails Gains In S. America

New York, July 1—Miss Kathryn Lewis, daughter of the CIO president, returned from a four-month trip to South America pleased with the progress of democratic forces in Latin America.

Miss Lewis was a member of the American delegation to the Congress of Democracies at Montevideo, Uruguay, and then visited the capitals of a number of other republics in the southern continent.

HAVE HARD TASKS

"I have to take my hat off to the democratic forces in South America," Miss Lewis told ship news reporters here. "They have a much harder road than we have, but their persistence is amazing.

"I found Chile and Columbia the most advanced republics from the labor point of view," she continued. "The labor movement is fairly well organized in Argentina, but it is concentrated in Buenos Aires."

Miss Lewis discussed problems of the labor movement with leading figures in Uruguay, Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, Chile, Bolivia, Colombia and Ecuador.

Expose Spy Activities

New York, July 1—Activities of under-cover agents exposed recently by the National Maritime Union are described in a 47-page pamphlet called "Labor Spies in the NMU," released this week by the union.

The pamphlet accuses shipowners of spending thousands of dollars to prevent the building of a strong union.

Suspend Tanker Captain On Crew's Complaint Of 'Shanghai-ing'

NEW YORK, July 1. (FP)—Capt. Alexander Zafiros of the Standard Oil tanker Walter Jennings, who shanghaied his crew by diverting his ship from a coastwise to a foreign run to dodge a CIO strike, has been found guilty of incompetence and misconduct by an inquiry board of the U. S. Bureau of Marine Inspection & Navigation.

Pres. Joseph Curran of the National Maritime Union, who will preside at the union's convention, which opens in New Orleans on July 3.

The board has ordered his license suspended for six months, and it is almost certain that the order will be upheld by the government agency's review board in Washington.

The case is the first in the history of the country's merchant marine in which a captain's license has been suspended on charges made by his crew.

The tanker was bound from New York to Corpus Christi, Tex., on April 18 when the Natl. Maritime Union called a strike against Standard Oil and three other companies. If the tanker had proceeded to the Texas port the crew—all NMU members—would have struck and the ship would have been tied up.

To avoid this, Zafiros illegally forced the crew to transfer the ship's articles from coastwise to foreign, and sailed the ship to Cartagena, Colombia. Changes in the ship's papers from a domestic to a foreign port are possible only in the presence of a U. S. shipping commissioner.

Lumbermen Sign 22 New Agreements

Seattle, Wash., July 1—Agreements covering 22 logging operations and affecting 1,250 workers weere announced this week by the International Woodworkers of America, CIO. The contracts were signed by Local 2-90 of the IWA with three major operators and 19 smaller companies.

Merrill & Ring, Bloedel-Donovan and the Crescent Logging Company, the three major firms, agreed to recognize the IWA as sole bargaining agent for all their employes, to pay the prevailing union wage scale, and to grant jurisdiction over all new construction and repair work.

The agreement between the IWA and the 19 smaller logging operators give the employes the prevailing IWA wage scale, union hiring and other features, the union announced.

Four Oil Firms' Products Still on Unfair List

NEW YORK, July 1.—Products of four oil companies are still on the unfair list of the National Maritime Union, although a strike conducted against the oil tankers owned by the companies has been called off to forestall formation of a company union.

The NMU is asking all trade unionists to refuse to buy gasoline, oil, medicine, animal spray, cosmetics and insecticides put out by the Standard Oil of New Jersey, Standard Oil of New York, Tidewater Associated Oil Co., and the C. D. Mallory Shipping Co.

The companies will not be taken off the unfair list, the NMU declared, "until full union crews are back on the ships and under contract". An eight-weeks' strike against the companies was called off when the union learned that the Standard Oil of New Jersey was forming an Esso Tanker Men's Association and had petitioned the National Labor Relations Board for an election.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II JULY 3, 1939 No. 27

On the March

In Jersey City last week 8,000 people turned out to hear CIO leaders bring the message of industrial organization to the workers of their city.

Mayor Hague, who once swore he would keep the CIO out of Jersey City, was powerless to prevent this orderly and enthusiastic open-air meeting.

CIO organizers were once run out of Jersey City. But now they are on the job there daily, helping the workers to win their union rights and the improved conditions that come with collective bargaining.

What has happened in Jersey City is symbolic of what is happening in many another city and industry.

After the first wave of sweeping successes of the CIO, all the forces of reaction combined in an attempt to stop the advance of unionism. Taking advantage of depression and unemployment, they tried to build a wall around certain cities and industries to keep out collective bargaining.

On the political field, at the same time, they launched a drive to starve labor into submission by destroying WPA, and to destroy labor's rights by amending the Wagner labor relations act.

But labor has known how to defend itself against these attacks. It has consolidated all the positions won in the first period of advance. And now reports reaching CIO headquarters of elections and new contracts won in many industries, and of new territory opened to union organization, show that labor is on the march forward again.

The recent industrial advances of labor are reflected politically in increased resistance to the destruction of WPA and the Wagner Act. Many of the worst features of the vicious Woodrum WPA bill have been modified in the Senate, due to the strength of labor's protest. And the enemies of the Wagner Act show increasing signs of fearing labor's wrath.

Labor and liberalism have many stiff battles ahead against determined enemies. But as the CIO pushes forward in its basic work of union organization, it can look forward to increased political strength to defeat reaction and to advance the whole cause of progress and democracy.

With a Hop, a Skip and a Jump

Homer Martin was a tragedy for the automobile workers when he headed their union. But now his antics have for them all the elements of a farce.

Like "fidgety Phil who couldn't sit still," Homer was a perpetual source of embarrassment to his union. Flighty, vain and irresponsible, he couldn't be pinned down to any consistent policy for more than two minutes at a time.

As a hop, skip and jump champion he seemed to have found the secret of perpetual motion. He could change his mind five times in the twinkling of an eye. And with a hop, a skip and a jump he could be off in a dozen different directions before you could say Howdy-do.

When the United Automobile Workers Union finally decided that enough was enough, the AFL rushed in to adopt this problem child. The results have been amusing, to say the least, for all those who are now out of his reach.

Homer's first feat in his new home was to upset half the craft unions of the AFL by claiming that he had the industrial jurisdiction which the AFL has carefully and consistently denied to the auto workers.

His unsuccessful attempt to scab on the Briggs strikers might have been forgiven by the AFL leaders. But since then he has continued to pile failure on failure, in his own inimitable fashion.

Homer's latest exploit in Flint seems to have been too much even for the AFL. There he called an alleged "strike" late one night, without consulting his executive board or local officials, and then chartered a plane and flew off to Kansas City, to get away from the miserable fiasco which resulted.

So now William Green, Matthew Woll and the other dictators of the AFL are trampling all over Homer's "autonomy" and trying to devise some straitjacket for his elusive personality.

The few automobile workers who followed Homer's erratic footsteps out of the CIO have nearly all returned to the CIO union by now.

Homer himself is up in the air again, and where he will next land nobody can predict. But meanwhile we can all enjoy the fun of the butterfly chase into which he has led the AFL leaders, who were foolish enough to imagine they could use him to break the automobile workers' union of the CIO.

Spirit of '39

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Mutiny In The AFL

"'Twas mutiny, mutiny," roared Captain Green.

His face grew red. His voice quavered with emotion. And as he pounded the table, the Senators could almost hear the thud of the cat o'nine tails on the back of mutinous sailors.

Green's tale of "mutiny" was about CIO seamen, he said, who sat down on the job. His emotion was directed against the Labor Board, which he claimed had refused an AFL request for an election; had approved the "mutiny," and had disregarded an AFL contract.

It was a good story, and the Senators were duly impressed.

General Counsel Charles Fahy of the Labor Board, however, has since pointed out some flaws in Green's stirring tale of the sea.

With rather prosaic devotion to fact, Fahy produced the records of the case to show that the AFL never asked for an election; that the Board did not invalidate any contract; and finally that the men who sat-down were AFL members, who "mutinied" (to use Green's word), for the purpose of forcing CIO seamen into their outfit.

Fact vs. Fiction

Green's "mutiny" is but one chapter in a whole volume of fiction which he and his First Mate, Lawyer Joe Padway, have presented to both Senate and House committees in the guise of testimony against the Wagner Labor Relations Act.

Fahy's answering testimony is a devastating victory for fact over fiction.

Every case cited by the AFL representatives in their attempts to discredit the Labor Board, to prove pro-CIO bias, etc., was checked by the actual records. The results show that the AFL leaders' testimony was a compound of distortions, misrepresentations and downright lies.

Fahy achieved a masterpiece of understatement when he politely confined himself to stating that the records showed the AFL charges to be "without foundation."

Just Not So

Following are a few samples of AFL assertions as checked against the facts:

Green repeatedly stated that the Board had set aside an AFL contract with the Tennessee Copper Co.

"The fact is that no contract was involved and none was set aside," Fahy pointed out.

Both Green and Padway testified that the Board had set aside contracts in the Peninsular & Occidental and Waterman Steamship Company cases.

"In none of these cases was a contract invalidated," Fahy replied.

In the Consolidated Edison case, the AFL representatives based many of their arguments before the committees on the assertion that the Supreme Court had questioned the Board's jurisdiction over such companies and had denied it the power to set aside collusive contracts.

Fahy showed that the Supreme Court had done nothing of the sort.

If the Court had upheld Padway's contention that the Board was without jurisdiction in this case, Fahy declared, "it would have denied the protection of the Act to thousands of employes throughout the United States."

Unions of Employer's Choice

Padway was frank in one respect in his testimony against the Wagner Act. He expressed his belief that employers should have the right to tell their employes which union they want them to belong to.

The implications of this AFL company-union attitude were pointed out by Fahy in describing the Consolidated Edison case.

In this case, the company actively favored the AFL against the CIO union; announced that it would deal only with the AFL and would refuse to bargain with any other union; paid the wages of employes devoting full time to organizing for the AFL; and had department heads and foremen coerce employes into joining the AFL union.

In fighting this case for the AFL, Padway argued that such acts on the part of an employer did not constitute "interference or coercion" of employes.

"The Supreme Court disagreed with Mr. Padway, and it is fortunate for labor's right of self-organization that it did so," Fahy said.

He pointed out that Padway in this respect was "seeking a precedent destructive of employe freedom in the selection of representatives," and that all labor would have suffered if he had been successful.

Real Grounds for "Mutiny"

Green, Padway and the other AFL representatives who have testified against the present Wagner Act, have been convicted of an outrageous fraud perpetrated against labor and the public.

It is unfortunate that the testimony before the Senate and House committees is so lengthy and so technical that little of it gets into the papers, and few have the time to give it serious study.

For if the AFL membership could be fully posted on what Green and his tory friends are actually trying to do to the act which protects labor's rights, Green would confront such a real "mutiny" in his own ranks as all his cat-o'nine-tails threats of suspension and expulsion would fail to quell.

'Clearing House' For Fake Unions Bared by U. S.

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, July 1.—A flash-back to the days of industrial feudalism prior to enactment of the Wagner Act was thrown on the national screen today with the publication by the Senate Civil Liberties Committee of hitherto-unpublished documents.

How a "Special Conference Committee" composed of personnel directors of an even dozen of the nation's blue-ribbon corporations met regularly in New York to co-ordinate their anti-union campaign was revealed in one of the exhibits printed by the committee.

The other contains minutes of meetings of branch personnel directors of the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., during which all phases of building the "big happy family" spirit among the company's employes was discussed in minute detail.

BIG FIRMS REPRESENTED

Represented on the Special Conference Committee were such corporations as American Tel & Tel, Bethlehem Steel, DuPont, Goodyear Tire & Rubber, Intl. Harvester and the Irving Trust Co., one of the banks high in the Morgan industrial empire.

The point of view of the committee was expressed by J. M. Larkin of Bethlehem Steel, who declared in 1934:

"Labor policies like other primary rules for the government of corporations are and must be determined by the chief executives."

Though the industrial fat boys insisted in public that their employe representation plans represented collective bargaining in its highest form, a memo in the Special Conference Committee's files revealed that the company-dominated union system "is not set up to carry on collective bargaining. It is set up to make collective bargaining unecessary."

PRESSURED LABOR DEPT.

In 1935, when the Department of Labor prepared a report describing the employe representation plans as company unions, the embattled business representatives threatened to withhold all industrial statistics from the Department unless the report was changed.

Shortly afterwards, Larkin rejoiced that "the tenor of the report is quite changed", and that changes have taken "much of the sting" out of it.

At one time E. S. Cowdrick, front man for the group, was asked to find out about the Sentinels of the Republic, an alleged patriotic organization.

LIKED BLACK LEGION

From H. W. Anderson of General Motors, he received this reply:

"With reference to your letter of June 1 regarding the Sentinels of the Republic, I never heard of the organization. Maybe you could use a little Black Legion down in your country. It might help."

That the Goodyear Industrial Assembly, fancy name for the company union, was controlled lock, stock and barrel was indicated by the minutes of the management officials' meetings. Considerable time was allotted to a discussion of how much extra pay the company stooges should be given, and general alarm was expressed at the amounts being asked by the Assembly leaders for their services to Goodyear.

8,000 Cheer CIO at Rally In Jersey

Continued from page three

action is already preparing for a showdown, and has already made some progress particularly in the states where tory Republicans were returned to power and in the Federal Congress, which has "not accomplished one constructive act of benefit to the American people."

"Reaction won't stop at repealing the New Deal," he continued. "The reactionary corporations back of the tory politicians will want to go the whole hog to fascism. They will try, as they are already trying to do, to make the U. S. another fascist dictatorship."

Senators Embarrass Auto Boss

Washington, July 1. — The streamlined anti-union machinery of the Automobile Manufacturers Association grated from high into reverse under questioning by Sen. Ellender of Louisiana at Senate Labor Committee hearings on Wagner Act amendments.

One general question, followed by a series of more detailed inquiries, sufficed to force William J. Cronin, secretary of the employers' group, to start moving backwards fast. The question:

"You are familiar with the hearings held before the Senate Civil Liberties Committee, are you not?"

THREE ADMISSIONS

In short order, Cronin was forced to admit:

1. **That he prefers the term "confidential investigators" to the word "spies".**
2. **That as an officer of the Association, he didn't know it hired spies.**
3. **That he felt "confidential investigators" are not hired to wreck unions, despite evidence to the contrary.**

Asked whether he thought spies are "conductive to real unionization, collective bargaining," Cronin tried to extricate himself with: "Well, that calls for conjecture, Senator, which I would not care to indulge in."

BLAMES GENERAL MOTORS

Ellender sharply rebuked the auto boss representative when he tried to give the impression that the National Labor Relations Board was largely responsible for the 1937 strikes in the industry.

Citing General Motors' $1,000,000 labor spy bill, its opposition in the courts to the Labor Board and its efforts to hold down legitimate unions, Ellender said:

"I am just wondering if all of these strikes would have happened if General Motors had simply tried to join hands and help work out the problems under the provisions of the Act."

AFL Heads 'Misinformed' Or Distorting Facts, Labor Board Charges

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON, July 1. — Charges of pro-CIO bias endlessly repeated by AFL leaders against the National Labor Relations Board were again blasted in a long, thoroughly documented analysis of cases presented by Charles Fahy, Board counsel, to House and Senate labor Committees which are holding hearings on Wagner Act amendments here.

Such charges, made in AFL testimony, played up in the commercial press and aired on the radio, have been the main basis of the vicious attacks on the Board and on the Wagner Act launched by AFL leaders in collaboration with agents of the Natl. Manufacturers Assn., the Chamber of Commerce, and other reactionary groups.

MISINFORMED

Now Fahy's detailed analysis of all the cases cited in evidence by AFL officials proves conclusively that Pres. Green, AFL Counsel Padway, and others were either misinformed or have been deliberately distorting the facts to try to build up a case for their crippling amendments.

Green, for example, is found to have been "misinformed" in testifying on the Tennessee Copper Case, when he complained that the Board set aside an AFL contract. No contract was involved in the case, Fahy shows, and obviously could not be set aside.

In fact, the Board favored an AFL claim for an "appropriate unit" involving three plants, as against a CIO contention for separate units. "A strange beginning if the Board were approaching this case with a bias in favor of the CIO," Fahy declares.

What was involved in the Tennessee case, as in a number of others, was employer interference with the workers' free choice of a union. As the Board records in these cases show, there was employer interference and coercion, particularly at election times — and yet the AFL leaders, because their unions were favored by the bosses, not only try to smear the Board for doing its duty but want to change the Act to remove the very word "interference."

COLLUSIVE CONTRACTS

The same AFL misinformation and distortion is shown in its objections to a number of cases where the Board set aside Collusive contracts, notably in the Consolidated Edison case, Fahy's testimony makes clear.

In this case, the company openly told the workers it wanted them to join the AFL union, gave the AFL money and other help, forced thousands of workers into the AFL, and finally signed a phoney contract — all with one purpose, to keep out the CIO.

The evidence is so strong in this case even Padway, AFL counsel, had to admit that it smelled, saying in his anti-Wagner Act testimony that the acts of the company if "performed in favor of an unaffiliated plant organization would bring it within the classification of a company union."

In other words, as Fahy's brief indicates, company unionism is apparently all right with Padway and Green so long as it is carried out in behalf of the AFL. It is only bad when carried out in behalf of an "unaffiliated plant organization."

REMEDY OF LAW

"Surely questions concerning collusive or dishonest contracts should not be excluded from the orderly processes of the law and left only to the remedy of the strife the act is designed to ameliorate," Fahy concludes.

Turning to the question of "appropriate unit," another of the pegs on which the AFL leaders the Board and the act, Fahy have tried to hang a case against points out that the Board has ruled against the AFL's claim in only 19 out of 100 such cases. In seven of these 19 the craft union had no members at all.

In seven others the so-called craft unit was in fact a non-craft unit, "and in accordance with Mr. Padway's testimony there would be no justification for establishing a so-called craft unit in such a case." Of the remaining five, the AFL had no objection to four, and in the fifth the Board again found clear evidence of employer domination in the workers' alleged choice of a craft unit.

LONGSHORE CASE

Commenting on AFL objections to certification of the CIO Intl. Longshoremen and Warehousemen on a coastwide basis, Fahy points out that of the 12,860 workers involved, 9,557 belonged to the CIO. Contracts had been negotiated for years on a coastwide basis, employers were organized in the same way, and the presence of small AFL locals in a few ports could not be reasonably allowed to break up this method.

"There was much bloodshed on the Pacific Coast in the struggle of the longshoremen to gain what they considered decent terms of employment and the right of coastwide bargaining, prior to the decision of the Board," Fahy says. "There has been none since."

OTHER AFL DUDS

Other AFL leadership charges against the Board and the act are similarly analyzed in Fahy's brief, and similarly found to be duds. These include unfounded assertions of excessive delay on AFL cases, slanderous statements that Trial Examiners are biased against the AFL, and the like — all of them based on misinformation and distortion.

In calm, legal language, Fahy winds up his brief in rebuttal of AFL "charges" by saying: "Mr. Padway has not stated dispassionately and accurately the facts of the cases on the basis of which he urges Congress to remodel the law. He seeks to make out a case by distortion and inaccuracy."

Times Square Pickets

Members of the CIO Cleaners and Dyers Union, CIO affiliate, give crowds in New York's Times Square a show for which they didn't have to buy a ticket. Fighting an anti-union chain of stores, the pickets released 500 balloons in the theatre area calling attention to their battle.

Two More AFL Locals in Buffalo Defend Act

Buffalo, N. Y., July 1 — Two more AFL unions have joined the joint committee of local labor organizations opposed to amending the Wagner Act.

Facing Extinction:

The WPA Federal Theatre Project Provides Jobs For Thousands, Entertainment For Millions

Possibility of sudden death faces the Federal Theatre Project if the Congress Tory bloc has its way. Is the project a giant "boondoggle", as the reactionaries claim—or is it a provider of work and bread to jobless professional actors, a form of entertainment for those who have seldom been able to attend a professional play, and a contributor to American dramatic art? This article will tell you some things you "never knew 'til now."

Helped To Save Theatre

The Federal Theatre is one of the paradoxes of the work relief program.

Like all the rest of the emergency work projects, it was intended primarily to provide employment for those in need and capable of working.

It has gone far beyond this —it has become a revitalizing force in the American theatre.

It is part of a larger paradox that only future historians will be able to appreciate fully. Our whole national civilization was dying of stagnation at the depth of the depression. We could not build.

Our schools and hospitals were closing, our sewer systems were falling into dangerous disrepair; our workless masses could not dig sewers nor build roads, our jobless teachers could not teach — we stood helpless, paralyzed, despairing, defeated.

Or so it seemed.

A CREATIVE FLOOD

Yet instantly, when a new channel of effort was provided by the Federal government in the form of public work, the energies of the nation poured out in a gigantic flood, creating roads, bridges, schools, hospitals, sewers, dams, airports—the greatest construction program the world has ever known.

But who could have guessed that the artistic energies of the nation, released into these same channels of public projects, would create a renaissance of art in America? It was believed that actors and painters and musicians, like other workers, should have a chance to work for wages on which to live and support their families. It was believed that these cultural projects had a social value—that plays and pictures and music are public benefits as truly as roads and water-mains and schools.

But no one could have dreamed that the cultural forces released from stagnation and given scope in the work program would become a dazzling fountain of orginal creation in the world of art.

THEATRE'S TROUBLES

The theatre had its own history, its own troubles, apart from the depression. The "road" had almost vanished, and large sections of the nation, far from Broadway, had no chance to see the best plays. High prices were transforming the theatre into a luxury for the well-to-do. Many millions of people were excluded by sheer poverty from enjoyment of the theatre.

The depression struck a paralyzing blow at what had become to so perilous an extent a luxury-trade. Actors, technicians, directors, stagehands, ambitious young playwrights seeking their chance—these came on the relief rolls along with all the other desperately needy unemployed.

Organized as theatre units in every city in which they were found unemployed in large numbers—New York, Chicago, Boston and Los Angeles—they began under the CWA and FERA to carry theatrical entertainment to the people of America. Expanded under the WPA as the Federal Theatre Project, they spread into all the smaller towns in which theatrical folk were unemployed and in need.

VAST NEW AUDIENCES

They gave free theatrical and operatic performances in State hospitals, orphanages and other institutions, in CCC camps, in public parks. They brought the theatre to a vast American audience which had been growing up with little or no opportunity to enjoy the stage and the opera. They were so much acclaimed that they set up regular theatres in the larger cities, where a small admission fee — well under Broadway prices — is charged.

At first they contented themselves with producing popular American plays of recent years, and the classics of the stage — Shakespeare, Ibsen, Wilde, Shaw, Euripides, Gilbert & Sullivan. The new audience that was found among the masses of the people are eager for these plays. Audiences accustomed only to the movies find in actual drama an interest that the movies have never been able to create.

GREAT CONTRIBUTIONS

Finally the Federal Theatre developed new techniques, made original contributions to theatrical and dramatic methods.

This was done most signally in

Appeals

Miss Tallulah Bankhead, noted actress, daughter of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and niece of an Alabama senator, who appealed to Congress to save the Federal Theatre Project.

Introduced Original Ideas

"The Living Newspaper," a method which by simple devices makes possible a vivid dramatic presentation of social and economic problems and of historical events. "Triple-A Ploughed Under" exhibited the plight of the farmer. "Power" set forth the problem of our public utilities. "One Third of a Nation" dramatized our housing problem.

AT THE FAIRS

"Living Newspaper" plays are being presented as part of the WPA exhibit at the San Francisco Fair, and the Federal Theatre will give some of its characteristic productions at the New York World's Fair.

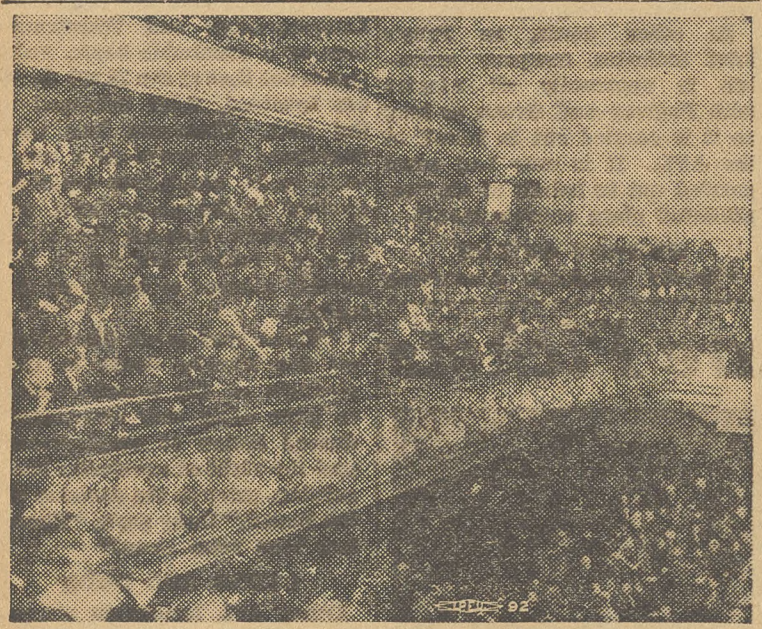
Many Federal Theatre plays have been among the great "hits" of successive seasons on Broadway. And for the first time in stage history the same play opened simultaneously on different stages when Sinclair Lewis' "It Can't Happen Here" was presented in 21 theatres in 18 cities.

Negro productions of two famous stage classics — Shakespeare's "Macbeth" and Gilbert and Sullivan's "Mikado" have attracted great enthusiasm by their immense gusto, color and dash.

Labor unions are among the various organizations active in supporting these Federal Theatre productions. Many Federal Theatre parties have been arranged by local unions in the larger cities, particularly in New York City.

The sixty producing units of the Federal Theatre, operating in 41 cities of 21 states, have given employment to over 15,000 workers in the past three and a half years. Aggregate audiences of over 30,000,000 persons have attended the performances.

A foundation, far more secure than could have been anticipated, has been laid for a permanent National Theatre in the United States.



STANDING ROOM ONLY: An Oakland, Calif., crowd jams orchestra and balconies at the presentation of a WPA show.

IT CAN'T HAPPEN HERE: Storm troopers go on a rampage—in the WPA production of Sinclair Lewis' play, "It Can't Happen Here."

Senate Needs Plea for WPA

Continued from page three

sponsible for the failure of the Senate to take a record vote on the Murray amendments. The Montana Senator offered the amendments just about nine o'clock, eastern standard time, but a majority of the Senators were clustered around a radio in one of the ante-rooms.

As a result, not enough Senators were on the floor during the period of the fight broadcast to ask for a record vote on the Murray bill.

Ask Protection Of Civil Rights In Illinois City

Springfield, Ill., July 1. — A request that U. S. Government law enforcement machinery step into National City, Ill., and investigate continued violation of civil liberties was made by CIO Regional Director Ray Emundson on behalf of Packinghouse Workers locals there.

In a telegram to Attorney General Frank Murphy, Edmundson said: "At National City, Illinois, where Armour and Swift companies have plants located, our organizers and members are being denied their civil rights. Members and organizers are being intimidated and coerced. Organizer Vernon Ford was arrested and thrown in jail for distributing handbills calling attention to radio broadcasts."

Similar telegrams were sent to Senator LaFollette, Chairman J. Warren Madden of the National Labor Relations Board and John Cassidy, Attorney General of Illinois.

Meet the Burkes— 100% Anti-Union

WASHINGTON, July 1.—Opposition to unionism seems to flourish in the Burke family just like weeds in your favorite flower patch.

The Senator—Edward of Nebraska—is leading the reactionaries' fight against the Wagner Act in the Senate.

Last week, daughter Barbara was married to Lewis Lind of Cleveland, whose papa had been approvingly quoted by the Senator some time ago as an "authority" on why the Wagner Act should be amended.

This week, it appears that Mrs. Burke, unwilling to be outclassed by the rest of the family, is testing her spurs as a fighter against labor in her own rights.

WANTED OPEN SHOPPER

As president of the Congressional Clubs, whose membership is composed of wives and daughters of national legislators, Mrs. Burke is reported to have put up a valiant battle to throw a $30,000 clubhouse remodeling job into the hands of an open shop building contractor who undercuts the building trades' unions' pay scale.

Members of the club's board of directors tossed Mrs. Burke's plea out the window, however, and awarded the work to a contractor who pays the union wage rate.

In London, Too!

London wives and mothers picket during rent strikes which won reductions in housing costs and brought promises of needed repairs. More than 200 families joined the demonstration in the city's East End.

Hearst Tries Rand Methods; Shrugs At Anti-Semitism

CHICAGO, July 1.—The fight against the Newspaper Guild strike for job security on the Chicago Hearst strike took a new tack today, as the management and its stooge unions capped an anti-Semitic campaign with an unsuccessful attempt to use James Rand's Mohawk Valley plan of strikebreaking.

A new whispering campaign against the strike leaders was promptly rebutted in the fourth issue of the Guild Hearst Strike News, tabloid paper. One hundred thousand copies of the publication, which is crammed with advertising from Chicago business houses, have been distributed.

Since the strike started some 30 weeks ago, the Herald & Examiner and the Evening American have lost a total of 4,087,564 lines of advertising, Guild leaders said, and an estimated ad revenue of $1,635,025.

REFUSES TO REPLY

In New York, meanwhile, J. V. Connolly, general manager of all Hearst newspapers in the United States, found charges of anti-Semitism preferred by the Guild against the Hearst management "not worth the dignity" of his formal reply.

The charges were levelled by the Guild following appearance of a scurrilous poem in a company union paper in Chicago. The poem, signed by "F. T.", the initials used by the Rev. Irwin St. John Tucker, a Hearst strikebreaker, denounced four Jewish strike leaders and a striking Jewish office boy.

A "LOCAL" MATTER!

Connolly told Federated Press, labor news service, that he had not seen the poem, saying that the matter was purely "local" and in the hands of J. J. Gortatowski —who is Jewish—in Chicago.

Guild spokesmen pointed out that Connolly had personally intervened in the strike situation some time ago and that he had sent Gortatowski, assistant general manager, to Chicago as his representative.

War 'Security' In Auto Pacts

Philadelphia, July 1 — Wartime job security clauses have been written into three contracts signed by the CIO United Automobile Workers in this city, Al Zankl, UAW representative, revealed today.

Call Strike For Pact In Watch Shops

New York, July 1 — Four hundred fifty CIO members walked out on strike against eight watch and watch case shops here after the employers' association broke off contract negotiations with their union, Watch & Watch Case Workers Local Industrial Union 47.

Workers in several other plants are expected to go out in a few days unless their demands for wage increases and the closed shop are granted. Morris Stillman, strike chairman, said the eight affected firms had been completely shut down. Scabs heading for one of the struck shops were stopped by a militant union picket line.

Describe CIO To Students

Blue Ridge, N. C., July 1 — CIO unionism was explained to the 430 delegates who attended the Student Christian Conference held here recently, by Miss Lucy Mason, public relations representative of the Textile Workers Union of America, and Myles Horton, former organizer for CIO textile union, and head of the Highlander Folk School.

The lag in political democracy in the South is closely connected with the rights of southern workers to bargaining collectively, Miss Mason told the conference. Mrs. Zilphia Horton, also of the Highlander Folk School, led the singing, teaching the conference some labor songs.

Union Wins Victory In Wall Street

New York, July 1 — (FP) — The New York Clearing House Assn., representing 19 of the city's biggest banks and 55 other commercial and industrial banking houses, has agreed to remain closed on Saturdays during July and August, following signature by Gov. Lehman of the CIO-sponsored Quinn bill.

The bill, which was backed by the Financial Employes Organizing Committee, permits the closing of banks on Saturday during the two summer months but does not make it mandatory. The Stock and Curb Exchanges, as well as banks throughout the rest of the state, are expected to inaugurate the Saturday summer closings.

Jerome Shore, organizer for the union, said passage of the bill is a "great victory" and marks the "beginning of a new era in the financial centers of the country. For the first time financial workers have had a say in the policies of their respective organization."

Indiana CIO To Support Liberals in '40

EVANSVILLE, Ind., July 1.—Close to 500 delegates at the CIO Industrial Union Council convention here cheered reports of union progress, pledged new organizing effort throughout the state, and voted unanimous support for progressive candidates in the crucial 1940 elections.

James Pascoe, Ft. Wayne member of the Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, was elected president and John Bartee, Indianapolis Auto Worker, vice-president of the Council for the coming year.

Speaker at the meeting included Ora Gassaway, United Mine Workers representative of CIO Pres. John L. Lewis; John Brophy, CIO director; James F. Robb, Indiana CIO regional director; John Owens, Ohio director; Pres. Sherman Dalrymple of the United Rubber Workers; E. L. Oliver, executive vice-president of Labor's Non Partisan League, and others.

URGE LEAGUE SUPPORT

Gassaway urged the delegates to support and work for Labor's Non Partisan League, describing it as "an organization of laboring people to perpetuate in office men who are friendly to labor."

Describing the CIO and the role of the UMWA in building it, he declared: "We have pioneered a modern labor movement, one which embraces all types of workers. Never before have wages been maintained during a depression at such high levels as they have during the past two years. The CIO is alone responsible for this."

Director Brophy urged national control of basic industries, declaring "such control would force these industries to increase production on a national plan, controlling costs and raising the wage level. This may sound radical, but it is essential to social well-being."

E. L. Oliver, executive head of Labor's Non-Partisan League, warned delegates that there was no hope for labor in the Republican party, and evplained the drive for progressive political organization now being carried on by the League.

CAREY, DALRYMPLE SPEAK

James B. Carey, secretary of the CIO and president of the Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, traced the growth of the CIO which, he said, "organized more men in six months than the AFL was able to organize in 50 years."

Sherman Dalrymple, United Rubber Workers head, also spoke of the role of the CIO in organizing previously unorganized industries and predicted new, militant organizing drives for the immediate future.

Speaking for the Federal Social Security Board, H. L. McCarthy, Indiana representative, outlined the work already accomplished towards security for the nation's jobless, aged and sick and called for labor support for the Board and the New Deal in their efforts to "lift our people from the mire of want and destitution to dry land where individuals can better plan their own security."

Name Mooney To Board At Commonwealth

Mena, Ark., July 1 — Among the new members added recently to the non-resident board of Commonwealth College, labor school here, is Tom Mooney, America's most famous political prisoner for 22 years.

Other new members include two officials of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers, CIO,—J. Austin Beasley and Horace Bryan—and two farm union officials — George Harris, vice-president of the Alabama Farmers Union and Gordon McIntyre, secretary-treasurer, Louisiana Farmers Union.

Workers School Plans 13th Session

New York, July 1 — Industrial and agricultural workers from the South are being enrolled for the 13th consecutive session of the Southern Summer School for Workers, which will be held at the Asheville Normal School, Asheville, N. C., July 18 to August 30.

Week-end institutes for the benefit of special groups of workers will also be held in addition to the regular course. One of these will be a conference on August 5-6, sponsored by the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, under the direction of Lawrence Rogin, AFHW educational directory, working with the school faculty.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Men and women who have worked at least two years in southern industry and agriculture are eligible if they are recommended by their unions, have at least sixth grade schooling and have a keen interest in preparing themselves for further usefulness in the labor movement.

A number of scholarships are available for applicants meeting the requirements, covering tuition and all expenses at the school. Workers interested are requested to write to the director of the school at 427 West 59th St., New York City.

Union Leaders Ask Continuance Of Gotham Workers' Classes

New York, July 1 — Fifteen prominent leaders of labor have joined to protest a local WPA decree which they fear may cripple the workers' education program in New York City.

Their attack was based on a decision of WPA Administrator Lieut. Col. Brehon Somervell to reorganize the workers education program sponsored by the work relief agency.

HILLMAN, RIEVE, HAYWOOD

Signing the statement were CIO Vice-Pres. Sidney Hillman, Pres. Emil Rieve of the Textile Workers Union, Pres. Allan S. Haywod of the New York State Industrial Union Council and representatives of garment and hat workers unions.

The WPA officials, they said, "have decided to do away with a workers' education program. They maintain that such specialized services are not necessary, that workers should seek education through the agencies of a general adult education program and not in union centers, that organized labor is to have no advisory voice in such an education program.

"We assert that workers have a right to workers' education," that statement continued, "particularly in times like these. It is our belief that labor must have a voice in determining how adult workers are to secure essential educational opportunities."

WPA has been running hundreds of classes in union offices throughout the city, but if the new ruling becomes effective, this phase of the program will be completely eliminated.

San Francisco Port Lockout Ends; Seen As 'Rehearsal'

By MIRIAM ALLEN DEFORD

SAN FRANCISCO, July 1.—A dress rehearsal for September is the way the lockout which closed the port of San Francisco for 10 days is being described here.

The shutdown followed the refusal of 10 members of the CIO ship clerks union to be shifted from a daily pay basis to a monthly salary—in effect forcing them to work several extra hours with no increase in income.

Pres. Harry Bridges of the Intl. Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union criticized the lockout in a sharp statement, pointing out that the dispute could easily have been avoided if the companies had so desired.

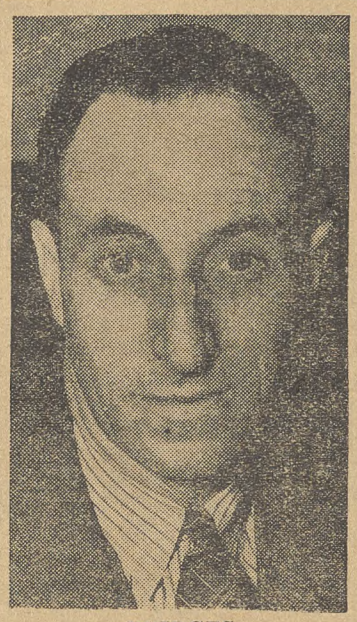
If the week-old dispute had not been settled shortly, the ILWU was considering declaring "hot" all cargo diverted from the port, establishing picket lines at all piers — which would extend the tie-up to include warehousemen.

What began as an attempt by the American - Hawaiian Co. to force ten cargo checkers from a preferred daily to a monthly status—making them work 190 hours to earn the $160 they now earn at a dollar an hour—might have developed from a mere rehearsal of the contract-opening next September to an immediate showdown between the maritime unions and the employers on the entire Coast.

'TERMINAL CLUB'

The present negotiations are complicated by the Terminal Club situation. The Terminal Club, designated by Bridges as "a company union within a union," is a company-blessed association made up of ship clerks, which it is charged is trying to dominate the CIO union and is playing into the employers' hands in the present employers' effort at disruption.

Union leaders, including Bridges, also claim that the employers "are trying to arbitrate the maritime unions out of existence. The unions face a bill of $30,000 to $40,000 monthly on the Coast as arbitration costs."



BRIDGES
West Coast unionists are fighting efforts of reactionaries to bar the public and newspaper men from deportation hearings scheduled this month for Harry Bridges, above, head of the CIO Intl. Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union.

HIGH COSTS

Ed Whelan, San Francisco vice-president of the Ship Clerks, added:

"Blanket arbitration, demanded by the employers, would eliminate the machinery provided in our agreement for the dissolving of grievances through the joint Labor Relations Committee, and instead would provide for a permanent arbitrator to be called in on every complaint of either party. Under this proposal our union alone would probably have to spend at least $1000 a month for arbitration proceedings."

The delicacy of the maintenance of peace on the waterfront is indicated not only by the present situation, and by the employers' overt announcement that they will fight reopening of the contracts—which will involve demands for a six-hour day, sling-load changes, and observation of picket lines against ships of aggressor nations—but also by the hullabaloo with which the bosses and their yes-men are greeting the demand for open hearings in the Bridges deportation case.

ANSWER SLANDERS

Threats that the hearings would be broken up by "CIO guns and agitators" if they were held in San Francisco instead of on Angel Island, and were thrown open to the public or even to the press are ridiculed by the workers. The San Francisco Industrial Union Council has denounced "star chamber methods" as a denial of "American principles of justice," and the committee to defend Bridges is receiving financial aid from all the CIO unions, including $2000 from Bridges' own union, the ILWU.

The real animus behind the fear of public hearings is the dread on the part of the anti-Bridges witnesses of having their past records openly exposed, especially in the case of those connected with the labor movement. They and their backers do not want to be put on the stand in the presence of union members and newspaper writers.

Chicago Prepares Welcome For Lewis on July 16

CHICAGO, July 1. — Thousands of workers will give CIO Pres. John L. Lewis an enthusiastic reception when he arrives in the Windy City July 16 to address the special national conference called by the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee.

All CIO unions in the city have started to work on plans to jam the huge Chicago Stadium for the Lewis meeting, according to reports at a meeting of the coordinating committee of union officials.

The PWOC confab is being called to discuss future action against Armour & Co. and other meat packers who have refused to sign union agreements.

PARADES PLANNED

Automobile parades to the Stadium will come from the stock yards and other packing centers, from the steel areas in the southern part of the city, and from other industrial and mining regions in nearby Indiana and Wisconsin. Special trains from some distant packinghouse centers will help swell the crowd at the meeting.

Meanwhile Gus Scholle, new CIO director here, is stressing the need for formation of a Chicago Industrial Union Council.

NEED FOR COUNCIL

"All of us agree that an industrial union council is needed in Chicago," Scholle told local CIO leaders, "and all of us also agree that we want every CIO union in Chicago represented in such a council."

Assignment of Scholle to this mid-west industrial capital, together with the Lewis visit, are providing enthusiasm and impetus for a sweeping organizing drive.

Meet With CIO, Chicago Council Tells Armour

CHICAGO, July 1. — Armour & Co., big meat packing firm, received a plea from the labor committee of the Chicago City Council to meet with leaders of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee "in order to avert a major industrial dispute."

The request was made after Don Harris and Henry Johnson, PWOC officials, had described to the committee Armour's stubborn refusal to negotiate a contract and warned that the workers are losing their patience because of the company's stalling.

PLAN PICNIC

Terre Haute, Ind., July 1—The twenty-third annual miners' picnic sponsored by the various local unions of the United Mine Workers in this district will be held here Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 11-13. Otho Brown was elected general chairman of the picnic committee.

California Legislature Ends Tory Session

SACRAMENTO, Calif., July 1. (FP)—The 53rd California legislature has ended one of the most reactionary sessions in its history.

It turned down every labor and liberal bill and every "must" on Gov. Culbert Olson's program including compulsory health insurance, a little Wagner Act, a wage-hour bill for those not covered by the federal act, restrictions against lobbying (the floor is over-run by lobbyists), election reform, and repeal of the criminal syndicalism law.

CUT RELIEF SUM

The legislature cut the Governor's relief appropriation to less than half and tied it up so he cannot use it for a production-for-use program. About the only good measures it adopted were regulation of small money-lenders, — outlawing loan sharks — and an increase of unemployment insurance benefits.

Olson said the fight has "just started."

"Temporary setbacks suffered by the progressive movement from the hands of the most reactionary legislature in several decades should not discourage or dishearten liberals of the state. The fight to return the government to the people is going on," the liberal state executive predicted.

A special session and an election purge of reactionary legislators is expected.

Harvester Spending $150,000 to Defend Stooge Unions

CHICAGO, July 11.—Company unions make expensive toys in this Wagner Act era, the Intl. Harvester Co., giant farm implement manufacturer, is learning to its sorrow.

IHC will spend at least $150,000 to defend its multi-named employe representation plans operating in six plants, leaders of the Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee have estimated — though Ben Meyers, union attorney thinks that that figure is, if anything, "too conservative."

The estimate of the company's expenses is based on the fact that it has retained the corporation law firm of Pope and Ballard, which will receive about $1,000 a day for the use of five lawyers. Cost of the transcript will cost about $200 a day, while expenses of executives, traveling costs and other incidentals should bring the total bill to the $150,000 mark.

$25 A WEEK

Gerald Fielde, FEWOC secretary-treasurer, estimated that the sum would provide a $25 weekly wage for each of the 5,000 employes at the company's McCormick tractor works.

"Nothing could more effectively expose the vicious anti-labor policy of the company," he said, "than this willingness to spend more than an eighth of a million dollars in trying to maintain fake unions whose purpose is to keep wages down and company profits up."

IHC Torture Chamber Revealed

Chicago, July 1 — Behind the boasts of the International Harvester Company that its bosses and workers are "one big happy family" lies a story of brutal intimidation and lawbreaking, now being exposed at a hearing being conducted here by the National Labor Relations Board on charges brought against the company by the Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee.

Testimony was given by worker after worker acusing the company of vicious anti-union activities ranging from dismissals for joining the CIO union to beatings by company goons.

LOST FIRST ROUNDS

It lost its first fight when the Labor Board ruled against its appeal to have six separate hearings instead of the consolidated case out of which will come one decision covering its six plants.

During the testimony given at the hearing, a worker from the West Pullman Works, told about a "torture chamber" at the plant where he was taken by a foreman who tried to make him join the company union. When he refused, he declared that the foreman smashed him in the face with his fist saying "I'll make you join."

Another worker also told of being taken to the "torture chamber" but as he was as big as the foreman, he was not struck when he refused to join the stooge union. On one occasion 25 out of the 50 workers in the chain department were fired for belonging to the CIO.

$1,000 FINE

Holyoke, Mass., July 1—A $1,000 fine was tagged on to the Sussex Hat Mills here following conviction on charges of failing to keep wage payment records as required by the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act.

CIO Members Help AFL Fight Struck Dairy

BALTIMORE, July 1.—CIO consumers are doing their bit to help an AFL milk wagon drivers union win an important strike.

When the AFL local called a strike against the Cloverland Milk Co., it threw a picket line around the Alderney Restaurant, one of the company's largest milk buyers. The restaurant is largely patronized by the 4,400 employes of the Social Security Board, which has offices in the same building.

Local 17 of the United Federal Workers, CIO, sent a committee to the restaurant manager urging that he discontinue buying the unfair milk. Met with a refusal, the UFW local has urged all its members here to support the AFL strike by ceasing to patronize the restaurant.

CIO WINS POLL

Gloucester, N. J. — An election to determine collective bargaining rights among the workers of the Hinde & Dauch Paper Mill here was won by the CIO, which defeated an AFL union 168 to 126. Two years ago the CIO lost an election in the plant to a company union by six votes.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol II—No. 28 — 20 — JULY 10, 1939 — Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 — $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

LEWIS CALLS WPA BILL BLOW TO ALL WORKERS

The News In Brief

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

Strike

Detroit. — Several thousand tool and die makers went out on strike in five General Motors plants following refusal of the company to negotiate a supplementary agreement with the United Automobile Workers, CIO.

Canal Zone

Washington.—Formation of a Panama Canal Zone Workers Organizing Committee was announced here by CIO Director John Brophy.

Attacked

Chicago.—Eric Hessler, CIO union leader in a Chicago plant of the Intl. Harvester Co. lay near death in a hospital here following an attack by thugs the night before he was scheduled to appear as witness at a Labor Board hearing against the big tractor firm.

Little Steel

Pittsburgh. — Plans for an intensive organizing campaign in Little Steel are being contemplated by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, Chairman Philip Murray revealed.

Michigan

Grand Rapids. — Freed of the disruptive influence of Homer Martin henchmen, the Michigan Industrial Union Council laid plans at its convention here to increase labor's political influence throughout the state.

Conventions

American Newspaper Guild, San Francisco, July 31.

Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers, Denver, August 7.

Iowa - Nebraska Industrial Union Council, Omaha, August 25. West Virginia Industrial Union Council, Huntington, August 21.

Hose Union Wins Honor

Philadelphia, July 8—In honor of its long history of militant organization, the Textile Workers Union of America, youngest and one of the largest of the CIO nationals, has issued its Charter Number 1 to the American Federation of Hosiery Workers.

The charter, accepted at a meeting of the AFHW national executive board held here, formally brings the Hosiery Federation within the giant CIO textile union.

Taking 'Trib' for Ride

The Chicago Tribune, perhaps the nation's most unpopular paper, was taken for an unusual ride by members of the Chicago Artists Union, CIO affiliate, who got fed up with the paper's criticism of all modern art. An effigy of Eleanor Jewett, Trib critic, is shown getting the razz from Windy City artists.

Tire Makers Win First Union Shop Pact

AKRON, Ohio, July 8.—The first union shop contract in the tire and tube industry has been signed by the United Rubber Workers with the Denman Cord Tire & Rubber Co., Warren, Ohio, URW President S. H. Dalrymple announced this week.

A clause in the contract provides that "all employes covered by this agreement who have at any time signed an application card for membership, or who have at any time been a member of the union, shall as a condition of employment with the company, immediately establish and maintain a good standing membership in the union, and remain in good standing during the term of this agreement."

TWO MONTHS TO JOIN

New employes must become members of the union within two months after the start to work. The contract also provides for plant-wide seniority and paid vacations, Dalrymple said.

Predicts Harm To Present Recovery

In This Issue

Lewis Statement on WPA . . . . . Page Three
Thousands to Lose WPA Jobs . . . . . Page Three
Editorial, Cartoon and Column . . . . . Page Four
Analysis of WPA Bill . . . . . Page Six
Your WPA Job . . . . . Page Six

WASHINGTON, July 8 — CIO Pres. John L. Lewis charged today that the new WPA bill, which will sharply curtail WPA employment, is a "terrible blow" aimed at millions of "helpless men and women."

"This blow will be profoundly resented by all of labor," Lewis warned. Labor has not forgotten the Democrats' 1936 campaign pledge that work at prevailing wages should be provided for all the nation's jobless, he added, criticizing the relief measure as a "clear repudiation of that platform pledge."

In addition to forcing a million unemployed workers off the WPA payroll, Lewis said the bill:

1. Discriminates against a "number of groups of our citizens.

2. Introduces a "starvation period" for those who have been on WPA for more than 18 months.

3. "Openly slaps labor" by wiping out the prevailing hourly wage rate on WPA.

The bill, considered the worst work relief measure passed since 1933, contains most of the provisions writen into it by conservative Democrats and Republicans in the House of Representatives. Though the Senate toned down the worst of the anti-labor clauses, a joint House-Senate conference committee leaned to the House version.

WIN CONTRACT

Garfield, N. J.—United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers Local 423 signed a contract with the Presto Lock Co. covering 250 workers. Two years ago the company moved here from Brooklyn in an effort to avoid dealing with the same local.

CIO Salmon Workers Get Big Pay Boost

Seattle, Wash., July 8 — Wage gains of 12 to 14 per cent were won for the resident Alaska salmon workers in negotiations concluded here between the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers, CIO, and employers in the canned salmon industry.

Workers employed by the hour and by the month benefitted by the agreement under which workers will earn minimum wages of $160 to $180 a month. Those employed by the month are guaranteed two months' work.

Similar wage increases for those shipping to Alaska from Seattle, Portland and San Francisco were provided in an agreement made with the canned salmon industry last month.

An industry-wide agreement, covering about 7,000 workers has now been won by the CIO cannery union in the canned salmon industry, with the exception of a few independent packers in Alaska, who balked against accepting the agreement covering Alaska residents.

Clothing Workers Pave Way For Two More Years of Peace

New York, July 8—Two more years of industrial peace in the New York men's clothing industry —which has not seen a strike since 1921—were assured today as the Amalgamated Clothing Workers signed a new agreement covering some 40,000 workers.

The contract, which makes no changes in wages and hours, provides for continuance of the system of arbitration which has been functioning for 18 years and made the industry—once one of the most striketorn in the city—a model in employer-employe relations.

EXAMPLE OF DEMOCRACY

Spokesmen for the ACWA and the New York Clothing Manufacturers' Exchange described the agreement as "a living example of how democracy in industry works."

Pres. Sidney Hillman of the ACWA promised the manufacturers that the union would continue its work of policing wage rates throughout the nation in order to stabilize conditions for the entire industry.

"I can assure you," Hillman told the employers, "that no manufacturer will pay less than you now do for comparable grades of work.

"We intend to bring in complete stability as far as wage rates are concerned, and we feel this effort wil benefit not only manufacturers but even retailers, for they will be assured that their competitors cannot obtain any advantage at the expense of labor."

BAN JUNGLE LAWS

In another statement, made jointly with Morris Friedman, official of the New York Clothing Manufacturers Exchange, Hillman said that the peaceful relations of the last few years prove that "the laws of the jungle need not dominate employer-employe relations.

"It proves that, wherever there are fair-minded employers and disciplined workers, there can be recourse to reason and understanding in the settlement of any differences that may arise."

Canadian Unions Rebuke AFL Splitters

Convention May Over-Rule Ouster Of CIO Unions

OTTAWA, Ont., July 8. — When the 55th convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada meets Sept. 18 in London, Ontario, one of the main points on the parley's agenda will be Congress' attitude to the suspension of CIO unions by the executive council last January.

A considerable number of affiliated unions throughout the nation are preparing to send delegates who will vote to reject the executive council's suspension of the industrial unions.

For the first time since the CIO was organized, its affiliated unions will not be represented at the convention which is expected to cut attendance to almost half.

The Congress is composed of AFL and CIO unions and is the largest trade union group in the country. The CIO unions were formally suspended from the Congress last January but this order was never put into effect in the central labor bodies.

VOTED FOR UNITY

For the past three years every annual convention of the Congress has voted to maintain unity in its ranks. This year's meeting, in view of the executive council's action, is expected to have important consequences for the labor movement.

AFL splitting tactics have been sharply criticized by Canadian city labor bodies.

REBUKED HINES

Because its representative, Lewis G. Hines, was publicly rebuked here last year for attacking the CIO, the AFL executive council is not sending a guest speaker to address the annual Labor Day rally of the Toronto District Labor Council, largest central labor body in Canada.

In his address last year, Hines viciously attacked the CIO despite warnings from local leaders that the rally was under joint auspices of AFL and CIO unions.

As a result, Secretary J. W. Buckley of the Toronto council issued a statement rebuking the AFL spokesman and said in future no speaker will be permitted to attack labor unity from a Labor Day platform.

Acquit Oil Union Leader

Tulsa, Okla., July 8 — After deliberating for 27 hours, a county jury decided that Jack Hays, Oil Workers strike leader, was not guilty of inciting to riot in the Mid-Continent Oil Co. strike.

This is the second set-back D-X gasoline makers have received in their effort to beat the Oil Workers International Union. Last month 93 strikers were acquitted of charges of unlawful assembly.

The only witness to testify that a riot developed at the Mid-Continent plant was a policeman who threw teargas at strikers and their families.

Liberals Condemn Alien Bills

New York, July 8—Leaders in religion, labor, education, civic affairs and the professions have joined in an open letter to all U. S. Senators protesting against the current crop of "anti-alien" bills that are in reality aimed at the rights of citizens and of labor and progressive groups.

The letter referred particularly to the Dempsey Deportation bill, which provides for mandatory exile of non-citizen members of religious, labor or fraternal organizations that support legislation calling for "any change in the American form of government," which would exclude them from almost every kind of organization in the country.

GAG CITIZENS

The McCormack rider to the espionage bill is also specifically discussed, the letter pointing out that while it makes "advocacy of overthrow of the government," a felony, this can be, and has many times been used, as a weapon against strikers.

The letter urges the Senators to vote against these and other gag bills "to ward off the dangerous, undemocratic ideas contained in this and similar legislation now before the U. S. Senate."

Signers include Sidney Hillman, CIO vice-president; Msgr. John A. Ryan; Rev. John Haynes Holmes; Jerome Davis, president of the AFL Teachers; Jonathan Eddy, CIO Newspaper Guild; Lewis Merrill, CIO Office and Professional Workers; Reid Robinson, Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, CIO; and many others prominent in labor, religious and civic work.

Rubber Workers Win Wage Award In Canada

KITCHENER, Ont., July 8.—Eleven hundred employes of the Dominion Tire and Merchants Rubber companies were awarded a 1½-cent an hour increase in wages by a federal arbitration board, established after a strike in the two plants last March.

The award will mean an added $170,000 in the pay envelopes of the employes and is retroactive to March 10, the day the workers returned to work.

The pay raise was unanimously accepted at the meeting of locals 67 and 80 of the United Rubber Workers' Union. The company originally agreed to abide by the decision of the arbitration board.

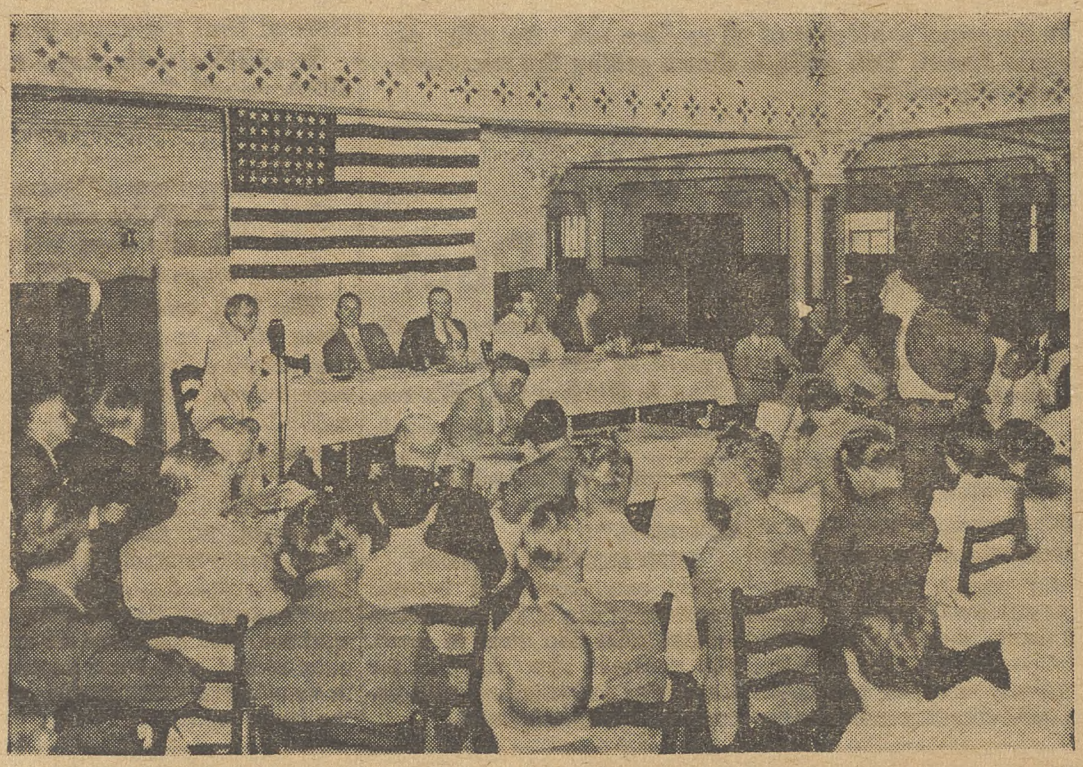
"We consider the award a decided gain," said Joseph Mackenzie, international representative of the URW, "particularly since there was an attempt at wage slashing in the organized plants and actual pay cuts in unorganized rubber factories."

STRUCK FOR PACT

The strike was called for a written contract, regulation of hours of work, seniority system of employment and a five cents an hour wage increase. The company agreed to all the demands but the last which was referred to the arbitration board appointed by the federal government.

Prof. Norman A. Mackenzie of the University of Toronto was chairman of the board, J. L. Cohen, K. C. represented the union and General Manager J. A. Martin, the companies.

Demand American Standards



Wage-Hour Administration officials hold hearings in Atlanta, Ga., and receive labor demands that the 32½c minimum wage recommended by the textile industry committee be accepted. Embattled sweatshoppers are urging that a low wage be set for the southern workers.

Metal Miners Push Fight On Silicosis

Vancouver, B. C., July 8—The CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union's campaign for amendments to British Columbia silicosis laws has won the promise from Hon. G. S. Pearson, minister of labor, that a province-wide meeting will be called some time before the next session of the legislature to discuss causes of silicosis, its prevention and the payment of adequate compensation to silicotic victims.

The union this month marked a year of organizing activity which has resulted in establishment of new locals in several hardrock mining camps and great inroads into Trail and Kimberley, the stronghold of the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company, the biggest enterprise of its kind in the industry.

REPORT STEADY GROWTH

Well-functioning locals are reported in Bralerne, Pioneer, Ymir, Zehallos, Atlin and Vancouver, and all report a steady growth in membership.

The union has become a constructive force in the community as evidenced by its campaign in Atlin for the raising of funds to build an addition to the local hospital and rebuilding of the Community Hall.

Its campaign in Trail is directed toward obtaining a majority of the Consolidated employes to seek an election in the mine and smelter to vote for a union of their choice. Despite opposition from the corporation the union expects to reach its objective shortly.

Martin Rump In Trouble, Thomas Says

Grand Rapids, July 8—The rapid disintegration of Homer Martin's rump union was reported to the Michigan Industrial Council convention by Pres. R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers, CIO.

"I have recently been contacted by a half dozen leaders of the UAW-AFL," he said. "They want to come over to the UAW-CIO. Some of those who sat in a meeting presided over by Matthew Woll said they were dissatisfied with the terms he offered the Martin union."

Woll's advice, according to Thomas' informants, was not to try to organize the unorganized, but to concentrate on trying to disrupt and split the UAW-CIO.

Order Polls In 33 Lettuce PackingSheds

Washington, July 8 — Lettuce workers employed in the packing sheds of 33 companies in the Imperial Valley district of California and at Somerton, Arizona, will vote on the union they desire to represent them at a secret ballot election, the National Labor Relations Board announced this week. Date for the election will be set later.

Charges Blacklist, Sues For Damages

CHICAGO, July 8. — Francis J. Swartz, a member of the CIO Textile Workers Union of America, brought suit for $50,000 today against the Lacon Woolen Mills.

Swartz complained that he had been blacklisted by the firm because of union organizing activities, and that since his discharge in 1937 he has been fired three more times—each time, according to the complaint, because of pressure brought by Lacon executives.

Hosiery Workers Win In South

Philadelphia, July 8 — Another victory in the South was announced this week by the American Federation of Hosiery Workers which won by a vote of 226 to 40, an election conducted by the Natl. Labor Relations Board among the workers at the Vance Hosiery Mills, Kernersville, N. C.

The Vance mill is associated with the May Hosiery Co., Burlington, N. C. A five-year contract with the Real Silk Hosiery Mills of Dalton, Ga. was recently won by the AFHW.

Michigan CIO, Disrupters Out, Sets New Goals

By RALPH H. MARLATT

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., July 8—A new era in labor organization was ushered into Michigan last week with the holding of the second annual convention of the Michigan State Industrial Union Council.

Some 257 delegates representing over 300,000 Michigan workers deliberated the course future organization would take under the banner of the CIO in Michigan.

The convention was marked by complete harmony in contrast to the wild efforts to sabotage last year's meeting. As pointed out by Adolph Germer, president of the council, in his report, "Martin's attempts to wreck the auto workers' union and the CIO ended in failure and instead he, the wrecker, was wrecked."

Richard T. Leonard, retiring secretary-treasurer pointed out the need for continued vigilance on the part of labor in the political field. Leonard explained how much reactionary legislation in Michigan was defeated during the past year directly due to the efforts of the CIO.

Following an address by E. L. Oliver, vice president of Labor's Non-Partisan League, the political action and legislative committee enlarged upon Leonard's report by urging:

1. The calling of a state convention of Labor's Non-Partisan League.

2. All locals to affiliate with regional LNPL bodies.

3. All locals to set up political action committees; break down membership files into wards and precincts for use by the League; carry on a constant campaign for

Continued on Page Five

Start CIO Drive In Canal Zone

WASHINGTON, July 8. — Formation of a Panama Canal Zone Workers Organizing Committee was announced today by CIO Director John Brophy.

H. A. Stoudt of the National Maritime Union, who has been organizing in the Panama Canal Zone for some time, was named chairman of the new CIO committee. Stoudt is a former employe of the Panama Steamship line.

The other officers of the Committee are all employed in the Canal Zone. They include L. Moore, named secretary; A. W. McEwen, vice-chairman; Noel Austin and Santiago Agnew.

Temporary headquarters of the Committee will be at Cristobal, in the Canal Zone.

LOCALS SET UP

The Committee will concentrate on organizing unorganized workers in the Canal Zone, of whom it is estimated there are about 20,000. Locals of several thousand members have already been established.

The CIO organization in the Canal Zone is expected to form an important link in the proposed national federation of maritime workers which existing maritime unions have set as their goal.

In a letter addressed to Mr. Stoudt, announcing that the application for CIO affiliation of the PCZWOC had been approved, Director Brophy declared:

PURPOSE OF COMMITTEE

"The purpose of the Committee will be to act as an executive body with power to direct the work of organizing the workers employed in the Panama Canal Zone.

"The object of the organization will be in accordance with Article II, Section I of the CIO constitution, which says: 'To bring about the effective organization of the working men and women . . . regardless of race, creed, color or nationality, and to unite them for common action into labor unions for their mutual aid and protection.'

"In addition, it shall also be governed by the general program and policy of the CIO as outlined in its constitution and official declarations."

Form Group to Protect U. S. Wage-Hour Law

WASHINGTON, July 8. — Alarmed at attempts to destroy the wage-hour law, The Emergency Committee for Preserving the Fair Labor Standards Act this week asked all Congressmen for their opinion on current attempts to kill the law by amendment.

The group sent a statement of its purpose to all members of Congress, which charged: "The same powerful lobbyists who continuously fought the bill before its enactment into law last year are now seeking to make new alliances and obtain support in attempting, under the guise of 'clarifying' amendments, to exclude members of sweated industries, and to destroy the very foundations of the Act."

SEE PLAN TO HURT LAW

The proposed resolution calling for a special investigation of the Wages and Hours Administration is another plan to undo the law, the committee warned.

Representatives of church and consumer groups, AFL, CIO and railroad unions formed the committee to "help organize effective resistance to a concerted attempt by the original enemies of the Fair Labor Standards Act to destroy the Act, under pretense of trying to improve it."

Jobless Furriers Get Benefits

New York, July 8 — Unemployed furriers here received $10,000 last week from the special unemployment reserve fund created by agreement between the Employers Association and the union, the Furriers Joint Council of the International Fur Workers, announced this week.

This brings the total paid out of the fund during the last few months to more than $100,000, the council stated.

An additional payment of several thousands dollars is expected for the coming week.

Demonstrations Follow Congress WPA Slashes

WASHINGTON, July 8—Strenuous protests and a series of work stoppages in a dozen major cities today constituted the answer of American workers to the WPA slash bill passed by Congress late last week.

The bill, described as the answer to a Tory's dream, came out of the Congressional hopper just a few hours before midnight on June 30, end of the government's fiscal year.

CIO Pres. John L. Lewis, warning that the job-slashing blow against helpless men and women" will be "profoundly resented by all labor," predicted the entire nation would suffer as a result of the WPA joyride taken by conservative Democrats and Republicans.

"The total effect of this bill upon the economic situation cannot help but be depressive. There are grounds for the fear that such a terrible cut in WPA jobs and in wage rates will touch off a definite downward movement," he said.

Provisions of the new appropriations bill stand out in sharp and unfavorable contrast with the Casey-Murray bill, which had the support of the CIO and large numbers of AFL unions and progressive organizations.

CUTS NUMBER OF JOBS

Allotting a total of $1,755,600,000 for the government's relief program, Congress provided less than a billion and a half dollars for the WPA. This, it has been estimated, is enough to keep only two million people on WPA—a cut of close to a million.

The Federal Theatres Project, employing thousands and entertaining millions of people, was wiped out completely.

Art, history, music and writing projects had their appropriation cut almos to one-third, forecasting sharp curtailment of these activities.

All workers who have been on WPA for 18 months will be auto-

Continued on page six

Lewis' Statement On WPA Slash

WASHINGTON, July 8. — The following statement on the WPA cut was released by President John L. Lewis of the Congress of Industrial Organizations:

"The helpless men and women who are unemployed have suffered a terrible blow in the passage of the 1940 WPA appropriation. This blow will be profoundly resented by all of labor.

"Labor does not forget that in 1936 the Democratic platform promised work for the unemployed. That platform stated: 'We believe that unemployment is a national problem, and that it is an inescapable obligation of our Government to meet it in a national way . . . When business fails to supply . . . employment, we believe that work at prevailing wages should be provided in cooperation with State and local governments on useful public projects, to the end that the national wealth may be increased, the skill and energy of the worker may be utilized, his morale maintained, and the unemployed assured the opportunity to earn the necessities of life.'

REPUDIATES PLATFORM

"The relief bill which was passed is a clear repudiation of that platform pledge. The measure will throw out of WPA employment a million WPA workers in the fiscal year. Five hundred thousand of these will be thrown out by the end of July. This happens at a time when there are at least eleven to twelve million employable unemployed.

"The bill seriously discriminates against a number of groups of our citizens, especially the artists, musicians and theatrical workers.

"The bill introduces a starvation period for those who have been on the WPA for more than 18 months. This is one of the most vicious provisions that has ever been imposed by a democratic government. We believe that the citizens of this country will deeply resent this provision when they realize its effect.

'OPENLY SLAPS LABOR'

"The measure openly slaps labor by wiping out the prevailing hourly rate on WPA. It further carries a device by which the present meager and inadequate monthly security wage will be severely cut all through the industrial areas.

"The total effect of this bill upon the economic situation cannot help but be depressive. There are grounds for the fear that such a terrible cut in WPA jobs and in wage rates will touch off a definite downward movement."

Circus acrobats, employed on the Federal Theatre Project until July 1, protest against Congressional action killing their jobs.

Five CIO Affiliates To Meet

Washington, July 8 — Five CIO conventions will be held during the months of July and August, in addition to the National Maritime Union convention which opened July 3 in New Orleans.

The American Newspaper Guild will meet in San Francisco, July 31 to August 4 for its sixth annual convention, and on August 7, the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers, one of the oldest international unions in the CIO, will meet in Denver, Colorado.

Three CIO State Councils have scheduled conventions during the month of August. On August 21, the West Virginia Industrial Union Council convenes in Huntington, and on August 25, two state groups meet: the joint Iowa-Nebraska CIO Council in Omaha, and the California Council, in San Francisco.

Marine Union Convention Raps Spies

New Orleans, La., July 8.—Elected by the crews in ships' forecastles and gloryholes and from the union's 37 branches in Atlantic, Gulf and Great Lakes ports, delegates to the second convention of the National Maritime Union, representing a cross-section of the union's 50,000 membership, are taking steps to unify their organization on a national basis.

Plagued with spies who have been attempting to disrupt the union for months, the seamen are going ahead in an orderly and disciplined manner with the important matters before them, and have succeeded in discrediting a small group which appeared at the convention with the intent of splitting the union.

BROPHY SPEAKS

John Brophy, CIO director, who arrived by plane to address the convention told the delegates that "the anti-union team you've been up against—employers, tory politicians, police and spies — is a familiar combination. It has been used against labor ever since labor began to organize."

Joseph Curran, NMU president, threw confusion into a small group of suspended union members who were accused of acting as agents for the shipowners, when he took the microphone and announced

Continued on Page Four

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II July 10, 1939 No. 28

Our No. 1 Problem

Congress has again tried to dodge the No. 1 problem confronting the United States.

Between 11 and 12 million Americans are unemployed. Their plight affects millions more. It is a growing misery that feeds upon itself and keeps the whole nation in depression.

The Democratic party now in power promised constructive work at prevailing wages for the unemployed. The WPA program was a step, though still an inadequate one, in this direction.

But the present Congress has not carried on until the job was done. It has not adopted a single measure to put the unemployed to work.

On the contrary, tory Democrats, repudiating their party's pledge, have joined with tory Republicans in passing a bill which will throw a million unemployed off WPA jobs.

The organized protest of progressive labor, as represented and mobilized by the CIO, prevented an even worse blow being inflicted on the unemployed. The AFL national leadership, on the other hand, did not lift a finger in defense of WPA, and the CIO had to bear the brunt of the fight. This fight will be continued by the CIO, in Congress and out, to prevent the cutting of the meager WPA wages and to prevent layoffs wherever possible.

Experience with the present Congress will make labor more exacting in its demands on those who look for labor and progressive votes in coming elections.

It will want to know what every candidate is going to do about America's No. 1 problem—unemployment.

It is the workers who suffer most from continuing unemployment. And if constructive steps are to be taken to cope with it, the workers will have to organize politically as well as industrially to see that they are placed in effect.

Industrial Peace

The peaceful achievements of the CIO have never received as much attention as have its dramatic struggles for union rights.

Yet peaceful progress is the normal course of unionism. Struggles occur when collective bargaining is refused by employers or when they seek to smash the unions of their workers.

The men's clothing industry in New York City used to be one of the most chaotic in the country. But peace, order and progress have reigned since collective bargaining was finally and fully accepted by the employers.

Eighteen years of peaceful labor relations have just been celebrated with the signing of a new two-year agreement covering 40,000 members of the CIO Amalgamated Clothing Workers in the New York market.

Both employer and union representatives issued a joint statement pointing out that "the laws of the jungle need not dominate employer-employe relations."

Other employers who are still fighting unions "with tooth and claw," might compare notes with the New York clothing manufacturers. The way to peace and industrial progress, they will find, is through union recognition and full acceptance of collective bargaining.

CIO From Coast To Coast

The Panama Canal is the sea link between the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts of the United States.

The workers in the Canal Zone are by the same token an important link in the unity of all American organized maritime workers which is the goal of the CIO.

CIO organization has been quietly under way for some time in the Canal Zone, and locals of several thousands of members have been established.

The chartering of a Panama Canal Zone Workers Organizing Committee last week, however, puts the CIO officially on the map there and will centralize and stimulate organizing activity among the Zone's 20,000 unorganized workers.

Existing CIO unions, from Alaska to Florida, from the east coast of Canada to the Hawaiian Islands in the west, will all wish the best of luck to the CIO pioneers in the Panama Canal Zone.

Not What The Doctor Ordered

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

A Starvation Program

"HUNGRY Reliefers Storm Surplus Food Depot Here; Blind and Aged Needy Also in Dire Straits."

So read a headline in the Washington News a few days after Congress had adopted the Woodrum Hunger and Misery Bill.

The papers the same day carried news items about 200,000 unemployed being cut off WPA for July, as a first instalment of the starvation program voted by Congress.

News of a flood, however, soon pushed such items into the background.

Yet the attack of Congress on WPA is a man-made calamity more devastating in its effects on more American homes than any number of floods or hurricanes.

When a calamity arises from natural causes, the government at least accepts full responsibility for coping with it.

But the cruelest feature of the WPA calamity is that it was deliberately willed by the very people who were pledged to have the government provide work for the unemployed.

A Broken Pledge

The 1936 Democratic platform on which most of the present members of Congress were elected declared that unemployment was a national problem, and that "it is an inescapable obligation of our government to meet it in a national way."

"Where business fails to supply . . . employment," it continued, "we believe that work at prevailing wages should be provided in cooperation with state and local governments on useful public projects, to the end that the national wealth may be increased, the skill and energy of the worker may be utilized, his morale maintained, and the unemployed assured the opportunity to earn the necessities of life."

Yet despite this platform pledge, the Democratic majority joined with tory Republicans in adopting a WPA appropriation bill which will deny work to a million WPA workers in the coming fiscal year.

The bill also specifically denies "the opportunity to earn the necessities of life" to unemployed artists, musicians and theatrical workers by discontinuing the federal theatre projects.

It introduces a "starvation period," as John L. Lewis describes it, for those who have been on WPA for more than 18 months.

Finally, the platform pledge about "prevailing wages" also goes by the board, with provisions for cutting the meager monthly security wage and for wiping out the prevailing hourly rate on WPA.

Although the Senate responded to labor pressure by voting down some of the worst features of the Woodrum bill adopted by the House, the joint bill which came from conference and was finally adopted by Congress is little better than the original Woodrum bill.

What the Voters Want

The members of Congress who voted for the above starvation program will say that they did so in response to a demand from the voters for "economy" at the expense of the unemployed.

But don't let them kid you.

The voters in 1936 showed overwhelming approval of Democratic promises of an adequate WPA program. The Democrats who voted to slash WPA are therefore repudiating their party's platform pledge.

As for the Republicans who may claim their election signifies disapproval of the administration's unemployment program, let them look back to their own election campaigns.

Dissatisfaction there was, and still is, with the WPA program. But this dissatisfaction is due to its low wages and other inadequacies, and to the fact that the unemployed would much prefer private employment at higher wages.

Such discontent was taken advantage of by tory demagogues in the last elections. They implied that their election would bring the unemployed work in private industry at decent wages intead of WPA jobs.

But now the tories of both parties have voted to throw a million unemployed off WPA jobs at a time when they have no chance of getting private employment.

There is much political work yet to be done to convince the members of Congress that the voters gave them no mandate to starve the unemployed; and that they still want the government to live up to its "inescapable obligation" to provide work at prevailing wages for all who need it.

Marine Union Convention

Continued from page three

that he had records in his pocket giving "names, dates and places" which he would read.

"I intend to read this record," he said. "It probably explains the hiring of goons to beat up members. I think it is time the membership of the union decided how long it is going to permit this small clique of saboteurs to keep on trying to wreck this union."

At an earlier session, William Standard, NMU attorney, asked for a complete investigation of the U. S. Maritime Commission, which he said would show "wholesale collusion" between the Commission and the steamship operators.

Michigan CIO Sets New Goal

Continued from page three
registration of voters.

OVATION FOR THOMAS

The highlight of Thursday's meeting was the great ovation given to President R. J. Thomas of the UAW-CIO. It was a spontaneous demonstration which acknowledged the complete victory of the present administration of the auto workers' union over the selfish interests which made so great an attempt to wreck the union.

President Thomas spoke briefly on the gains made by the union since the Cleveland convention, asserting that the workers in Michigan had definitely declared themselves in favor of the CIO and that they would march together to greater victories for labor under the banner of the CIO.

BROPHY SPEAKS

John Brophy, director of organization for the CIO, was the featured speaker on Friday. Brophy pointed out that never before in the history of the labor movement had the working men and women made such forward steps as they have since the inception of the CIO.

"The strength of the CIO," said Brophy, "is a bulwark against the rise of fascism and Nazism in this country."

Len De Caux, publicity director of the CIO and editor of The CIO NEWS, talked on the importance of a labor press. De Caux traced the manner in which the birth and rise of the CIO has been treated by the daily papers in their attempts to influence the public against the organization.

He urged the delegates to work toward the establishment of contacts with each other and with the national organization that would eventually lead to the setting up of a daily labor press in this country.

Upon recommendation of the publicity committee, the convention adopted a resolution that called for the publishing of a Michigan edition of The CIO NEWS.

PASS MANY RESOLUTIONS

The convention passed many resolutions, including the setting up of a state-wide union label committee for the purpose of educating members of the importance of looking for the union label; a resolution on peace and democracy which pledges the council's support of the CIO national program; resolution on labor unity; a resolution supporting the CIO program for old age relief which calls for $60 a month at 60.

One important resolution dealt with the efforts of the Newspaper Guild to organize the employes of the daily papers. The resolution called for union members, when dealing with reporters and newspaper photographers to demand the union card.

OFFICERS ELECTED

Adolph Germer was re-elected president of the Council by acclamation. John Gibson, Local 83, United Dairy Workers, is the new secretary-treasurer.

Plan CIO News Edition For Michigan

Grand Rapids, July 8—A Michigan edition of The CIO NEWS is to be published, following action of the annual convention of the State Industrial Union Council, representing all CIO unions in Michigan.

The need for a state CIO press was emphasized by Pres. Adolph Germer, by Len De Caux, CIO publicity director, and by other speakers who addressed the convention.

Supports Act

Pres. A. F. Whitney of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, whose recent Cleveland convention took a strong stand again Wagner Act amendments.

Leaders of Trainmen, New York Typo Union Laud Wagner Act

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON, July 8.—Leaders from an AFL affiliate, from the railroad brotherhoods, and from religious organizations joined here this week in defending the Wagner Act at Congressional hearings on proposed amendments.

All three, Byrl Whitney of the Railroad Trainmen, Elmer Brown of the Big Six Typographical Union in New York, and the Rev. Wm. B. Waltmire of the Religion and Labor Foundation—urged that no amendments be passed, and condemned efforts of big business agents and AFL top officials to destroy the Act.

"ABUNDANTLY CLEAR"

"It is abundantly clear that the purpose which motivates most of these amendments is to destroy honest, legitimate collective bargaining in America," Whitney declared in the course of his testimony, during which he analyzed the proposals backed by the AFL in Sen. Walsh's bill and those put forward by Sens. Burke, Holman and other enemies of the act.

Whitney's testimony, made in the name of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, was a long and careful study of the proposed changes, took up the claims of the AFL leaders and demolished them one by one, neatly and effectively. For example, on the question of employes' right of "free speech" in regard to union matters, Whitney declared:

"S. 1,000 now proposes to go backwards and to re-take from labor some of the legal rights this act has established, by permitting employers to intefere in the right of workers freely to choose their own representatives and by legalizing and thereby encouraging employers to 'express opinions' with respect to labor's free choice to organize. This is a legalization and glorification of the odious undemocratic, dishonest company union, by which the employer sits on both sides of a conference committee."

CITES GIRDLER

Speaking on the general desire of anti-union employers to emasculate the act by amendment, since they did not dare come out for open repeal, he quoted Tom Girdler to show the satisfaction labor-haters feel with the proposed charges, including those backed by the AFL.

"If you have to make a bad law into a good law by emasculating it, then you'd better emasculate it," Whitney quoted Girdler as saying, using this as an example of the anti-union employer's point of view.

"Organized labor has increased its membership from 4,000,000 to 8,000,000 largely as a result of federal legislation that has restricted employers' opportunities to crush labor unions," Whitney continued. "There is a feverish desire to destroy the Natl. Labor Relations Act, which has thwarted the efforts of those who historically have striven to crush union labor."

Whitney concluded with a powerful plea to the Senate Committee to leave the act as it now stands, saying: "In the name of industrial peace and democratic freedom of American workers, and with all of the emphasis at my command, I urge your committee to reject all of the proposed amendments to the Natl. Labor Relations Act."

Brown referred in his testimony to the editorial stand against amendments taken by the May, 1939, issue of the Typographical Journal, efficient organ of the ITU, which praised the act and the Board and declared that it was "moronic for alleged labor leaders' to press for destructive changes in the act.

AFL VENOM

"There is great significance in the fact that the Supreme Court has upheld the Board's decisions in all important cases and on all vital points. Therefore those who would defeat the purposes of the act are resorting to amendment. It is moronic for alleged labor 'leaders' to join the employer campaign for amendment," the editorial Brown referred to said.

"In the venom of AFL opposition is the poison which blinds its 'leaders' to the fact that approximately 10 per cent of the elections to determine representation resulted in victory for independent unions not affiliated to either the AFL or the CIO."

Brown added that he was glad to note that the CIO had organized millions of previously unorganized workers, since such growth in the labor movement added strength to the general fabric of collective bargaining.

The Rev. Waltmire's testimony, delivered earlier in the week, urged that no amendments be passed at the present time, and suggested a minimum of two years' study of the working of the act and of the Board by an impartial commission to be appointed by President Rosevelt.

"We contend it (the act) is the greatest piece of social legislation of this country," Waltmire said.

Rail Union Head Raps 'Witch-Hunting' Probe

WASHINGTON, July 8 — Sharp protest against the proposed witch-hunting investigation of the Natl. Labor Relations Board, and a demand that Congressmen vote it down, was sent to all Representatives here by Pres. A. F. Whitney in the name of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.

"Testimony given to the Senate Committee on Education and Labor and to the House Labor Committee proves beyond question that the National Labor Relations Board has done a very good job in spite of the enormous obstacles placed in its path by labor-hating employers," Whitney wrote.

WITCH HUNT

"There is no doubt in my mind that the proposed investigation is intended primarily as a 'witch-hunt' to embarrass the Board and further aggravate employer-employe relations.

"If the House of Representatives indulges in these antics it can rightly be condemned for prostituting the processes of democratic government."

Hearings on the proposed resolution, offered by anti-New Deal Rep. Smith of Va., who is also author of a viciously anti-labor alien gag bill, brought out some interesting angles of further AFL collusion with the enemies of the Wagner Act and of collective bargaining.

TORY-AFL LINEUP

Rep. Ham Fish, N. Y. Republican and veteran House reactionary, said that he had talked to Pres. Green of the AFL and that Green had said he was in favor of the proposed Board probe. Rep. Cox of Georgia, long an enemy of the AFL but now friendly with its top leaders because of his rabid hatred of the CIO, also testified that he believed the AFL would approve.

Cox added, when reminded of the hearings on amendments now going on in the House, that he wasn't interested in the evidence, only in the amendments.

Plan Auction to Help Strike

Beniamino Bufano, sculptor, receives congratulations and thanks from Charles Ervine, executive secretary of the San Francisco-Oakland Newspaper Guild, for his donation of a bust of Fremont Older, late West Coast liberal and newspaper editor. The work, done in bronze, will be auctioned off, with the proceeds going to help the Guild's strike against Hearst in Chicago.

District 50 Wins Providence Pact

Providence, R. I., July 8 — An agreement with the East Providence tar and chemical division of the Koppers Company was announced this week by Joseph Mayo, CIO regional director in Rhode Island

A new local formed at the plant will be chartered by District 50, United Mine Workers, Mayo said. It will be the first UMW charter granted in the state.

Analysis Of New WPA Bill

By RALPH HETZEL
CIO Unemployment Director

The WPA bill is the most open attack which has been made upon labor and the unemployed in this country. This is made clear by an analysis of the various features of the bill.

Appropriation

The total amount appropriated for WPA for the 12 months beginning July 1, 1939 is $1,477,000,000. It is the full amount requested by the President. This is $773,000,000 less than was appropriated for the WPA last year for a similar period.

The CIO asked for $2,250,000,000, the amount provided for in the Casey-Murray Bill.

The bill requires the WPA to spread this money over its total needs for the 12 months.

Number of Jobs

Last year the WPA provided an average of about 3,000,000 jobs. Under this new bill an average of only 2,000,000 jobs will be provided.

There are now about 2,600,000 on the WPA. During July the WPA will be cut 200,000. Such cuts will continue to approximately 1,500,000 jobs by next Spring.

Rates of Pay

The prevailing hourly rate is wiped out by the new bill. Beginning July 1, all WPA workers will be required to work 130 hours a month for their present monthly security wage. This means cuts up to 50% in the present hourly wage rates. This destruction of the prevailing hourly rate was strongly protested to the Congress by President Lewis and CIO representatives.

CUTS NORTHERN WAGES

On August 31st the monthly security wages will be changed so that there will a difference no greater than that justified by the cost of living between the monthly security wages for the same grade of work in the various parts of the country. This will mean in fact that the monthly wage rates in the Northern industrial areas will be severely reduced, while in the South, the monthly rate will be raised.

The CIO has always stood for the raising of the monthly rates in the South but cuts in the already inadequate monthly rates in the North will bring terrible hardship. It is predicted in Washington that such cuts will run as high as $20 or more in the monthly rate in the big cities.

The provisions on wages and hours follows:

"The Commissioner shall fix a monthly earning schedule for persons engaged upon work projects . . . which shall not substantially affect the current national average labor cost per person of the Work Projects Administration. After August 31, 1939, such monthly earning schedule shall not be varied for workers of the same type in different geographical areas to any greater extent than may be justified by differences in the cost of living. The Commissioner shall require that the hours of work for all persons engaged upon work projects shall (1) be one hundred and thirty hours per month except that the Commissioner, in his discretion, may require a lesser number of hours of work per month in the case of relief workers with no dependents and the earnings of such workers shall be correspondingly reduced, and (2) not exceed eight hours in any day and shall not exceed forty hours in any week.

"The Commissioner may authorize exemptions from the above limitations of monthly earnings and hours of work to protect work already done on a project; to permit making up lost time; in the case of emergency involving the public welfare and in the case of supervisory personnel employed on work projects."

Projects

The new bill handicaps the establishment of projects greatly. It provides that there can be no building construction projects on the WPA of which the WPA contribution is greater than $52,000. This applies only to buildings but will serve to stop a large number of extensive projects now under way. Some of these projects are the most useful ones being carried on by the WPA.

WHITE COLLAR PROJECTS

The white collar projects suffered most under this WPA bill. The theatre project is wiped out completely. All other Federal projects, which include the arts, musicians and writers projects, must be established under local sponsorship. It may be possible to save a good many of such projects but they will be severely handicapped by the necessity of State sponsorship.

Furthermore on the first of January, 1940, each State must provide an average sponsorship contribution for projects of 25%. This will increase the difficulty of getting projects sponsored locally.

TYPES OF PROJECTS

The list of projects which may be established by the WPA is approximately the same as last year and is as follows:

"Highways, roads, and streets; public buildings; parks, and other recreational facilities, including buildings therein; public utilities; electric transmission and distribution lines or systems to serve persons in rural areas, including projects sponsored by and for the benefit of non-profit and cooperative associations; sewer systems, water supply, and purification systems; airports and other transportation facilities; flood control; drainage; irrigation; conservation, including projects sponsored by conservation districts and other bodies duly organized under State law for soil erosion control and conservation, preference being given to projects which will contribute to the rehabilitation of individuals and an increase in the national income; eradication of insect, plant, and fungus pests; the production of lime and marl for fertilizing soil for distribution to farmers under such conditions as may be determined by the sponsors of such projects under the provisions of State law; educational, professional, clerical, cultural, recreational, production, and service projects, including training for domestic service, aid to self-help and cooperative associations for the benefit of needy persons, and miscellaneous projects."

Eligibility

Nobody may be employed on the WPA unless he has been certified as in need by a local welfare agency or by the WPA. There is no provision for uncertified, non-relief workers. Preference in employment is to be given "on the basis of relative need." Nobody knows yet exactly what that means.

No alien is to be given employment or continued in employment on any of the projects.

Everybody on the relief rolls or on WPA will have their status reinvestigated by the WPA at least once every six months.

Private Employment

No person on the WPA or eligbile to the WPA who refuses a bona fide offer of private employment "under reasonable working conditions which pays the prevailing wage for such work in the community where he resides and who is capable of performing such work shall be employed or retained in employment on work projects . . . . Any person who takes such private employment shall at the expiration thereof be entitled to immediate resumption of his previous employment status with the WPA if he is still in need and if he has lost the private employment through no fault of his own and if he has first drawn all the benefits of unemployment compensation that shall have accrued to him during his term in private employment and which are available to him."

The Woodrum Lay-Off

A starvation period is provided in the bill under a provision which reads as follows:

"There shall be removed from employment on Work Projects Administration projects all relief workers, excepting veterans, who have been continuously employed on such projects for more than eighteen months, and any relief worker so removed shall be ineligible to be restored to employment on such projects until after (a) the expiration of thirty days after the date of his removal, and (b) recertification of his eligibility for restoration to employment on such projects."

This means that a person may only be eligible after 30 days; it does not mean that he will be reassigned to a project. It may take months before there is another opening for such an eligible person. This provision is one of the most outrageous parts of the bill. It will bring great misery to the unemployed and disintegration to the operation of the projects.

Unionism

The bill contains the same provision with regard to discrimination as it had last year, which is:

"Any person . . . who knowingly, by means of any fraud, force, threat, intimidation, or boycott, or discrimination on account of race, religion, political affiliation, or membership in a labor organization, deprives any person of any of the benefits to which he may be entitled under any such (WPA) appropriation, or attempts so to do, or assists in so doing, shall be deemed guilty of a misdeameanor and fined not more than $2,000 or imprisoned more than one year, or both."

Administration

From an administrative point of view the bill is an almost impossible one to operate. The WPA will be forced to cut almost one-third of its present supervisory and administrative staff and at the same time increase its supervisory duties. On July 15th there will probably be fired somewhere between 10 and 12 thousand administrative employes.

Copies of Bill

The CIO will provide copies of the bill to all its affiliates and will make available extra copies for any who wish to send for them. In addition extra copies of this statement will be obtainable by writing to the national CIO office.

A New Program

The CIO is now at work on a new program to fight the vicious effects of the 1940 WPA Appropriation.

Your WPA Job

By Ralph Hetzel
CIO UNEMPLOYMENT DIRECTOR

A New Wage Emergency

One of the most far-reaching and destructive provisions of the reactionary WPA Appropriations Bill that has just been passed is the one dealing with the wages to be paid on the projects. It is a simple provision and quite clear—there is nothing subtle about destruction.

It abolishes the prevailing wage principle and establishes on July 1 a working month of 130 hours for all project workers **at the same security wage.** This means, of course, a severe cut in the hourly rate for almost every project worker. Workers, both those on WPA and those in private industry, do not have to be told what happens to wages in general when there is a serious cut in the wage rates paid to millions of workers.

NEW KIND OF LAW

This is the first time in our history, as far as our knowledge extends, when a law has been written deliberately to destroy the prevailing hourly rate principle.

But Congress was not content wth destroying the wage rate structure built up through years of union action and struggle. After August 31 the security wages on the WPA will be determined according to a formula. Here it is: "After August 31, 1939, such monthly earning schedule shall not be varied for workers of the same type in different geographical areas to any great extent than may be justified by differences in the cost of living." This might mean an unexpected windfall to the project workers in the South and other areas where they have been getting $30 a month and less. We are and have always been unalterably opposed to the extent of the present differentials and would be the first to cheer such enlightened recognition of the problem.

TRICK IN FORMULA

But from all indications the formula given above will be used to lessen the great differentials by lowering the security wages in the industrial areas of the North and East. The differences in the cost of living, as far as can be determined, will not justify at the most more than a 10% differential. Therefore the wage cut will be very severe.

When this severe wage cut for a great percentage of the WPA workers is divided by the longer hours one can see what a tremendous body-blow has been dealt to the WPA workers and to the wage structure in general.

The CIO fought this provision bitterly in Congress and was a powerful influence in getting the Senate to put back the prevailing wage principle and liberalize the differential formula before the bill went to the conference room to be quietly smothered. The CIO will continue to fight for the most liberal interpretation and administration of this bill before Congress and the WPA administration.

GREEN STAYS SILENT

William Green has kept his mouth tightly shut throughout the whole struggle and has allowed this vicious blow to be struck at the wage structure of the country and at the building trades workers in particular without raising his little finger. Since the bill has been passed his silence has been thunderous.

President Lewis has issued a statement strongly condemning the short-sighted and brutal treatment of the unemployed. He said in part: "The helpless men and women who are unemployed have suffered a terrible blow in the passage of the 1940 WPA appropriation. This blow will be profoundly resented by all of labor . . ."

Jobless Hit WPA Slash

Continued from page three

matically dropped from the rolls for 30 days—after which they will again be eligible if they can receive certification for work.

The prevailing wage rate for WPA work—written into previous relief bills as a protection for organized labor against wholesale pay chiselling—was abolished.

In the future practically all WPA employes will have to work 130 hours a month for the same wage they have been receiving for a considerably smaller amount of work.

A limit of $52,000 was set for WPA expenditures on any non-Federal building project—more than the House had originally permitted, but far less than the $75,000 asked by the Senate.

Immediate effect of the bill was an order from WPA headquarters for a cut of 200,000 persons in the WPA payroll.

BE ON GUARD!

Look for the union label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America when buying men's and boys' clothing, overalls, shirts, undergarments, neckties, lumber jackets, gloves, and all other kinds of men's wearing apparel.

The Amalgamated Label is your guarantee that the articles you buy are of the best workmanship and produced under one hundred percent union conditions by members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

By insisting on the Amalgamated Label you will help to guard against a return of sweatshop conditions to the industry. By helping the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America you help the labor movement generally.

Ask for the Amalgamated label on each part of the suit, coat, pants and vest. There are different Amalgamated labels for coats, pants, vests, shirts and undergarments, work clothes, neckwear and gloves.

"Get Together!"

A True Story

About the CIO Agricultural Workers Union

By LILLIAN GILKES

"Grandfather clock says, Take-yore-time, take-yore-time; alarm clock says Get together, get together! . . . That's what I'm tellin' 'em, Mister. And now I got to see the Governor!"

His Excellency's Secretary shot another look at the face before him, the same color as the burned-out Arkansas earth, having decided it was the face and the voice, both, of a trouble maker.

"Lady, who are you?"

"Just a ole sharecropper you never heard of. I'm organizin' in the union. And presy-dent of a Local back yonder in my county. It's the CIO, you know. I come all the way over here to Little Rock, hitch-hikin', to git to see the Gov'nor. And I aint a-goin' home till I do!"

The Secretary flattened himself against the door, barring the way, and tried another tactic. It didn't work. "No sir - -" the woman said, with dignity, "I aint a-tellin' my business to nobody but the one it's intended for." She shut her mouth on that, and took a seat by the door. "I'm gonna set right here!"

"Nobody sees the Governor without an appointment." — He thought he might have to call one of the plainclothes men to put her out.

Invitation

"Now, listen here. I shuck hands with Gov'nor Bailey at a speakin' one time, it was during the campaign. Me and him had a little talk. He says, any time I got some'n's botherin' me 'bout the union — never mind writin' it in no letter — to come on over here and tell it to him. Now I'm here. And I sure don't think he's no liar!"

"Well, m'am - -" The dauntless manner of the Secretary cracked partially, he went through the door. In a moment he was back, and announced, "The Governor will see you."

Myrtle Heftner just had time to glance in the mirror and give the old brown knitted cap on her head a jerk and a twist, prettying up, before she was steered through the door marked "Private" in the Governor's Mansion. Her blue eyes looked keen and young and very bright, in her wrinkled face.

The Governor shook hands. He did not remember her. He smiled. Myrtle joked about the secretary, and reminisced about the changes that had come to Arkansas since "Ole Futrell" was kicked out for a New Deal governor. "The time you had them 'laws' arrested for tryin' to break up our meetin' — cost 'em three hundred and fifty dollars apiece, and three days in jail — them high sheriffs, that musta pinched 'em pretty bad!" She laughed, and plunged into her business.

'Them Mexicans'

"Them Mexicans. Planters 's branging' 'em in from Texas, to pick cotton for thirty cents a hundred. Now we unions aint a-goin' to stand for such as that."

The Governor asked, "Have you reported it to the Labor Board, downstairs?"

"Sure did. I talked to the governor. And one or two others. Them folks acted mighty nice! Said they'd look into it. But I aint quittin' on that. I want you to know, too! What-all's a-goin' on."

"Isn't a thing I can do about it, Mrs. Heftner. I can't deport 'em. I haven't got any legal authority to do that - -."

The Governor looked thoughtful. And said after a minute, "I tell you what you do. You go over there and organize those folks. And I'll see that you have protection."

"I'll sure do that thing!"

As she started away he called after her from his big desk, "Well, come back and see me, Mrs. Heftner. I'll tell my secretary — you're not a foreign agitator. He'll know you next time!"

Living in Tents

There were six hundred Mexicans living in tents, and every morning before the sky grew light the trucks roared up to take them off to work on the plantations. Their camp was over in the Bottom, a long hike from the Heftner's shack — a good two miles. Myrtle waited till dusk, when the Mexicans would be coming back from the fields, hungry and tired, anxious for music and to sing their songs under the heavy stars.

"Howdy" she said, standing amidst a bunch of playing, peeping children, flop-eared hound dogs and scratching hcickens not yet gone to roost. The women were busy over the fires. Dark shapes of men moved up closer, watchful-eyed. "I wanta see your leader - -". She spoke to the man nearest.

He understood English, and in silence led her through the jungle of rotten tents with flaps pinned back to let in more of the cooling evening air. Before one he stopped, and she went forward into the zone of hot lamplight.

"Now we had our cotton choppin' strike last March. We dont want to have no trouble. But we're gittin' a dollar a day. We-uns don't aim for you-all to come in here'n pick cotton for no thirty cents a hundred!"

'We Union'

The Mexican leader was a big swarthy-faced peon, with shiny black hair like an Indian. "Me too, Sister" he exclaimed. "You get dollar a day. We want dollar too!" He told how it was. "We didn't know. Boss say, come pick cotton, Arkansas. Much money. He lie like hell!" He pulled his face down in a scowl of disgust. "We union, you bet. Our country, everybody in union. Except landlords—!"

The Mexican laughed loudly, remembering the landlords. Then thrusting a hand in his shirt front as if to scratch himself, pulled out a card printed in Spanish. "Kids, too. Look!" He hollered something, "Ola, chiquillo!" A boy in ragged britches, and a sparrowy little girl with glass beads in her ears, a string of beads around her neck, came out from a corner and held up union cards for the stranger woman to see. Soon, more and more kids from all over the camp multiplied by magic underneath the tent canvas, clamored round to show their cards, their scrubby little faces serious with pride.

"Sister, don't I know you?" The Mexican man peered closer at Myrtle's face in the sour lamplight. "Didn't I see you, summertime—big convention, Muskogee?"

"Why, sure, sure! I remember you!"

They laughted together and clasped hands, and were full of mirth because they had both been delegates to the Muskogee Convention and now it was such a queer coincidence to meet again in these circumstances.

"We'll be right with you," the Arkansas woman said. "But now, les' git it planned. You-uns throw down your pick sacks, on the ground. And that'll be the signal. And all of us from locals 'round here's 'll come a-runnin' and git on the picket line—"

"You eat with me, Sister," the Mexican said . . . She accepted the invitation.

"We make plan now. Tomorrow—we have big victory!"

And they did.

Several CIO Unions Plan Sessions at 'Model Camp'

Pittsburgh, July 7. — Steel workers throughout the nation, together with members of several other CIO unions, are again preparing for a summer vacation at the Summer Camp and Training School in the hills of Western Pennsylvania.

This is the second year for the camp, and this year the site will be about 30 miles west of Pittsburgh, near Frankfort Springs—a large acreage developed by the federal government as a model camp.

Organizations participating in the camp this year, in addition to the SWOC, include the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Aluminum Workers, United Rubber Workers, United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, District 50 of the United Mine Workers and the Federation of Flat Glass Workers.

The weekly fee is ten dollars, and the fee includes room and board and all camp activities. Prominent leaders in the labor movement, college professors and nationally-known speakers, have been invited to attend.

The camp idea, conceived and developed by the steel union in the summer of 1938, is believed to be one of the first attempts of its kind in labor union history. The camp proved to be such a success that the idea has been enlarged upon this year and other national CIO unions desired to take part.

A schedule has already been arranged in order that each union will have the camp to itself for a designated period of one or more weeks. The SWOC period will be from July 2 to July 16; Aug. 13 to Aug. 20 and the week of Aug 27.

WORK AND PLAY

A program of activities has been arranged to allow a few hours each day for union training work, and the rest of the day for recreation.

The camp takes in an area of 150 acres, with 50 screened log cabins for the campers, a screened dining hall, sanitary plumbing, showers, porches, lockers, steel single beds, safe drinking water, nearly two miles of lake front, baseball fields and boats.

112 CAMPERS WEEKLY

Each week the camp will accommodate 112 union members, and the set-up is divided into four units. Each unit has six modern log cabins that will house four persons each. Office buildings and a hospital are situated right on the camp site.

The mornings during camp period will be used for union training work, to discuss the two vital union problems — relations with management, and building the union. Staff members and national officers, will conduct the sessions.

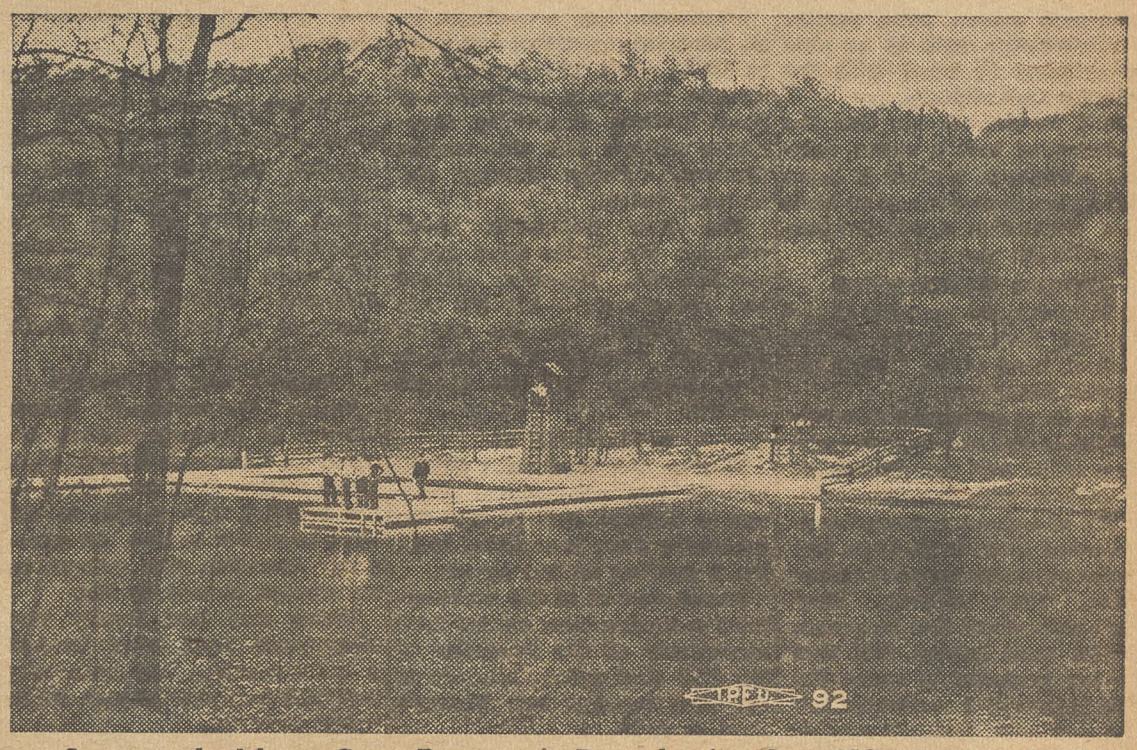
The afternoons will be free for recreation—swimming, boating, hikes, ball games. The evenings will be devoted to social activities — movies, dancing, camp fires.

UNION WON VACATIONS

According to statistics of the United States Department of Labor, 640,278 employes in the iron and steel industry enjoyed paid vacations last summer. The American Iron and Steel Institute estimates that vacation pay averages $40 a week for each employe.

Thus it will be seen what the steel union has meant to steel workers on the single item of vacations alone.

While most of the larger steel corporations are forced by the nature of their operations to stagger vacations throughout the summer, many smaller steel concerns are planning to do what they did last summer—to shut down their mills for a week and let all employes have vacations at the same time.



Scene on the lake at Camp Raccoon, in Pennsylvania, where CIO unions are holding summer sessions.

U. S. Employment Service Bans Strikebreaking

Washington, July 8 — State employment services affiliated with the U. S. employment service have been ordered to prohibit the providing of workers for establishments engaged in labor disputes, it was announced here.

The order was issued by the U. S. agency after several unions complained that the state agencies were being used to recruit strike-breakers, notably in California agricultural labor disputes.

If state agencies fail to comply with the order, it was indicated, the federal agency will curtail the federal contributions.

Indiana Agreement

Indianapolis, Ind., July 8—CIO officials and the Indiana State Employment Service have reached an agreement aimed to prevent the government agency from sending strikebreakers to fill union men's jobs.

The Employment Service stipulated that it was "contrary" to its policy to refer workers to an employer involved in a strike or lockout. To prevent this situation from happening without the Service's knowledge, the CIO Industrial Union Council will notify offices of the Employment Service of the facts concerning existing or anticipated labor disputes.

Upon receipt of such notification, the Service will stop sending job applicants to the struck firms until the Industrial Union Council has notified the state agency of the end of the dispute.

Auto Union Strike Shuts 5 GM Plants

DETROIT, July 7.—Five General Motors plants were closed today by a strike of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, aimed at winning a supplementary agreement to cover tool and die makers, engineering and maintenance workers.

The walkout, coming right at the peak of the tool and die making season, climaxed two years of effort by the UAW to win the contract without resorting to shutting the plants. Factories affected were: Fisher Body 23, largest tool and die plant in the world; Chevorlet Gear and Axle; Chevrolet experimental factory; Fisher Body plant at Pontiac, and Fisher Body 21.

UAW demands, worked out at a parley in Detroit on June 25, call for the union label on tool and die work, to prevent job snatching by sweatshop "alley" firms; 10c-an-hour wage increases; overtime rates for Saturdays, Sundays and holidays; uniform hiring rates and standard apprenticeship set-ups in all GM plants.

4,000 WALK OUT

Close to 4,000 skilled workers took part in the strike, which, if it continues, may delay production plans for the 1940 car models.

Negotiations which had been in progress for some time were abruptly broken off when GM executives seized upon Homer Martin's rump outfit as an alibi for refusing to meet with the powerful CIO affiliate.

UAW leaders charge that the existence of half a dozen company stooges in a plant is being used by the management as basis for a claim that it will not bargain with the workers' union.

CHIDES EXECUTIVES

Addressing the meeting of tool and die leaders here, Walter Reuther, head of the UAW's GM division, asserted:

"We have attempted to speak to GM in the language of common sense and conciliation in accordance with American principles of collective bargaining. We asked them to sit down and confer on a supplemental agreement. They refused. They don't understand that language.

"We must inform GM that we are prepared to speak the only language it understands."

Reither said that tool and die workers with high seniority standing have had only short spells of employment in the GM plants.

MUST PLAN PRODUCTION

"If GM wants the skill of these men," he pointed out, "it must plan its production so the men will receive a decent annual wage. The amount of work can be increased by use of the UAW-CIO label."

William Stevenson, chairman of the tool and die council, who presided at the pre-strike meeting, declared that the rump group led by Martin has folded up. He assailed GM officials for pretending to be in doubt as to who speaks for the tool and die makers, engineering and maintenance workers.

Plan Union Drive In Little Steel

Pittsburgh, July 8 — Plans for an intensive organizing campaign in Little Steel will probably be mapped out at a conference of Steel Workers Organizing Committee officials late this month, Chairman Philip Murray announced today.

The four companies which comprise the Little Steel group —Bethlehem, Republic, Inland and Youngstown — are the only major holdouts in the SWOC drive to unionize the nation's steel industry and its 600,000 workers.

MEET JULY 24

Murray will meet with SWOC regional and sub-regional directors in Chicago, July 24, and the organizing drive is expected to be No. 1 problem on the agenda.

Announcement of the contemplated campaign came on the third anniversary of the formation of the CIO steel union. Keynote of the first meeting was Murray's terse remark:

"We have a job to do. Let's do it."

Since that time, 595 firms have signed SWOC contracts, and more than 500,000 workers have enjoyed the benefits of unionism for the first time.

Hearst Tries Arrests To Break Strike Spirit

CHICAGO, July 8. — Nerves shattered by its inability to dent the Chicago Newspaper Guild strike front, the Hearst management engineered wholesale arrests of pickets as the strike against the Evening American and Herald & Examiner entered its eighth month.

Twenty Guild pickets were seized at instigation of the Hearstlings who were unable to stand picket line chanting. All are charged with disorderly conduct. Among those arrested were seven members of the Hearst strike committee and Lucy Read, striking office worker and wife of Harry Read, chairman of the striking Hearst unit and president of the Chicago chapter, Association of Catrolic Trade Unionists.

The Guild's reply to the arrests was a Loop parade of 100 strikers Saturday. Shouting and singing the Guildsmen marched past the Hearst Building. No arrests were made.

Meanwhile, following protests of the arrests by the Guild as well as other CIO unions and organizations, Police Commissioner James P. Allman promised a thorough investigation of the violation of the strikers' rights to free speech.

Victim of Goons

Eric Hessler, official of the Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee, lies in a Chicago hospital after being attacked by thugs the night before he was scheduled to testify against the Intl. Harvester Co. at National Labor Relations Board hearings. The union and liberal city officials have asked for an official probe of the attack, which left Hessler with a fractured skull.

Thugs Attack Witness Ready to Testify In Harvester Case

CHICAGO, July 8—Foul play against one of the union's key witnesses in the Labor Board hearing against the International Harvester Company now going on, seems to account for the brutal attack made on Eric Hessler, financial secretary of the McCormick Works Local 109, United Farm Equipment Workers.

Hessler, who disappeared the day before he was to testify, was found a week later in Cook County hospital, delirious and with a fractured skull. Joseph Weber, assistant director of the Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee, laid the case before Alderman William A. Rowan, chairman of the City Council's labor committee.

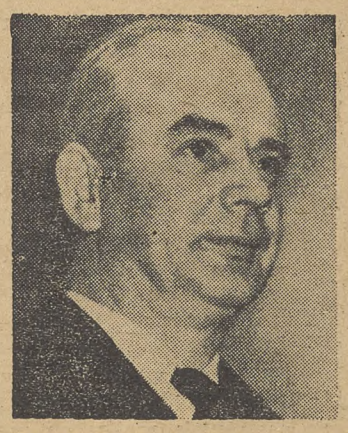
ORDER POLICE PROBE

Police Commissioner James Allman, at Rowan's request, ordered an immediate investigation. Hessler, lying in a deep coma at the hospital, was unable to tell what happened to him. An emergency operation was ordered in an attempt to save his life.

Weber said that Hessler who disappeared right after he left a union meeting, had apparently met with foul play because of his union activities.

He criticized the "obvious negligence" of the police department which failed to identify Hessler although numerous papers and documents were in his pockets, any one of which was sufficient to have given a clue as to who he was.

Anniversary



Chairman Philip Murray of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, who announced on SWOC's birthday that union contracts now cover 75 per cent of the nation's basic industry.

Youth Group In Pledge to Democracy

New York, July 8 — Over 1400 delegates to the American Youth Congress, meeting in a four day session here, pledged themselves to "uphold the democratic way of life" and adopted a program of progressive political and organization action for the coming year.

Chief items in the legislative program were demands for a $500,000,000 youth loan fund for education, medical treatment, and aid in starting professions and businesses, plus support for social laws under reactionary attacks and suggestions for their extension.

DEFEND WAGNER ACT

Included in this were resolutions calling for a defense of the Wagner Act, expansion of WPA, resumption of WPA cultural projects, passage of the Bloom bill to lift the arms embargo against democratic nations, adoption of the Wagner child refugee bill.

James B. Carey, secretary of the CIO and president of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, presided over one of the sessions and was unanimously elected a vice-chairman of the organization.

Thousands To Hear Lewis In Chicago

CHICAGO, July 8—Packinghouse Workers locals all over the country are planning to send large delegations to hear John L. Lewis, CIO president, speak and to attend the national convention of the PWOC called here for July 16.

Special trains, chartered buses, and private autos will bring the delegates to this city, where plans will be laid for consolidating PWOC affiliates and completing the drive for national contracts from the Big Four of the packing industry — Armour, Wilson, Cudahy and Swift.

First emphasis will be on a national contract from Armour, whose stalling tactics have delayed negotiations for months, though the PWOC represents the overwhelming majority of Armour workers and has already won concessions in many Armour plants.

WELCOME PLANNED

Pres. Lewis will be met by a welcoming committee representing every CIO organization in the city. Van A. Bittner, PWOC chairman, will introduce Lewis at the meeting and will be a speaker himself. Don Harris and Henry Johnson, director and assistant director of PWOC, will act as co-chairmen. Alderman Wm. A. Rowan, chairman of the City Council committee on Industry and Labor, will officially greet Lewis in the name of the city government.

Textile Union Wins Poll In Bay State

Plymouth, Mass., July 8 — Workers in the Puritan mill of the American Woolen Company here voted 232 to 194 in favor of the Textile Workers Union of America.

This is the fifth mill in the company's chain to be won by the CIO union.

An agreement covering 12,000 American Woolen Workers in Lawrence, Mass., Dover, N. H., and Skowheegan, Me., is expected to be reached within the near future, the TWUA announced.

FOUGHT RUMORS

The election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board, was won by the CIO union despite the spreading of malicious rumors that the mill would shut down if the TWUA won. The victory won by the workers in the Puritan mill is the first to be achieved to date by the CIO in Plymouth, site of the famous rock where the Mayflower Pilgrims landed.

Employer Petitions — Just a Sales Argument?

NEW YORK, July 8.—Indication that the insistent demand of employers for the right to petition for National Labor Relations Board elections is more a talking point than an effort to win relief from a pressing difficulty was indicated today in figures published by the New York State Labor Relations Board.

The SLRB, which has allowed employers to petition for elections, revealed that only 85 employers have taken advantage of the provision. During the same period, about 2,500 election requests were filed by labor unions.

In only ten of these cases did the Board find it necessary to hold elections. Ten others are still pending, while 65 have been settled, dismissed or withdrawn.

Chicago Gives Lewis Big Welcome

See Page Three

TEXT OF SPEECH, PAGE SEVEN

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 29 20 JULY 17, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

CIO BACKS AMENDMENT TO SAVE WPA WAGE RATE

The News In Brief

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

Harlan

Washington.—John L. Lewis demanded that the federal government act to protect locked-out Harlan, Ky., miners, following an attack which resulted in the death of two United Mine Workers members and injuries to several others.

Contract

Detroit. — A supplementary contract with General Motors to cover tool and die makers and other skilled workers seemed near as a United Automobile Workers, CIO, strike closed 12 plants working on 1940 models.

Wagner Act

Washington. — Representatives of the AFL Hotel and Restaurant union, an economist, three clergymen and a representative of consumers testified against Wagner Act amendments at Senate Labor Committee hearings.

Conventions

Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, Jersey City, N. J., Sept. 8.

No Need for WPA?

The camera catches a small portion of the crowd of 6,000 men applying for 58 chauffeur jobs in New York. Many waited in line all night. A number of them said they'd lost WPA employment during recent slashes.

Sen. Murray Introduces New Bill

(See Story Page Three)

WASHINGTON, July 15. — The CIO threw all its support today behind S. 2765, introduced by a group of Senate liberals headed by James Murray of Montana, to stop reductions in WPA monthly wage rates and restore the prevailing wage rate provisions stricken out by Congressional reactionaries.

"We believe this legislation is the proper way to settle the WPA wage question," Ralph Hetzel, CIO unemployment director, declared. The bill, he said, embodies CIO suggestions.

The CIO Unemployment Committee, headed by Sec. James Carey, warned that "Congress must not adjourn until it has righted the wrongs for which it is responsible."

Demand for passage of the new bill followed unprecedented nationwide protests against the vicious onslaught on WPA in the bill rushed through both House and Senate on June 30.

"Just resentment against the starvation and wage - cutting WPA bill passed by Congress" was the description given the demonstrations by CIO leaders, who pointed out that if the AFL's national leadership had waged a more vigorous fight against the bill when it was in the formative stage, the present protests might have been unnecessary.

Gotham Subways Sign Contracts, Avert Strike

NEW YORK, July 15.—Possibility of a New York subway strike ended today when the city's two largest private rapid transit companies reached new agreements with the CIO Transport Workers Union.

The two pacts, which carry closed shop provisions and run until July 1, 1941, represent substantial union victories, Pres. Michael Quill declared.

If the two lines—the Brooklyn-Manhattan Transit Co. and the Interborough Rapid Transit Co.—are taken over by the city in the next few months, considerable improvement in wages, hours and working conditions should be effected, Quill predicted. Plans for unification of all major transit systems in New York under city ownership and operation are being worked out at the present time.

WAGE ADJUSTMENTS

The 13,000 employes of the IRT won sick leaves with pay, four paid holidays a year and adjustments in wage rates and working conditions, to finance which the company agreed to set aside $600,000 annually. The B-MT will allocate $450,000 during the first year for similar adjustments covering 8,500 union members, and half a million the following year.

The agreements succeed previous contracts which expired on March 31 of this year and which have been extended for short periods on a number of occasions.

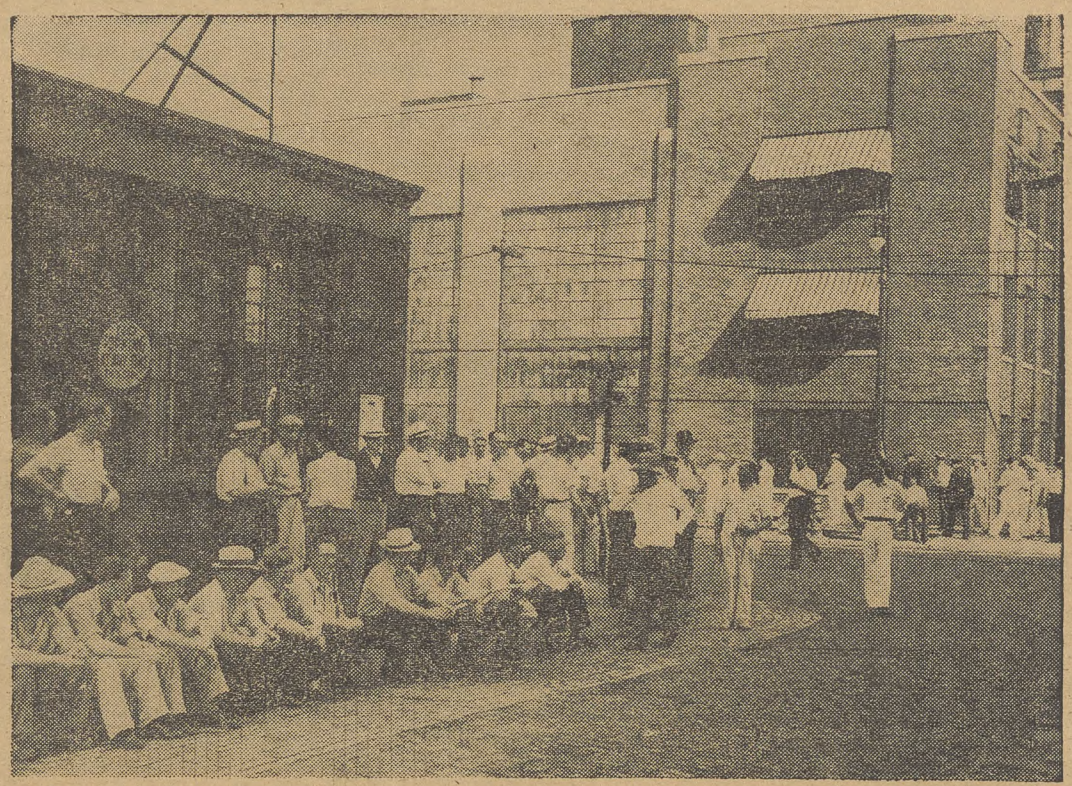
LEWIS SENDS GREETINGS

CIO Pres. John L. Lewis sent the following wire to Pres. Quill:

"My hearty congratulations on the splendid settlement reached with the transit companies. The members of your great union have reason to rejoice over the splendid accomplishment of yourself and your associates."

In return, Quill, together with Pres. Austin Hogan and Sec. John Santo of the New York local expressed appreciation in behalf of the members for the "advice, support and encouragement" given by Lewis.

CIO Pickets Shut GM Plant



Pickets by the thousand surround Fisher Body Plant No. 3 in Detroit as the United Automobile Workers, CIO, strikes General Motors for 10c hourly wage increases and a supplementary agreement covering tool and die makers, engineering and maintenance workers. Strike has halted work on 1940 models. *See Story Page 8*

How Annoying!

MORGAN SAILS; FEARS WAR MAY SPOIL GROUSE SHOOTING

—Newspaper Headline

Perjurer, Spy Opens Hearing AgainstBridges

By MIRIAM ALLEN DEFORD

SAN FRANCISCO, July 15.—An admitted perjurer led off the government's attempt to prove that Harry Bridges, West Coast director of the CIO, is an alien Communist and therefore liable to deportation.

Major Lawrence Milner of the Oregon National Guard Reserves, from 1933 to 1937 an undercover agent for the Oregon Adjutant General detailed to "report on radical activities", revealed that he had lied during his disappearance as a witness at the trial of Dirck DeJonge on criminal syndicalism charges in Portland, Ore., a few years ago.

The reserve officer also testified that he had been on friendly terms with Larry Doyle, one of the West Coast's most notorious labor spies. Milner told of having advised Doyle to plant a dictaphone in Bridges' hotel room during the 1936 convention of the longshoremen in this city.

The hearings opened in a tiny government building on Angell Island, a 32-minute boat ride away from downtown San Francisco. Despite public protests, only newspapermen and officials interested in the case are permitted to attend the hearings, at which Dean James M. Landis of Harvard Law School is acting as special trial examiner for the U. S. Department of Labor.

DENIES 'RED' CHARGE

At the beginning of the hearing, Bridges took the stand to admit that he has not yet become an American citizen, but bluntly denied membership in the Communist party.

Miss Carol King, authority on deportation proceedings, who is acting as Bridges' chief counsel, told the hearing that the proceedings should be considered as a labor, not a deportation, case.

"Harry Bridges is a symbol of labor's strength to the employer groups who instigated and paid for this conspiracy," she asserted.

Miss King recalled that original charges against Bridges, made by Harper Knowles, chief stoolpigeon for the American Legion and other patrioteering groups on the Pacific Coast, had been dropped as "groundless" by the Immigration Service.

SOUGHT BY EMPLOYERS

Then, she said, "these employer groups by bribery and blackmail, secured false affidavits and testimony. . . . They received the active assistance of Portland and Los Angeles police officials and other West Coast foes of labor," Miss King charged. "These are the same people who sought the impeachment of Secretary of Labor Perkins.

"Back of it all are Harper Knowles and Larry Doyle, who have supported themselves by this case for years. We shall prove that this is a conspiracy, that Bridges is not a Communist, that false testimony has been deliberately prepared outside the Labor Department, that the witnesses are felons, labor spies or both—people who hate Bridges, the CIO and all labor unions."

It is generally believed that the hearing will last for a month or more. Those back of the move to deport Bridges would like very much to prolong it to Sept. 30, when the maritime contracts will be reopened, or even longer, to the time of the CIO convention here in October.

COUNCIL MEETING

Seattle, July 15—Washington State's CIO Industrial Union Council will hold its second annual convention at the IWA Hall in Tacoma on Sept. 16-17, Pres. Richard Francis announced today.

Neither Harry Bridges (center) nor his daughter, Jacqueline (left) nor Atty. Carol King seemed very much worried by stool pigeons' testimony against the West Coast CIO leader as deportation hearings got under way this week on Angel Island in San Francisco harbor.

Miss Lewis Reports Unions Growing In South America

WASHINGTON, July 15. — Encouraging reports about the progress of the labor movement in Latin American countries were brought back by Miss Kathryn Lewis, daughter of the CIO president, on her return from a three-month tour of South America.

"Everywhere I went," she said, "I was questioned closely about what the CIO is doing organizationally, about its aims and policies, and about its part in the liberal political life of the United States.

"I found that Latin-America labor and liberal leaders have been heartened and inspired by the dramatic success of the CIO in recent years. They look to the organized workers of the United States as their natural allies in their own efforts to organize and win democratic rights."

INDUSTRIAL UNIONS

Miss Lewis noted that industrial unionism is the rule in almost every South American country.

The building construction workers, she said, unlike in the United States, are almost invariably organized in industrial unions. As a result they form the strongest single unions in such countries as Uruguay and Argentina.

The sympathetic interest shown by the CIO in the Latin-American Confederation of Labor, whose first convention in Mexico City was attended by Pres. John L. Lewis, was particularly interesting to Latin-Americans, Miss Lewis found.

SPLIT ATTEMPTS FAILING

"The Latin-American Confederation now has affiliated with it every labor movement in South America, except that of Brazil, where union organization is under strict government control," she said.

"I saw no evidence that AFL efforts to split Latin-American labor by reviving the Pan-American Federation of Labor were meeting with any success.

"The Latin-American Confederation, on the other hand, is a strong and growing force everywhere. To it belongs the chief credit for the revival and advance of union organization in many countries where organized labor previously felt weak and isolated."

Miss Lewis attended the International Congress of the Democracies in Montevideo, Uruguay, as a delegate from Labor's Non-Partisan League. While in South America she also visited Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, Chile, Bolivia, Colombia and Ecuador.

GAINS IN CHILE, COLOMBIA

She was particularly impressed by the progress being made in Chile and Colombia, in which countries liberal democratic governments are in power.

In Chile the organized labor movement, the C. T. Ch., is an integral part of the Popular Front which placed President Pedro Aguirre Cerda in office at the last elections. It has 150,000 members, Miss Lewis said, and is growing fast.

"The Popular Front government is bringing many benefits to labor by protecting democratic rights and civil liberties and by enforcing the Chilean labor code, which is in some respects one of the best in the world," she declared.

"It takes real courage to be a democrat or to belong to a labor union in many of these countries," she said. "Imprisonment or death are the lot of many. But still the heroic struggle goes on to win democratic liberties and labor rights."

NAZIS, FASCISTS ACTIVE

Nazi and Fascist penetration was everywhere in evidence in South America, she reported, but was meeting with strong resistance from the democratic forces wherever they had a chance to express themselves. Under dictatorial governments, however, "they just have to put up with it."

Miss Lewis stressed the importance of increasing trade between the United States and Latin-American countries for the mutual benefit of all countries concerned.

Silver Price Is Golden Goose —But Not for Miners

DENVER, Colo., July 15. — Profiteering mining companies are finding gold in the recent silver purchase bill, and mining workers are finding nothing, according to a study just released by the CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union.

"The new silver purchase policy means just that—increased profits for the mining corporations," according to the study, prepared by Ben Riskin, union research director. "But it doesn't mean a thing for the workers in the industry."

ALL GRAVY

The new price, upped from 64.64 cents to 71.11 cents per ounce by Congressional action, will not mean that new mines will come into production, or even that production in the present ones will greatly increase, according to Riskin. It means "merely more gravy for those mine operators already producing silver."

This is due to the fact that most silver is produced as a by-product of copper or other metals, the study points out. "The wage scale in the copper fields is based on the price of copper, so that the extra profit from silver is all gravy . . . and none of that gravy goes to the workers.

"It's not to higher silver prices or tariffs on copper or zinc or lead that workers can look for wage increases," Riskin concludes. "Those things mean only profits for the employers. The one stable and dependable condition for decent wages still remains strong union organization."

NAME OFFICERS

Gary, Ind., July 15—John Mayerick was elected president of Rubicon Lodge 1014, SWOC; John Spillers, vice president; E. Grissell, recording secretary; Tony Greech, treasurer; George St. Mary, financial secretary, and Martin C. Dembosky, corresponding secretary.

Another Pact Won by CIO In Jersey City

JERSEY CITY, N. J., July 15—The CIO added to its growing string of victories in this industrial hot spot when the Clorox Chemical Co. signed an agreement with District 50 of the United Mine Workers.

The contract provides for sole bargaining rights for the UMW, wage increases running as high as 25 per cent, the forty-hour week and time and a half for overtime work.

Samuel Macri, CIO field representative, aided a union committee in winning the victory.

High Pay Benefits Farmers

Washington, July 15—Livestock prices paid to farmers by the big packers go up or down with wages paid to industrial workers, according to figures released by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture. Low wages do not mean high prices for the farmers' products. Higher wages do mean better prices.

This information, gathered by Farm Research, Inc., research agency for the Farmers' Union, shows conclusively that farmers have everything to gain from organization and collective bargaining by industrial workers.

It also counters the propaganda put out by many employers, and by the big packing firms especially, that tries to persuade farmers higher wages won by the CIO Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee mean money out of the farmers' pocket.

WAGES SMALL ITEM

As a matter of fact, Farm Research points out, wage costs accounted for only 6.8 per cent of the gross value of all meat products in 1937, and even this figure should be lower, since it includes inflated salaries and bonuses paid to top company officials as well as wages paid to production workers.

For example, the Census Bureau, which gathered the figures, includes the $347,685 presented to the Swift family in one year as part of "wages," and $129,520 paid by Armour and Co. to its president.

WHAT FARMERS FACE

What farmers do face at the hands of the big packers is a cut in their income from meat sales due to the packers' stalling on collective bargaining with the CIO union in the industry, Farm Research reveals.

As Farm Research explains, farmers have everything to gain from collective bargaining and higher wages by industrial workers, and everything to lose by the packers' refusal to bargain or their attempts to keep wages low.

Name Rathborne To NYA Board

Washington, July 15.—President Roosevelt has appointed Mervyn Rathborne, president of the American Communications Association, CIO, a member of the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration.

The President said Rathborne represented "the interests in which the problems of young people are involved" when he requested the CIO official to serve.

CIO Supports WPA Bill Amendments To Protect Wages

WASHINGTON, July 15.—Full CIO support was mobilized today behind a bill to restore the prevailing hourly rate of pay and prevent reduction in monthly wages of WPA workers throughout the nation.

Introduced by Sen. James Murray of Montana in cooperation with more than 20 other Senators, the bill—S. 2765—follows out demands of demonstrators who brought WPA work almost to a halt in every large city following realization of the terms of the Woodrum bill passed by Congress on June 30.

"The amendments being introduced embody the suggestions we have made on these two matters," Ralph Hetzel, speaking in behalf of the CIO Unemployment Committee, declared. "We believe this legislation is the proper way to settle the WPA wage question.

"The amendments will stop the reduction in the monthly wages and restore the prevailing hourly rate principle. The central importance of the monthly security wage must not be forgotten in the outcry about the prevailing wage rate. The monthly rates, after all, determine how much the WPA worker has to live on. The most important thing to do is to stop reductions in the monthly rate."

The Murray amendment would instruct the Federal Works Administrator to fix a monthly earning schedule so that no class of workers will receive less monthly income from WPA than under the old set-up.

After August 31, 1939, the monthly earning schedule would permit no pay differential for people doing the same type of work in the same wage area, nor between cities or counties in the same wage area that might discriminate against the less urbanized districts.

'JUST RESENTMENT'

Demonstrations against the WPA wage slashes were described as "just resentment against the starvation and wage-cutting WPA bill passed by Congress," the CIO Unemployment Committee, headed by Sec. James Carey, declared.

The protests, it continued, "bear out the CIO's warning to Congress that the provisions of the Bill were exceedingly dangerous, leading to wage-cutting and human misery."

Improvements derived from the Murray amendment "will not make the Appropriation Act a model bill, "the committee warned, "but they will make it possible to operate a program.

Continued on Page Six

Marine Union Outlines Program

By RAY TORR

New Orleans, July 15 — The second convention of the National Maritime Union neared the end of its deliberations here completely united behind a progressive trade union and political program.

The myth of factionalism, so persistently nurtured by shipowners and the anti-labor press, was dispelled early last week and the 176 delegates have gone full speed ahead, steady on a straight course, ever since.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The tone of the convention was set by Pres. Joseph Curran in a 15,000-word report delivered last Friday. Some of his recommendations were:

Cooperation with any group or organization for the defeat of reaction in 1940;

National unity of all maritime unions in the United States;

JOINT NEGOTIATIONS

Joint negotiations between all marine unions and the operators for renewal of the contracts expiring September 30, this year;

A program of trade union education (as outlined by CIO Director John Brophy) as a labor weapon against employers and their agents;

Sharp resistance to a shipowner drive for new subsidy raids and for further restrictions on marine unions;

A continued fight against efforts by the operators to utilize any hangover of discrimination within the ranks of the union to their own ends;

Elimination of district divisions and centralization of the administrative aparatus; and

Complete elimination of shipowner influence within the union;

Endorsement of Pres. Roosevelt for a third term.

Continued on page six

'Patience Nearing End'; Lewis Warns Big Meat Packers to Sign Pacts

CHICAGO, July 15 — John L. Lewis came to Chicago this week-end, to place the full weight of the CIO behind the packinghouse workers in their demand for collective bargaining with the "Big Four" meat packers. After attending the National Policy convention of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, he was scheduled to address a monster mass meeting in the Coliseum Sunday evening.

Delegates from the 94 local unions of the PWOC throughout the country attended the convention, representing a union membership which has recently grown to the 78,000 mark out of some 129,000 employed nationally in the industry.

PUSH PACKINGHOUSE DRIVE: James Sampson, head of the Wilson local of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee (left) welcomes PWOC Director Henry Johnson to the microphone. Friday noon is CIO time at the Wilson plant, with speeches from the sound truck by union leaders. The PWOC National Policy Convention July 16 climaxed the drive to bring the meat packing industry under contract.

Calling of the PWOC national convention came as a climax to the two-year drive of the PWOC to organize the packinghouse workers employed by the "Big Four" packers, Armour, Swift, Wilson and Cudahy.

Recent sweeping gains by the union have brought it to the point where it is demanding a contract with Armour and Company, bellwether of the "Big Four." In 14 of the Armour plants, the PWOC is now certified by the Labor Board as sole bargaining agent, and with certification hearings going on in three other plants, the union is pressing for a signed agreement.

Principal demands include full recognition of the union, reduction of speedup, establishment of a proper seniority system, and elimination of health hazards, as well as an adjustment of wages.

The Chicago Hearst strikers and members of all other CIO unions in Chicago aided in the preparation of the Lewis mass meeting, and delegates were present from the steel mills, farm equipment plants and other industries which the CIO is organizing in the surrounding territory. Parades to the meeting from all parts of the city were arranged.

Gus Scholle, new CIO regional director, has brought together all CIO unions in the city to make joint preparations to follow up the Lewis meeting with a big campaign to organize the unorganized and make Chicago a CIO city.

Continued on page six

CIO Pledges Support To Die Casters' Drive

WASHINGTON, July 15.—Full CIO assistance to the Natl. Die Casting Workers Assn., CIO affiliate, was pledged by Pres. John L. Lewis and the executive officers of the CIO in a campaign to organize some 20,000 unorganized workers now employed in the industry.

CIO help in the drive was announced here by John Brophy, national director, following the decision of the executive officers and of the CIO Board at its June meeting in Washington.

The Association already has made considerable progress in its field, according to George Peacock, president, and Edward Cheyfitz, secretary-treasurer, who will act as organization director during the drive.

10,000 UNDER CONTRACT

The industry is a comparatively new and rapidly expanding one, Cheyfitz explained, since it makes a new product of key importance to the automobile and other manufacturing industries. Employment has quadrupled in the depression years since 1929, and a minimum of 100,000 workers are expected to be employed within the next few years.

Close to 10,000 are already under contract in the Association, Cheyfitz said, mostly concentrated in the metropolitan area of New York and in Toledo, Syracuse, Batavia, N. Y., Pottstown, Pa., and Kansas City, Mo.

The main drive will be for a national contract and the use of the union label on all die castings, to drive out alley shops at present competing with organized plants.

Shipyard Union Selects Jersey for Convention

JERSEY CITY, N. J., July 15—Frank Hague's Jersey City is scheduled for a new experience on Sept. 8, when the CIO Industrial Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers holds its fifth annual convention here.

The convention will be the first held by a national union in this city, it is believed.

Official notice of the convention was sent today to all locals by Pres. John Green. The union has a large membership in the New York metropolitan area and has been carrying out organizing activities here for some time.

NEW CITY LAWS

Meanwhile, Hague, bowing to CIO demands, announced formulation of new libel city ordinances covering street meetings.

As the law now reads, street meetings may be held anywhere in the city, although a police permit will have to be secured 24 hours in advance. A previous draft of the ordinance would have limited meetings to four locations in the city and would have required four days' notice and a police permit.

What was interpreted as Hague's last defense of employers, who have been lured to the city by promises of an open shop haven, was a warning that meetings would have to stay at least 50 feet away from factory gates. But this point remains a matter of enforcement, as the ordinance itself does not include any such restriction.

My, How Times Do Change! Tory Lawyers Rap Court

San Francisco, July 15—The impossible has happened—Frank J. Hogan, head of the American Bar Association, was on record today as believing that the U. S. Supreme Court will have to be roped in by Congress to prevent its using "arbitrary exercise of power" against the people.

Speaking at the annual session of corporation lawyers, Hogan could find praise only for Justices McReynolds and Butler, the last two remnants of the extreme Old Guard on the high court. The only contribution of Roosevelt-appointed Justices Reed, Black, "procession of precedents to the graveyard," despite the Two Old "procession of precedents to the graveyard," despite tre Two Old Men's "courageous efforts to preserve landmark after landmark of the law."

As a result of the changed attitude of the court, the Bar Association head claimed that the Supreme Court no longer preserves constitutional liberties.

The Association was the most persistent lobbyist against the Roosevelt court plan two years ago, maintaining that while the Tory clique was in control, the court could do no wrong.

NOTICE

Subscribers to The CIO News should get their changes of address into The CIO NEWS office, 1106 Connecticut Ave., Washington, D. C., by Monday of each week if they wish to have the next issue sent to the new address.

Subscribers should give both their old and new addresses, as well as the edition of The CIO NEWS which they receive.

Union secretaries sending in lists of names should be careful to indicate the name and number of the local and the home city address of all people on their lists.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II July 17, 1939 No. 29

Congress Must Undo This Wrong

In all the demonstrations against the slashing of the prevailing wage rate on WPA jobs, it should not be forgotten that there are other provisions of the bill passed by Congress that are fully as pernicious and affect far more people.

These are the laying off of one million WPA workers which is decreed for the coming year; the reduction of the monthly security wages; and the provision for a starvation layoff for any WPA worker on the rolls 18 months or more.

The CIO fought the whole of this hunger and misery program at every stage of its passage through Congress — while national AFL leaders were asleep at the switch or even condoned it.

Now that labor and the unemployed everywhere are beginning to feel the full impact of the crime which Congress has committed against them, the CIO calls for every effort to be concentrated on impressing Congress with the necessity of undoing the wrong that has been done.

Senator Murray and 21 other Senators have sponsored an amendment, S-2765, now before the Senate, not only to restore the prevailing wage rate for skilled workers, but also to prevent reduction of the monthly security wages for all WPA workers.

The CIO supports this amendment 100%. It calls not only on labor, but on all men and women of good will and humane instincts, to urge on their representatives in Congress the immediate passage of S-2765.

The CIO and the Farmers

The sons and daughters, the brothers and sisters of the farmers of the middle west are among the workers in the meat packing plants, the steel mills, the farm implement and other factories of all kinds which the CIO is organizing throughout this area.

Even where blood relationship is not involved, there are economic ties of common interest which should bind together the toilers of factory and countryside. The prosperity of each group is dependent on the prosperity of the other. And both labor and farmers must work together if they are to win the legislative relief they seek, as well as a fair return for their toil.

Yet financial and industrial interests which exploit both groups in different ways, will stop at little in their efforts to drive a wedge of propaganda and hostility between the two, to prevent their presenting a common front for their common interests.

That is why John L. Lewis, when he came to Chicago to aid the CIO organizing campaigns in middle western industries, brought with him also a message of goodwill and cooperation for the farming population.

"The CIO does not believe there can be any balanced and permanent prosperity until farmers as well as industrial workers receive their fair share of the national income," he said.

The CIO leader pointed out that "the purchasing power of fairly paid workers is necessary to provide an adequate market for farm products". And labor recognizes, he said, that "an impoverished farm population is a constant menace to its own conditions as well as to the nation's prosperity."

Relating the CIO's official stand in support of legislation desired by the farmers and of all measures that will aid in improving their conditions, Lewis declared:

"The CIO is ready at all times to go more than half way to cooperate with the farmers and their organizations in winning their just demands for an adequate income and remedial legislation."

Editor of Coal Union Paper Dies

Wilkes-Barre, July 15—Llewellyn P. Richards, editor of the "Anthracite Tri-District News," UMWA publication of the anthracite region, was buried this week, after a colorful life in the labor field was cut short Friday afternoon.

Mr. Richards was one of the most informed men on the history of the UMWA in Pennsylvania and was the friend of outstanding labor leaders. Many labor officials attended the funeral.

The Round-Up

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

The Middle West Goes CIO

The CIO has never been afraid to tackle the big fellows.

AFL craft unionism was a product of the small-scale industry of an earlier day. Its basis is still in industries and service trades where the smaller shop prevails.

So far as the great modern mass-production industries are concerned, the AFL never did more than to touch their fringe.

The CIO, on the contrary, has concentrated on the biggest corporations in the biggest industries.

U. S. Steel, General Motors, Chrysler, General Electric, Westinghouse, Goodyear, Goodrich and Firestone—these and dozens of others of the world's greatest corporations have been unionized by the CIO for the first time.

In every important industrial center, as a result, the basic industries are CIO, or fast on the way to becoming so.

In the Pittsburgh area, for instance, it's steel, coal mining, electrical and glass manufacturing—all CIO.

In Akron it's rubber — CIO without challenge.

In Schenectady, home of General Electric, it's CIO again.

In Detroit, the automobile industry is the stronghold of the CIO.

And now comes Chicago!

The CIO in Chicago

Chicago, the metropolis of the middle west, is also the gateway to the rich farming and industrial areas of the central states.

Here cattle, sheep and hogs are sent to the world's biggest stockyards and packing plants. Here farm implements and machinery of every kind are manufactured, as well as most of the other mass-production factory goods that are in demand through the midle west. And here in huge mills steel is made, the basic fabric of the transportation and manufacturiing industries.

In the old AFL days, Chicago used to be considered a comparatively well unionized city. At a meeting of the Chicago Federation of Labor you would find building and printing trades, barbers and restaurant workers, musicians and theatrical employes and various other skilled crafts and service trades.

But when you left the cozy meeting and traveled around the city—to the great farm implement, electrical and other factories of the west and southwest sides; to the stockyards, packinghouses and steel mills of the south side—you found that union organization was an unknown quantity in all the city's basic industries.

Today, however, the CIO has come to all these basic industries for which Chicago is famous, to do the job which the AFL so miserably failed to perform.

Chicago is fast becoming a CIO city, in the same sense that Detroit, Akron, Pittsburgh are basically CIO.

Ready for the Big Four

John L. Lewis came to Chicago for the national policy convention of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee and for the great Coliseum mass meeting which followed, to throw the whole weight of the CIO behind the culminating stages of one of the most successful CIO organizing drives.

The meat packing industry, of which Chicago is the world capital, has in the past year or so become substantially organized in the CIO packinghouse union.

Some 78,000 out of 129,000 workers employed nationally in the industry have been brought into the union ranks. Scores of union contracts have been won with independent packers. Elections have gone overwhelmingly for the PWOC wherever they have been held.

And now the CIO union is closing in on the mammoth corporations of the industry, the Big Four packers, Armour, Wilson, Cudahy and Swift.

Having established itself by organization, elections and certification as the representative of the great majority of Armour's employes throughout the country, the PWOC has for months been trying to persuade the company to obey the law and negotiate a national collective bargaining agreement.

Lewis came to Chicago to join with the PWOC in serving notice on Armour and the rest of the Big Four that their employes are now organized and will not much longer be denied the collective bargaining rights to which the law entitles them.

The Gateway Opens

Chicago is the gateway to the middle west. There are a dozen other great packinghouse centers throughout this area, besides Chicago.

In all of them the CIO union is well established. When the Big Four packers fall in line with unionism, as sooner or later they must, a dozen other cities will also be CIO in their basic industry.

The same goes for the farm equipment industry. Chicago has its huge International Harvester plants. But other cities through the middle west also have their big farm implement plants. And the CIO farm equipment union is on the march in all of them.

AFL Hotel Union, Liberals Defend Act at Hearing

WASHINGTON, July 15. — The 14th week of hearings on proposed amendments to the Wagner Act brought an AFL attorney, three clergymen, an economist, and a consumers' leader before Senate and House Labor Committees to argue against changes in the act put forward by AFL top officials and other employer interests.

The AFL attorney, Louis Boudin, appeared for the Hotel and Restaurant Alliance, one of the largest AFL affiliates, which went on record at its last convention against all amendments. Boudin pointed out the dangers in the Green-Walsh amendments on collusive contracts, citing the Consolidated Edison and Zirkin cases as evidence.

DENIAL ATTEMPTED

An AFL headquarters attorney attempted to deny the anti-amendment stand of the hotel workers, though the convention clearly states that the delegates went on record against all changes.

Monsignor John A. Ryan of the Natl. Catholic Welfare Council, appearing for the American Assn. for Economic Freedom, cited the previous stand taken by his group and told the Senate Committee:

"Let no one doubt that if the Wagner Act is left unchanged, and is administered with firmness and justice until all employers are willing or are compelled to accept and abide by its provisions, the primary cause of industrial unrest and controversy will have been removed."

MINISTERS FOR ACT

Two ministers, the Rev. Wm. B. Spofford of the Church League for Industrial Democracy and the Rev. Knox of the Civil Rights Federation added their testimony to the weight of evidence against changes in the act. Senator Rush Dew Holt, junior statesman from West Virginia and honorary president of the Natl. Ping-Pong Assn., tried everything from red-baiting to arguments about the sit-down to shake their testimony, but failed.

Pouncing on Knox's statement that AFL workers did not want the AFL leader-backed amendments, Holt asked with intended sarcasm: "Then the AFL is not speaking for its members?" and Knox replied: "That is true."

Mary Dublin, general secretary of the Natl. Consumers League, appeared before the House Labor Committee with the consumers' point of view on the act. Her organization, she explained, was founded 50 years ago to promote fair labor standards in industry, for the welfare of workers, consumers and general public.

Figures Show CIO, AFL Gain In Board Polls

Washington, July 15—Latest figures on Natl. Labor Relations Board elections for collective bargaining show the CIO out in front, in number of victories won, number of workers involved and number of elections in which CIO unions ran.

Of a total of 25 elections in the month of June, CIO took part in 17, won 13. Six of these were contests between AFL and CIO affiliates, of which CIO won four. AFL unions took part in 16 elections, won eight.

A total 5,518 workers took part in CIO elections.

Consumers Urged To Help Defense Of Wagner Act

NEW YORK, July 15.—More than 85,000 organized consumers, represented by Consumers Union, were urged in an article by their general counsel to oppose all amendments to the Wagner Act as a protection of labor's rights and a means of increasing consumer incomes throughout the nation.

The article, written by A. J. Isserman and appearing in the current Consumers Union Reports, official CU organ, describes the functions of the act, analyzes the proposed amendments, declares that the forces seeking amendments are those opposed to the whole principle of collective bargaining.

"Their case is a poor one," Isserman writes. "Behind their pseudo-patriotic shouting, behind their charges of inequality, unfairness or bias in the administration of the act, the facts are against them.

PURPOSE OF AMENDMENTS

"Careful analysis shows that the amendments are designed: (a) to cripple the work of the Board; (b) to destroy the right of self-organization by giving employers and supervisory officials the right to choose the unions for their employes and by taking away from the Board the right to set aside contracts executed in violation of the present act; and (c) to throw the administration of the law into the lower Federal courts, which have already shown antipathy to it."

The article concludes by urging all CU members to support the act and oppose amendments "as consumers and wage-earners and in a larger sense as citizens interested in industrial peace and America's well-being."

119 California AFL Unions Knock Green

SAN FRANCISCO, July 15. — One hundred and nineteen California AFL unions are on record against all amendments to the Wagner Act, according to the latest revised list just released by the California Committee to Save the Wagner Act. They represent more than 210,000 workers.

In addition, the committee announced that 82 branches of the California Young Democratic Clubs, the Democratic County Central Committee of Los Angeles, the 24th St. Boosters and the North Beach Promotion Club of San Francisco are also on record against meddling with the act.

ALL TYPES

All kind of unions are represented in the 119 AFL locals, ranging from hod carriers to diamond setters, from bridge and iron workers to teachers. Hollywood is well represented with screen writers, cartoonists, directors, publicists, readers, set designers.

The committee, headed by George Creel, reports constantly increasing support for its work in rousing the public to the dangers contained in the proposed amendments, including those sponsored by top leaders of the AFL, to the act and to labor.

'Largest Telegram' Raps AFL Amendments

Washington, July 15—The world's largest telegram, signed by 13,000 individuals and 162 organizations, was delivered at the White House and the Capitol today, protesting proposed amendments to the Wagner Act and urging the President and Congress to do all in their power to defeat them.

The telegram, circulated by the American League for Peace and Democracy, asked President Roosevelt and Congress to defeat the Walsh amendments, backed by top AFL leaders, "and the numerous other amendments which would weaken or destroy the effectiveness of this law."

"The Wagner Labor Relations Act has, to a large extent, compelled adherence to the basic liberties guaranteed in the constitution of the U. S. and has been of inestimable benefit to the American people as a whole," the message said.

Included in the 149 organizations endorcing the gigantic wire were 47 from the AFL, 27 from the CIO, and over 50 from fraternal church, civic and other progressive groups.

TWO REINSTATED

San Francisco — Western Union was ordered to reinstate two messengers and an operator fired for union activity, by the Natl. Labor Relations Board office here.

Civil Liberties Better Observed, Harder Hit

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

Washington, July 15.—The American people, irritated by a growing din of anti-democratic propaganda both at home and abroad, have become increasingly aware of the importance of preserving and strengthening basic liberties, the American Civil Liberties Union declared today in its annual report.

Entitled "The Bill of Rights—150 Years After," the report found both government and private organizations of citizens paying more attention to constitutional guarantees of freedom than for many years past.

CITE HAGUE CASE

Significant among developments during the 12 months ending June 1, the ACLU declared, were the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Hague case and the creation of a Civil Liberties unit in the Department of Justice by Atty. Gen. Frank Murphy.

"On the whole, the record of the courts, both federal and state, throughout the country showed a more favorable interpretation of civil rights," the report stated.

"Interference with the rights of political, racial and religious minorities has steadily diminished," it continued.

". . . mob violence dropped to a new low with only one major instance reported through the year, and two or three slight skirmishes. While lynchings of Negroes increased from eight to twelve, the record is low compared with previous years. Troops were called out in strikes in only two states, Iowa and Kentucky, another new low.

"Censorship of movies, radio, the theatre and literature also declined," the Civil Liberties Union found.

THE OTHER SIDE

That is the rosy side of the picture. The other side—

"Against these favorable advances, there developed during the year a more intense anti-democratic propaganda, whose effect, if successful, inevitably will result in sweeping denials of civil liberties.

"This propaganda, aimed allegedly at Communism and in part against Jews, is in fact directed generally against progressive movements, the New Deal and the CIO.

ATTACK DIES GROUP

"Its chief mouthpiece became the Special House Committee on Un-American Activities headed by Rep. Martin Dies of Texas. The committee's exposure of alleged Communism doubtless had considerable effect on the November, 1938, elections in several states against candidates favorable to labor's civil rights."

Atmosphere for the denial of civil rights is created by the activities of "self-styled patriotic organizations," the report charged.

"Generally speaking, in the field of professional patriotic activity there is an unofficial alliance through community of interest between the military organizations, the followers of Father Coughlin and the German-American Bund. They are aided and abetted by numerous smaller organizations, many of which are obviously rackets for the benefit of their promoters."

STATE LEGISLATION

The "conservative political tendency" which nurtures anti-progressive propaganda was reflected not only in the elections but in sessions of state legislatures, where not a single bill extending civil liberties was passed, though five states adopted measures to curtail union activities and numerous cities and states moved to restrict picketing.

The ACLU has vigorously opposed amendments to the Wagner Act, the report said, pointing out that protective machinery set up under the statute has resulted in a drop in the number of strikes and a consequent reduction in violations of civil rights in industrial struggles.

In the courts, the civil liberties group noted but one major setback to labor—the $700,000 Sherman Act damage award in the Apex Hosiery case.

"The implications of the decision, if sustained, would be far-reaching in nullifying the recent advances in law protecting labor's rights to organize and strike."

Pressure Mounts Against Movie Attack on Union Leaders

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., July 15—Unless popular pressure changes its plans, Paramount Pictures will soon release a feature film which is described by observers here as a direct attack on labor.

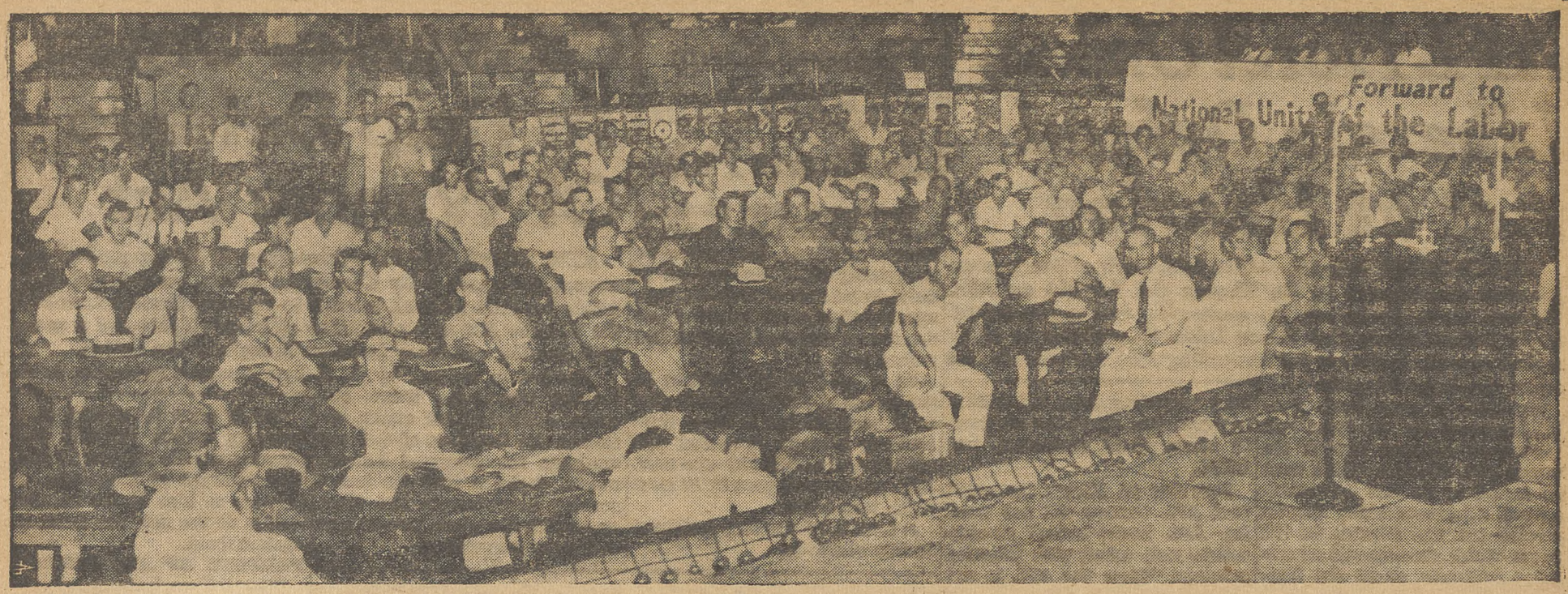
The picture, "Our Leading Citizen," is called "the most vicious anti-labor script that has ever been turned out in Hollywood," by John R. Chaplin, correspondent here for the Federated Press, labor news service.

Two leading liberals in the film colony have charged that the picture, if released, will be a direct attack on Harry Bridges, West Coast CIO director.

The Hollywood Tribune, new progressive movie paper, reports that the film caricatures a labor leader in typical Hearst fashion —"an agitator" carrying "a bomb in one hand, the word comrade in his throat and dynamite hidden behind his Bolshevik black beard. He goes in for violence, shooting, provocation, demagoguery and a conspiratorial alliance with the hired-thug strikebreakers."

Says Associated Film Audiences:

"Mr. Arthur's (producer of the film) error may be due to lack of knowledge, but the American public should make clear to him that attacks on the labor movement are an aid to fascism and an insult to our democracy."



MARITIME UNION CONVENTION: Some of the several hundred delegates who are attending the convention of the National Maritime Union at Jerusalem Hall in New Orleans. Efforts of shipowners' stooges to cause disruption are meeting with little success as the delegates map plans for strengthening the union's position.

Sign CIO Pacts, Meat Packers Told

Continued from Page Three

Lewis spoke enthusiastically about the PWOC progress, saying that it "ranks with the greatest triumphs of industrial organization in the steel, automobile, rubber and other previously unorganized mass production industries.

"For decades the packinghouse workers, because of their unorganized condition, have been in thrall to giant corporations which have been a law unto themselves," he said."The biggest of these corporations still set themselves above the law of the United States, in denying to their employes their collective bargaining rights. But now the success of CIO organization gives warning that the end of this autocracy is in sight."

WARNS ARMOUR

Noting the refusal of Armour and Company to negotiate, despite repeated requests from the PWOC since it established itself as the representative of the company's employes, Lewis declared:

"But labor's patience is not without limits. The organized packinghouse workers of the nation are now serving notice on Armour and Co. that their patience is nearing an end, and that if the company continues to refuse collective bargaining, it must accept the consequences of its own action."

CHEERS GUILD STRIKERS

Turning to the general labor scene in Chicago, Lewis warmly congratulated the workers for building strong CIO unions in steel, farm equipment, clothing and other industries. He paid special tribute to the loyalty and courage of striking Newspaper Guild workers on the two Hearst papers, now in the seventh month of their struggle for union rights.

"The Hearst management is mistaken if it thinks it can reverse the trend of the times and deny to its editorial and office employes the union rights which it has long accorded to its mechanical employes," he said.

Lewis commended the Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee as "one of the most active and growing unions of the CIO." He noted the progress of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee in winning 595 union contracts covering more than half a million workers. "The time will not be long," he said, "before four more are added to this imposing list — namely, the Bethlehem, Republic, Inland and Youngstown companies."

Lewis praised the record of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers in Chicago as one of decades of "100 per cent union organization and responsible and peaceful collective bargaining which has benefitted the industry as much as it has benefitted the workers." He said he hoped soon to see a CIO Industrial Union Council established in Chicago.

SPEAKS TO FARMERS

Bringing a message of good will and cooperation to the farmers of the middle west on behalf of the CIO, Lewis declared: "The CIO does not believe that there can be any balanced and permanent prosperity until farmers as well as industrial workers receive their fair share of the national income.

"That is why the CIO is ready at all times to go more than half way to cooperate with the farmers and their organizations in winning their just demands for an adequate income and remedial legislation.

"If labor and the farmers combine for the promotion of their mutual legislative interests, and if each group shows sympathy and understanding of the other's legitimate aspirations, there is no force that can prevent our onward march to better conditions for both groups, and greater prosperity for our whole economy as a result."

LASHES WPA BILL

Describing unemployment as "the gravest problem confronting our country today," Lewis lashed out at the "miserable failure" of Congress to meet this problem. He denounced the failure of the Democratic Party to live up to its 1936 platform, saying that it "must share responsibility with the Tory Republicans for a measure which will deprive a million unemployed of WPA jobs, besides reducing the already meager WPA wage."

"The CIO has fought throughout, not only in defense of the WPA program, but also for a far more adequate acceptance by government of its responsibility to provide socially useful work at decent wages for all who need it," he said.

"We are now supporting amendments to restore the prevailing rate and prevent cuts in the monthly security wages."

Ask Probe Of Armour Arsenals

Chicago, July 15—Federal investigation of anti-labor arsenals being collected by Armour & Co. to use against the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee was asked by Don Harris, PWOC director, in a wire to Attorney General Frank Murphy.

Harris wired Murphy that he could "produce witnesses to testify before a duly constituted authority that Armour & Co. has fortified its Chicago plant, has built and stored over 100 street barricades and is increasing its armed police force, which even now constitute a private anti-labor army."

ASKS LAW AND ORDER

Harris also asked Murphy to employ the newly created Civil Liberties Division of the Justice Department to help in maintaining law and order in the Armour plant, pointing out that "78,000 organized packinghouse workers will be heartened by the assurance that your office will protect civil rights and, if you feel it necessary, investigate the preparations for violence by Armour & Co."

Marine Union Outlines Program

Continued from Page Three

CIO Director John Brophy was here and addressed the delegates on new tactics of anti-labor employers. They are turning more and more from the old methods of wage-cuts, lockouts, corruption of politicians to the new method of labor spies and traitors, he said.

Among resolutions passed are the following:

Asking for an embargo against the three fascist aggressor nations —Nazi Germany, Italy and Japan;

Backing up the Roosevelt foreign policy and asking nationalization of the munitions industry;

Ousting of certain persons in high army and navy circles who are deemed not in sympathy with the President's program;

Condemning religious and racial bigotry; and

Endorsing the CIO-AFL unity program of CIO President John L. Lewis.

News Guild, Smashing Opposition, Prepares For Convention

By CLYDE BEALS

NEW YORK, July 15.—With many evidences that the union has broken through the organized opposition of publishers and is in a favorable position for another good year, the American Newspaper Guild is facing toward its sixth annual convention.

The gathering, with Pres. Heywood Broun wielding the gavel, will be held in San Francisco from July 31 to August 4, with Aug. 5 as Guild day at the San Francisco World's Fair. Governor Olsen, Tom Mooney, Harry Bridges and President Jack Shelley of the AFL Central Labor Council, are expected as speakers.

Chief evidence of the union's solid position was the doubling and possible tripling during the year of the number of members under contract protection, which is announced in the bargaining report prepared for the convention. The number of contracts jumped to 111, covering 140 shops —mostly big city papers—as against 77 contracts a year ago and 37 in 1936, while most of the contracts protected many more members than before because of the large proportion of new agreements and renewals which cover the Guild's entire jurisdiction.

The Guild enrolled only editorial workers until 1937, when it joined the CIO and broadened its base to include all newspaper workers not eligible for the AFL's mechanical unions.

49 GUILD SHOPS

The organized opposition was publicly proclaimed at that time by the American Newspaper Publishers Association. During the past year, however, an increasing number of papers recognized the Guild for its full jurisdiction without challenge, and the first of the major chain papers, the Hearst Sentinel in Milwaukee, has just acceded in part to the demand for a Guild or union shop.

The Guild has Guild shops in 49 plants, including the New York Daily News, the country's largest paper, and the Stern papers in Philadelphia and Camden, N. J.

The year's gains were made in large part during the course of the union's greatest strike, that now in progress on the two Hearst papers in Chicago.

CIO Backs Amendments To WPA Bill

Continued from Page Three

"The CIO fougght for a decent program for the unemployed in the form of the bills introduced by Sen. Murray and Rep. Casey. The AFL national leadership on the other hand either lifted not a finger or the WPA or actively engaged in attempts to cripple it. . . ." during the Congressional fight last month.

"The CIO is urging its affiliates to center their fight on behalf of the WPA workers on the passage of these amendments to the WPA bill. That is the only way these wrongs can be righted. Congress must not adjourn until it has righted the "wrongs for which it is responsible."

RECEIVED SUPPORT

Most of the demonstrations were conducted by members of the AFL building trades unions and in most localities received support from CIO locals and city bodies. In Toledo, Ohio, executive boards of the CIO and AFL councils held joint meetings to discuss the WPA problem until Francis Dillon, representative of William Green, warned the Central Labor Union that continuance of the procedure would lead to revocation of its charter.

Says Green Gave OK to WPA Bill

Washington, July 15. — Rep. Clifton Woodrum, sponsor of the WPA slash bill, declared that he and AFL Pres. Green conferred for several hours while the bill was being drafted and made no mention of prevailing wage rates, according to Federated Press, labor news service.

The July issue of the Federationist, AFL official organ, contains an editorial by Green which describes the relief proposal before Congress at the time the article was written as a "step in the direction of a well-considered relief program."

CIO Stands Ready To Help, Lewis Tells Midwest Workers

Demands Armour Co. Sign Union Contract

CHICAGO, July 16—Following are excerpts from a speech delivered by CIO President John L. Lewis at a mass meeting in the Coliseum here today:

Today I attended a great convention of packinghouse workers in this city. The delegates came from every center of the industry throughout the country. They represented a host of workers who have been organized for the first time, thanks to the CIO, into a powerful union which can speak with authority for labor in the packinghouse industry.

This achievement of the CIO ranks with the greatest triumphs of industrial organization in the steel, automobile, rubber and other previously unorganized mass-production industries.

For decades the packinghouse workers, because of their unorganized conditions, have been in thrall to giant corporations which have been a law unto themselves. The biggest of these corporations still set themselves above the law of the United States, in denying to their employes the collective bargaining rights. But now the success of CIO organization, to which today's convention testified, gives warning that the end of this autocracy is in sight.

UNION HAS MAJORITY

The Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, with a majority of the workers in its ranks, has prevented wage-cutting in the industry and has been responsible for improving conditions in every plant. It has won union agreements with some 40 independent packers, and now it is ready to bring the "Big Four" into line. It has been certified as the workers' collective bargaining representative in most of the plants of Armour & Co., as well as in establishments of Swift, Wilson and Cudahy throughout the entire country. Wherever elections have been held, the workers have voted by overwhelming majorities to be represented by the packinghouse union of the CIO.

When the union's sweeping election victory in Armour's biggest plant, in Chicago, capped its organizing successes in the company's other plants, the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee followed the orderly procedure prescribed by the law by approaching Armour & Co. for the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement.

PATIENCE NEARING END

The packinghouse workers' union has since exercised the greatest patience in repeatedly and over a long period requesting that Armour & Co. sit down in peaceable and friendly fashion to bargain collectively with its employes. But, Armour & Co. has continued to play the autocrat and to refuse to negotiate a national agreement with the chosen spokesmen of its workers.

Labor's patience is not without limits, however. Nor, I am convinced, will the American people generally continue to tolerate a condition of industrial serfdom in this industry, when their representatives in Congress have decreed through the National Labor Relations Act that democratic rights must be accorded to American workers.

The organized packinghouse workers of the nation are now serving notice on Armour & Co. that their patience is nearing an end, and that if the company continues to refuse collective bargaining, it must acept the consequences of its own action.

The Packinghouse Workers have at all times followed the orderly procedure prescribed by the National Labor Relations Act. They have taken, and they plan to take, no action which is not fully in accord with the law. All they ask is that the packing corporations be similarly law-abiding and negotiate with them in good faith, as required by the law.

* * *

Justifies CIO

The success of the organizing activities of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee is a shining example of the validity and virtue of the CIO program of industrial organization.

The CIO has succeeded, where the American Federation of Labor failed miserably, because it has followed a program of organization which is adapted to the needs of the workers in modern mass-production industries; and because it has mobilized behind newly organized workers the full power and prestige of its established unions.

The meat packing industry, like most of other modern industries, remained unorganized as long as it did, because of the inertia and incompetence of the AFL leaders. But now the packinghouse workers, thanks to the CIO, have a great industrial union of their own, to which all the workers may belong with equal rights, and which is capable of mobilizing their collective bargaining power to match the power of the biggest corporations.

PLEDGES CIO SUPPORT

As a result of the modern and progressive policies which it follows, the CIO has brought four million workers into the ranks of organized labor. And I am here to pledge the full support of this great movement to the packinghouse workers in any struggles into which they may be forced by the intransigeance of the big corporations.

With the knowledge that its cause is just and reasonable, with the majority of the workers now in one industrial union, and with the full weight of the CIO behind it, the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee is assured of success in establishing the collective bargaining rights of the workers which have been so long denied.

* * *

Farm Equipment

This meeting is evidence, if further evidence be needed, that the CIO has come to Chicago to stay. It has not come from the outside, but has grown from the desires and aspirations of the workers employed in the great industries of this metropolis.

Not only is the CIO firmly established in your stockyards and packing plants, but it is also bringing new hope to tens of thousands of workers in the steel mills, in the farm implement factories and in a dozen other industries for which Chicago is famous.

The Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee is one of the most active and growing unions of the CIO. In the gigantic plants of International Harvester and other corporations, the workers look to it as their champion. It is exposing the sham of company unionism which has kept the workers impotent to defend their rights, and its progress is assurance that here too the workers will soon enjoy the benefits of genuine collective bargaining.

In the steel industry, Chicago has seen the lengths to which industrial despots will go in their fight against labor unionism. The horror of the Memorial Day massacre in South Chicago is still fresh in all of our memories. But the cause for which those strikers died has not been stopped by the bullets which laid them low. It has gone marching on, until even Girdler and his associates can now see the determination of the thousands who have joined the union to take the places of the martyred dead.

Little Steel

Little Steel is sooner or later going to have to do what Big Steel has done. It is going to have to obey the law and bargain collectively with the Steel Workers Organizing Committee. And this is going to happen sooner rather than later, because the employes of Little Steel are law-abiding citizens, who consider that their employers should also abide by the law; and because their union has been growing in strength and in the power to insist on its collective bargaining rights.

Already the CIO steel union has 595 union contracts covering more than half a million workers, and the time will not be long before four more are added to this imposing list — namely, the Bethlehem, Republic, Inland and Youngstown companies.

LAUDS ACWA

For the benefit of those who are so timorous as to fear what labor may do with its new-found power, let me call attention to the record of another outstanding CIO union in Chicago, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers. It has a record of decades of 100% union organization and responsible and peaceful collective bargaining, which has benefitted the industry as much as it has benefitted the workers.

This meeting is testimony to the cooperative activities of all the CIO unions in the Chicago area. We hope soon to see an Industrial Union Council established, which will aid in further coordinating the work of the CIO unions and become the authorized spokesman in civic affairs of the great majority of Chicago's workers. The CIO is on the march here, as elsewhere, and the prospects are bright for future progress.

* * *

Hearst Strike

I want to pay a tribute to the loyal union newspapermen and women who are standing fast in their long struggle for collective bargaining with the Chicago Hearst papers.

I can remember that it used to be said that editorial workers would be among the last to join the union ranks. They were supposed to be too individualistic, too professional in attitude, to make common cause with manual workers for their economic advancement. But the last few years have shown that this insulting estimate of their intelligence was only a myth, carefully nurtured by anti-union publishers for their own purposes.

Instead of being the last to join the union ranks, the newspaper men and women have been pioneers and leaders in the wave of union organization that has swept the country since the CIO was formed. They have shown fully as much capacity for collective action as have any other workers organized by the CIO. And the present Hearst strike gives convincing evidence of their courage, initiative, self-discipline and enduring qualities of union loyalty.

As a result, the American Newspaper Guild is now firmly planted in the newspaper offices of nearly all the great dailies. It has overcome every kind of resistance and won collective bargaining agreements which have greatly improved the conditions of newspaper work.

HEARST MUST BOW

The Hearst management is mistaken if it thinks it can reverse this trend of the times and deny to its editorial and office employes the union rights which it has long acorded to its mechanical employes. If it wishes to re-establish itself in public esteem, to revive the dwindling circulation of its Chicago papers and to operate a profitable instead of a losing business, it will have to quit trying to smash the Guild and agree to bargain with it in good faith.

Needless to say, the CIO is 100% behind the Newspaper Guild in this fight, and our growing movement in Chicago will not rest until collective bargaining is established in the newspaper offices as well as in the great industrial plants of this city.

* * *

The Farmers

In organizing the industrial workers, the CIO is not unmindful of the interests of the farming population. Yet we know that every effort will be made by profiteers who exploit both farmers and workers, to drive a wedge between these two groups of producers who have everything to gain and nothing to lose from cooperation and united action.

The CIO does not believe that there can be any balanced and permanent prosperity until farmers as well as industrial workers receive their fair share of the national income.

In seeking to win decent wages for the workers, the CIO is making its contribution to a better income for the farmers. For the purchasing power of fairly paid workers is necessary to provide an adequate market for farm products; and labor on its side recognizes that an impoverished farm population is a constant menace to its own conditions as well as to the nation's prosperity.

READY TO COOPERATE

That is why the CIO is ready at all times to go more than half way to cooperate with the farmers and their organizations in winning their just demands for an adequate income and remedial legislation.

* * *

Unemployment

Unemployment is the gravest problem confronting our country today. No section of our population can consider itself secure so long as there are ten or eleven million unemployed, outcasts through no fault of their won, who are denied their right to contribute their labor to the nation's prosperity and to earn a decent living in return.

To provide work for these millions at a wage which will hold up buying power, is a problem which calls for immediate and drastic action. But the present Congress has failed miserably to meet this problem. Not only has it taken no constructive steps to put the unemployed back to work, but on the contrary it has concentrated on cutting the vitals out of the WPA program.

The WPA bill recently passed by Congress is a direct repudiation of the pledges made by the Democratic party in its 1936 platform, when much was said about the government's obligation to provide work at decent wages for those for whom private industry makes no provision. The majority party must share responsibility with the tory Republicans for a measure which will deprive a million unemployed of WPA jobs, besides reducing the already meager WPA wage.

CIO DEFENDED WPA

The CIO has fought throughout, not only in defense of the WPA program, but also for a far more adequate acceptance by government of its responsibility to provide socially useful work at decent wages for all who need it.

The CIO led the fight for a decent WPA program in this last Congress. Many of the AFL affiliates followed this leadership. The national officials of the American Federation of Labor made no moves which would be construed as a fight on behalf of WPA workers.

BACKS AMENDMENTS

We are now supporting amendments to restore the prevailing rate and prevent cuts in the monthly security wages. Our officials were the first alive to the new opportunity to get the reactionary wage provisions of the WPA bill substantially changed. The CIO will, as it has in past struggles, lead in the drive to stop WPA wage slashes.

In the coming political campaigns, we shall want to know from any party or candidate who seeks labor support, just what program they will advance to give the people work;

Equipment, Steel, News Unions Praised

Launching A Winner

Maritime Federation of the Pacific took top honors in the labor section of the annual Rose Festival parade at Portland, Oreg. Those pretty girls are members of CIO and AFL unions.

Protect Harlan Miners From Chandler's Wrath, Lewis Asks Justice Dept.

WASHINGTON, July 15.—Fighting provoked by Gov. A. B. ("Happy") Chandler in Harlan Co., Ky., in which one miner was killed by Guardsmen and many wounded and arrested, today drew a stinging letter from United Mine Workers and CIO President John L. Lewis to Attorney-General Murphy. He described Chandler as "a politically disappointed and angry Governor," and demanded Federal action to stop the shooting and jailing of miners.

Harlan miners have been keeping the pits closed since the refusal of Association operators to sign the UMW contract. A handful of scabs, protected by Natl. Guard bayonets, has brought up less than a trickle of coal during the stoppage. Attempts of a scab to run a coal car at high speed through a picket line caused the most recent shooting.

Pres. Lewis' letter to the Attorney-General, which pointed out that present laws are ample machinery for Federal action, follows in full:

LETTER IN FULL

"In Kentucky, Happy Chandler has young men in military uniforms shooting coal miners. He is also filling the jails with other miners that he has not shot. The mine workers are citizens of the United States and members of the United Mine Workers of America.

TWO MOTIVES

"Chandler has two reasons for thus violating his oath and prostituting the power of his state:

"(a) To repay a political debt to a criminal band of coal operators, whose previous crimes are spread on the sworn public records of three authoritative Governmental agencies.

"(b) To exact vengeance upon the United Mine Workers of America and its members in Kentucky, for supporting Barkley and opposing Chandler in the senatorial election last year.

"In this election, Chandler was defeated and Senator Barkley re-elected. The Mine Workers opposed Chandler and supported Barkley. They did so with unanimity and enthusiasm, at the request of Frankin Delano Roosevelt. They are now being shot, harried and incarcerated by Happy Chandler. He pursues and wounds them with the same ferocity and lack of restraint that characterize the habits of a Dominican dictator.

LAW IS VIOLATED

I submit, Sir, that the law is being violated by this politically disappointed and angry Governor. In the name of all the mine workers of this nation and millions of other citizens, I inquire whether you will move to abate this intolerable situation.

"You have statutes under which you can proceed. You have facilities at your disposal. In addition, the President can act if he is so disposed. The Republic has vested him with ample powers to protect the lives and liberties of its citizens. Kentucky and Harlan County, after all, are within the United States.

"Will you be good enough to inform me whether the Government will act?"

Ask Probe Of Union Man's Death

Chicago, July 15.—Eric Hessler, financial secretary of Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee Local 105, died in Cook County Hospital this week, as union leaders demanded city and federal probes of suspected anti-union foul play.

Hessler disappeared after leaving an FEWOC meeting the night before he was to testify at a Labor Board hearing against Intl. Harvester Co. He was discovered in the hospital a week later suffering from a skull fracture which doctors said was caused by a blow from a blunt instrument.

WIRE TO MURPHY

Immediately after Hessler's death, FEWOC officials wired U. S. Atty.-Gen. Frank Murphy asking for a complete investigation of the circumstances surrounding the case. Previously Alderman W. A. Rowan, head of the City Council's labor committee, asked that Police Commissioner Allman launch a similar probe.

Joseph Weber, assistant director of FEWOC, declared that nothing he had learned about the case had shaken his theory that Hessler "met with foul play because of his union activities."

See Pact Near As Strike Shuts 12 GM Plants

DETROIT, July 14. — General Motors Corp., apparently convinced at last that the CIO United Automobile Workers is the only union representing its employes, gave indications today of reaching an agreement for several thousand tool and die makers, engineering and maintenance workers.

Closing of a dozen tool and die shops, all of them working on 1940 models, gave evidence of the strength of the UAW-CIO and its determination to win a supplemental contract for the strikers.

Production workers were not affected by the strike, and Pres. R. J. Thomas urged them to withstand company efforts to divide the workers.

"If any production workers are kept from their jobs—it will be GM's actions," Thomas said. "GM has stalled on an agreement with the skilled men since October, 1938. If it really cared about the production workers, it would have sat down in the American way and negotiated an agreement long before the strike was declared."

MURRAY, KNUDSEN CONFER

CIO Vice-Pres. Philip Murray, who had previously sent a message to the union promising full support for the strike, met with Pres. William Knudsen of GM and James Dewey, U. S. conciliator. Further conferences between UAW leaders and other corporation executives are anticipated.

Fisher Body Plant 37 shut down when 250 men walked out as the management attempted to move dies out of the factory. The UAW-CIO tool and die council of Detroit pledged full support to the walkout. In some 40 Detroit jobbing shops, 1,500 UAW members refused to work on tools and dies for General Motors.

Only strike violence came in Pontiac, where the corporation mobilized thugs and imported strikebreakers for an attempted "back-to-work" movement. It failed. A thousand UAW pickets kept tight lines around GM property.

Republican Gov. Dickinson ordered a detachment of state police to the city, once a Black Legion stronghold. UAW men urged the governor to force the cops to end their "ruthless disregard" for rights of peaceful picketing.

RAP 'SECURITY PLAN'

Action of the corporation in terminating its so-called income security plan in factories affected by the strike were described as "a piece of petty vindictiveness" by Walter Reuther, head of the union's GM department. He pointed out that the plan never added a penny to the workers' income, and called the ending of the plan "an attempt to black-jack its workers into submission."

CIO Aims to Assist South, Students Hear

MONTEAGLE, Tenn., July 15.—"The CIO is determined that the South shall be freed from its shackles as a colony of Wall Street. The CIO is determined to make democracy work so that in the world of tomorrow, we shall have a greater south and a greater America."

This was the pledge given students at the Highlander Folk School here by President Sherman Dalrymple of the United Rubber Workers, whose union has been waging a campaign to improve working conditions in the southern states.

Anti-union employers are engaged in sowing seeds of distrust among southern workers in an effort to cut them off from their brothers in other parts of the country, the URW official declared.

'CREATE ILLUSION'

"They attempt to create in the minds of the southern people the illusion that industry in the south is owned by southerners, that southern land is owned by southerners and that southern labor is content to be exploited and under-paid for the sake of protecting the south," he asserted.

On the other hand, "absentee ownership, not having to live in the south, is perfectly willing to have southern people have poor schools, poor roads, poor health facilities, poor working conditions."

Other speakers included T. J. Smith of the United Mine Workers; Yelverton Cowherd, head of the Alabama Industrial Union Council, and Joe Dobbs, organizer for the Textile Workers Union of America.

Page Diogenes!

Found — A Stooge Who Admits It

STERLING, Ill., July 15.—Maybe you never saw a dream walking, but this town has seen a company stooge talking. And truthfully, too, admitting his occupation.

It came about when William Desmond, head of one of Intl. Harvester Co.'s fake unions, took the witness stand at National Labor Relations Board hearings here.

Here's the dialogue between Desmond and Robert Rissman, NLRB attorney:

RISSMAN: "Do you hold a position in the Rock Falls Employes Association?"

DESMOND: "I do."

RISSMAN: "What position?"

DESMOND: "I'm a stooge."

RISSMAN: "What?"

DESMOND: "Well, that's what they call me — a company stooge."

RISSMAN: "Well, what's a stooge?"

DESMOND: "A stooge is a guy that — say, I don't want to answer that. What would you call one?"

RISSMAN: "I know several definitions, but I am restrained by my position from helping you out."

ARBITRATE

San Francisco — A five man board is arbitrating conditions in the distributing trade here, affecting 2,100 members of the CIO Longshoremens and Warehousemens Union.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 30 | JULY 24, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

AUTHORIZE STRIKE FOR ARMOUR PACT

CIO Opens Defense Of Labor Act

(See Stories Pages 3 and 5)

Washington, July 22.—Led by Vice-Pres. Philip Murray, a number of CIO leaders this week commenced to testify before the House Labor Committee on why the Wagner Act should not be amended.

Murray, appearing in his capacity as chairman of the powerful Steel Workers Organizing Committee, read into the record a fact-studded statement to indicate how the Act has promoted industrial peace in the nation's key industry.

He charged that the National Labor Relations Board has leaned toward AFL demands for craft unionism, predicting that passage of the Green amendments would lead to a break-up of industrial unionism in the mass-production industries and a consequent threat of turmoil in labor-capital relations.

Other CIO witnesses were Pres. John Green of the Industrial Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers, and Sec.-Treas. Victor Pasche of the American Newspaper Guild, both of whom warned of the dangers implicit in altering the Wagner Act at this time.

Meanwhile a dozen Labor's Non-Partisan League witnesses —most of them influential AFL union leaders — were telling a similar story to the Senate Committee on Education and Labor. All said that the Green amendment demands do not represent the feeling of the AFL rank-and-file.

CALL STRIKE

Cleveland. (FP)—One hundred members of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, have struck against the Geometric Stamping Co., following the firm's refusal to sign a union contract.

Harlan Signs

(See Story Page Three)

Knoxville, Tenn., July 22. — Harlan County's coal operators, sole remaining holdout against the United Mine Workers contract demands, bowed to union strength today and signed a two-year agreement.

The new contract, under which several thousand locked-out miners will return to work, provides for elimination of the "strike penalty clause" — a basic UMW demand.

LABOR AND CHURCH: CIO Pres. John L. Lewis (left) shakes hands with Auxiliary Bishop Bernard Sheil of the Chicago Catholic Diocese, while Van A. Bittner (left center), chairman of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee looks on. Bishop Sheil, who delivered opening prayer at the PWOC mass meeting in Chicago last Sunday, endorsed the union's demands for an Armour contract.

The News In Brief

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

GM Strike

Detroit.— Negotiations continued here between leaders of the United Automobile Workers and General Motors looking toward a settlement of the effective strike of tool and die makers seeking a supplementary contract to cover their wage demands.

Unfair List

Washington. — An "unfair" list of corporations which defy the Wagner Act while seeking government contracts was provided for in CIO-supported amendments to the Walsh-Healey Act passed by the Senate. The bill awaits House action.

NLRB Probe

Washington. — Most violent foes of the National Labor Relations Board in the House of Representatives won a campaign to establish special committee to "investigate" the Board.

Conventions

United Rubber Workers, La Crosse, Wisc., September 11.

United Shoe Workers, Rochester, N. Y., October 2.

Pres. Lewis Offers Aid At Rally

(See Stories Page Six)

CHICAGO, July 22. — Armour & Co. is on the defensive in its battle to escape collective bargaining, Chairman Van A. Bittner of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee charged today.

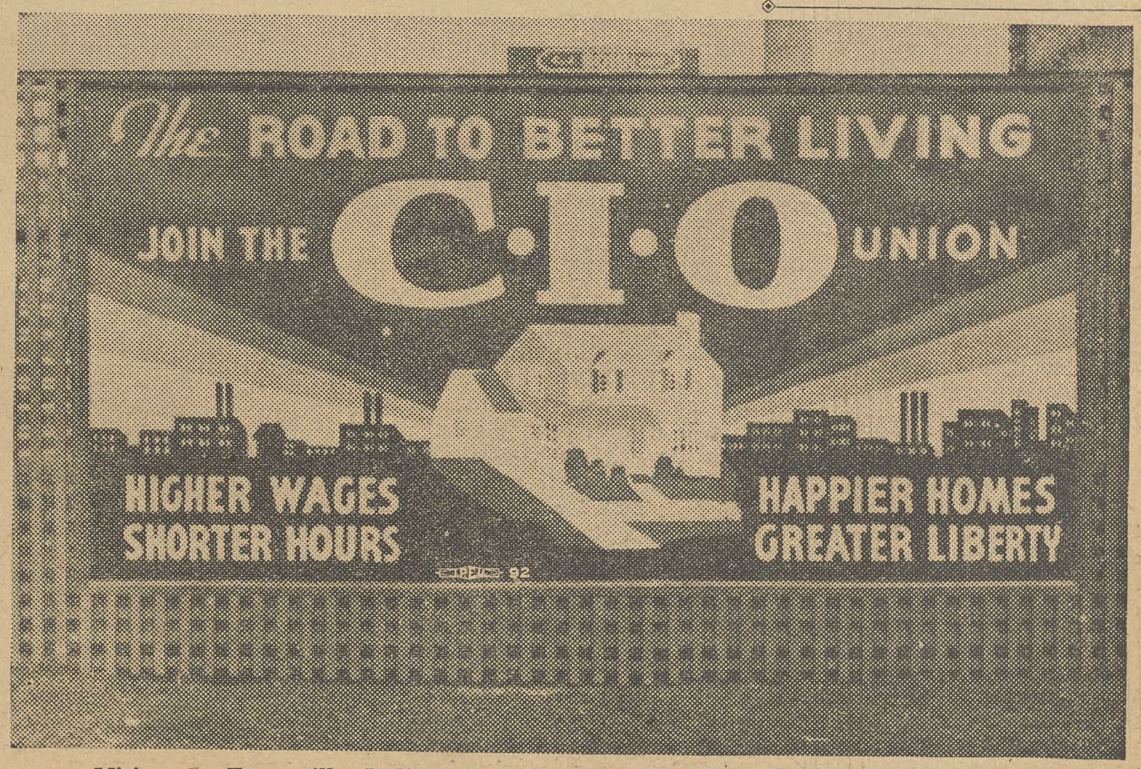
His statement followed the appearance of large advertisements in the nation's leading newspapers, in which the giant meat packing firm attempted to justify its anti-union stand through several hundred words of evasion of PWOC demands for collective bargaining and a national contract.

Developments followed thick and fast after the PWOC's National Policy Convention in Chicago on July 16, when more than a thousand delegates authorized their leaders to declare a strike if necessary to win the agreement.

The convention was followed by the greatest labor mass meeting in Chicago history. Close to 16,000 workers heard CIO Pres. John L. Lewis warn that labor's patience with the big meat packers' stall tactics is almost at an end.

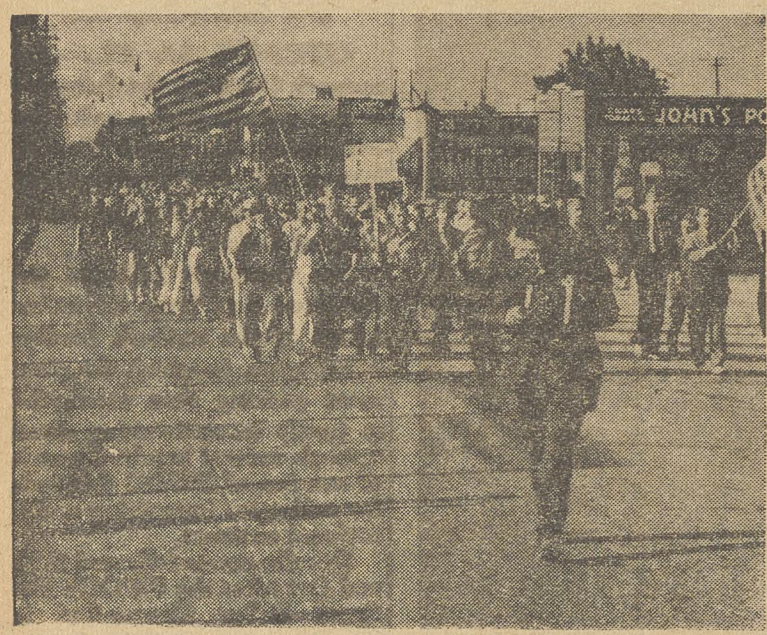
Rev. Bernard Sheil, auxiliary bishop of the Chicago diocese, delivered the opening prayer at the meeting and spoke words of encouragement to the packinghouse workers in their efforts to win decent working and living conditions.

Advertise CIO



Visitors to Evansville, Indiana, stop to examine this hand painted sign boosting the CIO. C. J. Bohn, member of United Auto Workers Local 265 designed and painted it and the executive board of the local is planning to put copies up at each main highway entering the city. The sign is near the local UAW headquarters.

Two Parades - -



ABOVE: Two hundred and sixty members of the United Mine Workers head for jail, after defending themselves from a National Guard attack. All await grand jury action, and are out on bail.

AT LEFT: Striking members of the United Automobile Workers, who have tied up production on tools and dies for 1940 General Motors cars while they demand a long-sought contract, parade through Detroit, Mich., streets.

Labor and the Law

By Lee Pressman

CIO General Counsel

For over two years the CIO has been sponsoring an amendment to the Walsh-Healey Act to prevent government contracts from going to firms that violate the National Labor Relations Act. Ever since the Wagner Act was passed in 1935, huge corporations such as Bethlehem and Republic Steel, Electric Boat, Douglas Aircraft and many others have been fattening on Federal Government orders, while openly flouting Federal law.

This has given these coroporations not only a subsidy for lawbreaking, but a distinctly unfair advantage in competing with firms that recognize the right of their workers to collective bargaining. It means that the Federal Government is putting a premium on wage-cutting, on violations of its own laws.

ACT ON BILL

Last week the Senate Committee on Labor and Education reported out an amendment that would put an end to this evil, by cutting off government subsidies to such firms. As reported by the committee, the bill had a provision that violations of the Wagner Act must be certified by the courts before government contracts would be withdrawn. Firms found in violation would be ineligible for more contracts for a period of three years.

This provision was satisfactory, though not what the CIO originally asked for. Fear of the courts upholding the Wagner Act would be sufficient for most corporations to force them into line.

Then in a burst of confused thinking the Senate adopted an amendment whereby any corporation found guilty of violating the Wagner Act and put on the ineligible list could be taken off the list again by the Secretary of Labor, if the secretary finds that the guilty corporation has permanently removed the basis for the court's judgment.

This is not so good, but even so the guilty corporation will have to show that it really intends to stop violating the Wagner Act, and what is more, will have to show that it is capable of obeying the law of the land.

A STEP FORWARD

The bill as voted by the Senate is a step in the right direction. It is a step toward forcing some of our biggest corporations to obey the law—which a large number of them have never before been forced to do. The CIO has fought for this measure for two years. Every trick in the reactionary bag has been used to prevent its passage, even in its present modified form. Now it has passed the Senate, and a beginning in law observance by wealthy corporations has been made.

The measure still has to be passed by the House. The same Rules Committee whose obstructive tactics kept the bill from a vote last year, will try to keep it bottled up for the few remaining days of this session.

Once again pressure from all CIO members and all friends of labor and fair dealing is needed. Wire, write, send petitions to your two Senators and to your Congressman, telling them that American labor demands passage of this bill.

The Wagner Act is part of Federal law. The Federal Government is sworn to uphold the laws of our Country. It is time the Government stopped subsidizing employers and corporations that openly and consistently break those laws.

Associated Farmers Under Board Fire

WASHINGTON, July 22. — Associated Farmers, "overall and hayseed" front outfit for the West Coast's most bitter big business reactionaries, received another black eye today—this time from the National Labor Relations Board in the shape of a proposed order relating to the bloody Salinas, Calif., lettuce packers' strike of 1936.

The order directed the Grower-Shipper Vegetable Assn. of Central California to bargain collectively with the CIO United Cannery, Packing, Agricultural & Allied Workers.

It ordered the association to stop interfering with the organizing rights of employes, reinstate with back pay 10 workers, and reinstate with "remedial" pay other shed workers employed on Sept. 3, 1936 who have not since been rehired. Setting a new precedent, the Board ordered the growers to insert a "cease and desist" notice in a local newspaper at least once every two weeks for the next eight weeks.

Auto Union, GM Continue Parleys

Detroit, July 22. — Its key tool and die plants closed by a United Automobile Workers strike, General Motors management representatives were meeting with union officials today to discuss a supplemental contract to cover tool and die makers, engineering and maintenance workers.

Militant picket lines have brought to a standstill the work on dies for the 1940 GM cars. At the same time, UAW members in tool and die plants selling their products to General Motors, have refused to work on any pieces headed for the struck company.

Production plants of the big motor firm are not affected by the strike.

WARNS COMPANY

Pres. R. J. Thomas of the UAW promised that no settlement will be tolerated which "does not satisfactorily adjust" the strikers' demands.

"There will be no piecemeal settlement, nor does the present procedure in negotiations between the top officials of GM and our union contemplate such a settlement," he said.

Walter Reuther, strike director, said that "GM cannot make a single 1940 car until it gets these plants in operation . . . it will not get these plants in operation until it reaches an equitable settlement on our demands for tool and die, maintenance and engineering workers."

PennsyMayor Says Act Ends 'Terror'

Washington, July 22—Before 1936 steel workers were forced to cringe before the boss. Company police walked through the mills all day. Men were fired for a casual remark. Even workers' wives were forced to accept attentions from foremen and other tyrants—or their husbands went on the breadline.

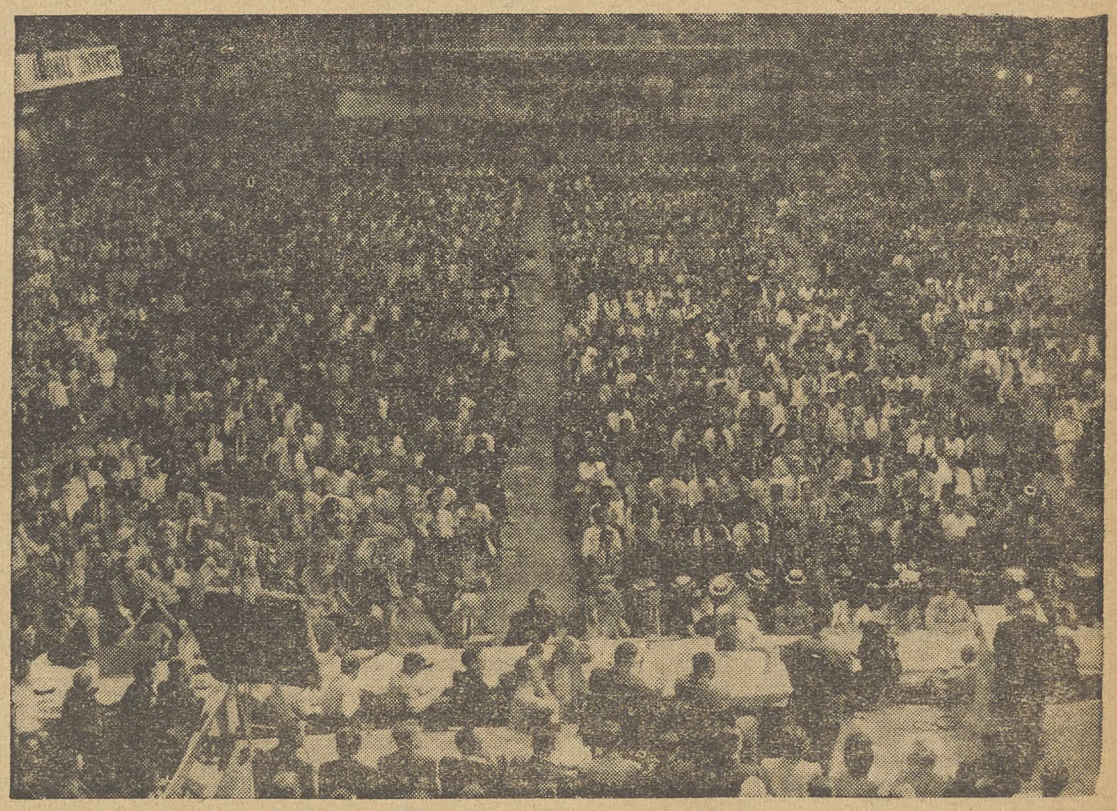
In 1933 the company unions started, when NRA was passed. By '35 the unrest began. In '37 the Wagner Act was upheld by the Supreme Court. Even before that, the workers were flocking into the Steel Workers Organizing Committee by the thousands.

A MAN CAN STAND UP

Today the steel mills are free from terror. A worker can stand up and speak his mind, without fear of the boss and the boss' spies. And the steel towns are free, too, with honest elections, with the workers voting for the candidates of their own, not the company's choice.

This was the story told by a witness before the Senate Labor Committee, John J. Mullen, steel worker, SWOC official, and mayor of Clairton, Pa., once part of Little Siberia. Mullen testified on the proposed changes to the Wagner Act. He said, quoting from a steel worker:

"We've had a couple of years of freedom, the right to live like free people. These amendments will destroy this. They'll take us back to 1933. Back to slavery."



THOUSANDS ATTEND MEETING: Close to 16,000 persons packed the huge Chicago Coliseum to hear Pres. John L. Lewis and leaders of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee warn "Big Four" meat packers — Armour, Wilson, Swift and Cudahy —that their patience is wearing thin. The companies were warned to come to early terms with the powerful CIO affiliate.

WPA To Drop 300,000 Persons By August 1

WASHINGTON, July 22.—Three hundred thousand people will be shoved off WPA rolls before August 1, Commissioner F. C. Harrington announced today, cutting WPA employment to 2,100,000.

Most of those scheduled to feel the WPA axe will be persons who have been on the rolls for 18 months or more, authorities said. To get back on WPA, they will have to be re-certified.

Decision to begin dropping workers was influenced by a survey showing 650,000 would have been affected by the end of August, Harrington declared, adding that a gradual dropping of workers may help to relieve the sharpness of the crisis.

Meanwhile, Sen. Murray of Montana, sponsor of amendments to the Woodrum WPA bill, said he would press for action on his bill only when the present demonstrations against WPA have ceased. His statement was falsely interpreted in some quarters as abandonment of the amendments—a move which the Montana Senator indicated he has no intention of making.

The Murray bill—S. 2765—has the support of the CIO. It provides for protection for monthly income for WPA workers and restoration for prevailing hourly rate of pay clause.

Tories, AFL Get Probe Of Labor Board

Washington, July 22—Unable to gain their demands for amendment of the Wagner Act at this session of Congress, House Tories won a flank attack today by bagging an investigation of the National Labor Relations Board by a special House Committee.

During debate on the resolution, Rep. Gene Cox of Georgia—one of the most reactionary figures in Congress—revealed that the AFL top leadership "beseeched" Congressmen to vote for the probe.

The vote to conduct the investigation was 253-135. Members of the House Labor Committee were outspoken in their criticism of the measure, which they said was a direct slap at themselves, as well as at the NLRB. The House Labor Committee has been hearing testimony for the last several weeks from friends and foes of the Wagner Act.

Harlan Miners Win Contract; Lockout Ended

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., July 22.—New peace came to bloody Harlan County, Ky., today, as the Coal Operators Assn. finally signed a United Mine Workers contract and ended the lockout in force since April.

The new contract, terminating with other UMW agreements in 1941, grants the union sole bargaining rights and removes the penalty clause, removal of which the miners had demanded during the Appalachian negotiations in the spring.

Operators agreed to re-hire all union men to their former jobs without prejudice, to place UMW members on a preferential rehiring list if there is no work, and to drop several hundred "house cases" instituted by the mine owners at the outset of the dispute.

260 ARRAIGNED

Nevertheless, a not inconsiderable portion of Harlan's mining population awaited grand jury action, following an attack by national guardsmen on their picket lines last week. Some 260 UMW pickets were jailed on a variety of charges.

Most of the arrested men were charged with "banding and confederating" though George Titler, secretary-treasurer of the UMW district, was held on charges of sedition, forcible rebellion and attack on National Guardsmen. A majority were freed under $500 bail, but 34 were forced to post $2,000 each and Titler was released only after bail of $8,000 had been deposited.

OPERATORS IN DUTCH

A large group of the operators, on the other hand, still face possible federal trial for criminal conspiracy to deprive the mine workers of their civil rights. A first trial on this indictment resulted in a split jury, but the Department of Justice has never indicated that the case is dead.

Atty.-Gen. Murphy sent additional G-men into Harlan shortly after the National Guard attack on the miners, though declaring at the time that his action had preceded such a demand by UMW Pres. John L. Lewis.

Lewis had asked how much longer UMW members would be forced to bear the brunt of Gov. A. B. "Happy" Chandler's vengeance for their refusal to support his candidacy when he opposed Sen. Alben Barkley, Roosevelt ally, in 1938.

BIGGEST VICTORY

The Harlan contract brought to a victorious conclusion the United Mine Workers' battle to protect itself from possible raids by the AFL.

By securing the union shop for well over 90 per cent of its members in both bituminous and anthracite coal fields, and by winning removal of the "penalty clause" from the remainder of the agreements, the miners have placed their organization in the most powerful position in its history and helped to ward off future attacks on the CIO as a whole.

Senate OK's Teeth For Contract Law

Washington, July 22—Businessmen filling government orders must obey federal labor laws or lose their federal contracts, the Senate decreed today in passing CIO-supported amendments to the Walsh-Healey Act.

The amendments now go before the House of Representatives for action.

The Senate bill provides that violators of U. S. labor regulations, including the Wagner Act, will go on a three-year "unfair" list as far as the government is concerned. Firms may be taken off the list inside of that time only if they accept with court compliance orders.

Two other important provisions of the bill directed:

1. That government contractors must pay basic minimum wages in line with those established by the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act.

2. That the Act will apply to contractors holding orders of $4,000 or more—compared with the $10,000 minimum in the present law.

This member of United Optical Workers Local 951, a CIO affiliate in Buffalo, N. Y., isn't missing a bet in his fight to win a contract from Dr. E. Wagner, optometrist. He's carrying four picket signs, with messages in Polish and English. Union wants wage increases, holidays off, seniority rights and grievance apparatus.

Auto Local Quits AFL

Detroit, July 22—The big Packard local of Homer Martin's rump auto union withdrew from the AFL affiliate today and took steps to rejoin the CIO United Automobile Workers.

Pres. Ed Linder of the local, strongest in the Martin outfit, said the decision had been taken by the executive board.

The announcement said that "our brief association with the AFL has convinced us that the federation entered the picture not to organize the auto workers but to attempt to disrupt the UAW-CIO."

150 Regain Jobs, Back Pay

Camden, N. J., July 22 — One hundred and fifty CIO members will get their jobs back at the Radio Condenser Co. here — and $12,500 in back pay, as well.

Through an agreement reached by the company, the Labor Board and Local 109 of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, the firm will rehire the workers whom it discharged two years ago in the course of a strike.

Push Campaign In Capital

Washington, July 22. — Forgetting all about the Capital's famed summer heat, the United Federal Workers, CIO, is pushing an intensive organizing campaign here.

Two additional field representatives have been placed on duty here, and substantial gains have already been made in the Interior and Labor Departments and at Freedman's Hospital.

Rubber Union To Convene Sept. 11

AKRON, O., July 22 — The United Rubber Workers of America will hold its fourth annual convention at Pioneer Labor Hall in LaCrosse, Wisc., on Sept. 11, Sec.-Treas. Frank Grillo announced today.

The union has rolled up an impressive list of victories since its last convention in Trenton, N. J., leaders declared. Several hundred delegates are expected to attend the sessions.

Murray, First CIO Witness On Wagner Act, Cites Benefits To Steel

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON, July 22. — The new cycle in steel labor relations, whereby the workers have become "citizens of the steel industry," with the rights of free men, must not be brought to an end by action of Congress in amending the Wagner Act, Philip Murray, Steel Workers Organizing Committee chairman, told the House Labor Committee in testimony on proposed changes in the act this week.

"Steel workers are now more than employes," he said. "They are citizens of the steel industry. They have just as strong an interest in its welfare as management. And through the SWOC they are taking part in its development and improvement.

"Despite the ill-advised and futile efforts of Tom Girdler and the misguided steel employers that followed his lead, a majority of the steel workers and steel employers of this country now determine their relationships by democratic means.

"Whether this economic and industrial development of democracy shall continue in the

Continued on page five

Ask Damages For Vigilante Attack

San Francisco, July 22 (FP)—Damages aggregating $3,523,074 have been asked of a company union by the CIO Intl. Woodworkers of America on behalf of 323 members and their families in Westwood, Calif.

The suit, filed against the Industrial Employes Union, charges that individual defendants were provided by the Red River Lumber Co. with "rifles, pickhandles and high pressure hoses, in a conspiracy to drive the complainaints by force and violence from their respective homes" in the vigilante purge of last July. The company is also named in the suit.

The amount sought in the suit, filed in state superior court here, covers $5,000 punitive damages for each complainant plus compensation for wage losses, hospital bills and other expenses.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. 11 July 24, 1939 No. 30

Equal Justice Under the Law

When a poor man breaks the law, he goes to jail or money is taken from him in the form of a fine.

But when a rich corporation breaks the law, a considerate government gives it money, instead of taking it away.

Why are Bethlehem Steel, Douglas Aircraft and dozens of other industrial corporations which have violated the National Labor Relations Act, allowed to fatten on contracts granted them by a government which is supposed to enforce the law?

That is a question which President John L. Lewis of the CIO asked of the recent huge mass meeting in the Chicago Coliseum.

The answer, he told the crowd as it roared its agreement, is that the big corporations are organized to impress their will on Congress, and if labor expects to get equal justice under the law it too must organize.

Labor has been organizing and through the CIO it has demanded of Congress that it put an end to government coddling of lawbreaking corporations.

As a result of this labor demand that the rich be brought under the law as well as the poor, the Senate has just passed amendments to the Walsh-Healey act providing that when a corporation has been found guilty in court of violating the Wagner labor relations act, it may receive no more government contracts for three years.

This simple measure of justice, to prevent government encouragement of lawbreaking, has still to be passed by the House to become law. Let your Congressman know at once that labor expects, and justice demands, the speedy passage of this amendment to the Walsh-Healey act.

The Miners Mop Up

When the great majority of the coal operators of the nation agreed to grant the United Mine Workers of America the union shop, in one of the most sweeping labor victories of all time, there still remained a number of hold-outs in outlying districts.

One by one these various hold-out groups have since been brought into line and have signed up with the UMWA.

Toughest of all the anti-union groups were the Harlan County coal operators, who were given the armed support of Governor Chandler and his troops in their fight against the union.

The news, therefore, that the Harlan County Coal Operators Association has finally signed a union agreement with the UMWA makes the miners' triumph complete.

This great union, which has been the backbone of the CIO in all its organizing work in other industries, has at the same time built itself to the greatest strength in its history in its own industry. The whole CIO rejoices in its achievement.

A Fighting and Winning Union

The National Maritime Union, which has just concluded its second national convention in New Orleans, is one of the new unions of the CIO which has crowded into its brief existence greater achievements than most of the older unions of the AFL can boast of in half a century of existence.

The NMU has not had easy sailing, however. It came into existence as a rank and file revolt against a corrupt and dictatorial AFL setup that did worse than nothing for the seamen.

But although it had to fight AFL leaders and shipowners at one and the same time, it succeeded in organizing the great majority of the seamen; in winning an almost unbroken succession of election victories; and in securing union agreements with nearly all the shipowners which have immeasurably improved wages and working conditions.

Unable to destroy the NMU from without, the enemies of this fighting and winning union next turned to attempts to disrupt it from within. Every effort was made by labor spies and other agents of the shipowners to stir up internal dissension.

The New Orleans convention, however, has demonstrated that the NMU knows how to overcome internal difficulties as well as outside attack. The elected delegates registered the majority will of the membership in democratic fashion, and the result was a harmonious and enthusiastic convention which has given to the NMU the signal for full steam ahead.

Towards Mutual Assistance

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

The Middle West Goes CIO

The CIO mass meeting which John L. Lewis addressed in Chicago was the largest labor rally ever held in the middle west.

The huge Coliseum was jammed to the roof. Every seat was taken. All standing room was occupied. And the crowd overflowed to the street outside.

The atmosphere was electric. Murmurs and ripples of approval spread in a second to the furthest reaches of the auditorium. The frequent applause burst out like claps of thunder.

The reception given to Lewis was like a demonstration at a national political convention. Delegations paraded through the aisles with banners and placards, and it took a long time to quiet the ovation so that he could proceed with his speech.

As he spoke, the thousands upon thousands listening intently responded to every word, every gesture, every intonation. There was hardly a sentence that did not bring its round of applause.

The CIO has succeeded, Lewis said, because it expressed the needs and desires and responded to the heart-throbs of millions of workers.

And the great throng at the Chicago Coliseum responded as it did to the CIO leader's speech, because it recognized his voice as its own. He said what tens of thousands of workers in Chicago were thinking, and his voice rang out with all the force of their collective determination.

Packinghouse Workers

At the convention of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee earlier in the day, more than a thousand delegates had come to a decision of the greatest moment.

After careful deliberation they had resolved to authorize a national strike against Armour & Co., and the other biggest corporations in the industry as well if necessary, if they continued to deny to their organized workers their collective bargaining rights.

This decision was not lightly made. It came only after months and months of patient effort to persuade these companies to sit down peacefully and negotiate an agreement with the chosen spokesmen of their employes.

Lewis addressed the convention after the vote had been taken. He spoke to the delegates as man to man. He knew the seriousness of their undertaking. He knew they had voted to strike only as a last resort. He breathed courage into them and bade them be of good cheer. He reminded them that the meat packers were no bigger than U. S. Steel, General Motors, or any other of the great corporations that once refused, like the packers, to enter into collective bargaining agreements with their employes.

When Lewis spoke at the Coliseum mass meeting, pledging the support of the whole CIO to the packinghouse workers, he not only voiced the sentiments of his audience, but he also spoke for the millions of members of the CIO who are rallying behind the packinghouse workers in the crucial struggle which impends.

Church and Labor

The speech of Bishop Bernard J. Sheil at the same meeting was also an event of the deepest significance.

Why should it be considered unusual for a dignitary of the church to appear at a labor meeting, Lewis asked reporters when they questioned him about it.

"It is entirely in keeping with the attitude that should exist," he said. "The church has a stake in the well-being of labor. It doesn't want to be the representative for only the rich and powerful. Surely the church and its leaders realize that before a man can be a Christian, he must first have the right to live."

But nevertheless the Bishop's appearance at the CIO mass meeting was treated as a sensation in the press. It was known that he had been under considerable pressure from employer sources to prevent his attendance.

When the Bishop spoke, however, his eloquent exposition of the social doctrines of the church, and of its clear approval of labor's right to organize for the improvement of its conditions, was so logical and so convincing that it made one wonder why the sympathetic interest of church leaders in labor's cause should be considered as anything but natural.

The Message of the CIO

When Lewis spoke in Chicago, he brought a message from the whole CIO not only to the packinghouse workers, but to the steel workers, the farm equipment workers, to the Chicago Hearst strikers, to the clothing workers, the shoe workers, the oil workers, the fur workers and to all the other thousands who have been organized by the CIO in the Chicago area.

He spoke too for the millions of unemployed and held out the hand of friendship and cooperation to the farmers. And as if in answer to his pledge of labor support for the farmers' demands, there came a message of sympathy and support for labor from the Farmers' Union, which the huge audience received with the greatest enthusiasm.

All in all, the Chicago meeting was one of those rare occasions when the collective purpose of great masses of people finds concentrated expression. It testified to the amazing growth of the CIO in the last few years, and it revealed the constructive purposes and program of the progressive labor movement.

AFL Witnesses Rap Top Leaders, Oppose All Amendments

By ROBERT DALE

WASHINGTON, July 22.—Anti-labor amendments of the Wagner act sponsored by a few top officials of the AFL were sharply attacked this week before the Senate Education and Labor Committee by AFL witnesses speaking for thousands of rank and file members.

The witnesses were officials in their states of Labor's Non-Partisan League which arranged for their appearance before the committee. Resolutions of local AFL labor bodies and petitions containing thousands of signatures to protests against the amendments were submitted by the witnesses.

Opposition to all pending amendments, but especially to those backed by the AFL Executive Council, were strongly voiced by the witnesses. They related first-hand accounts of employer violation of the law in their states and explained how the AFL amendments would play into the hands of anti-labor employers.

OMAHA LEADER

A highlight of the testimony was the account by Mace Brown, president of the Omaha Central Labor Union, AFL, of how audience protests caused him to go on the air to deny statements in a Labor Day speech last year by Joseph Padway, AFL counsel. Padway, who wrote the AFL amendments, had told the Omaha audience in his broadcast address that labor wanted the act changed.

"This so aroused the audience present that it became necessary," Brown told the committee, "for me to request the broadcasting system to grant us two and a half minutes over the time allotted for a statement in refutation. I had to inform the audience, seen and unseen, that Mr. Padway's views did not in any way represent the sentiment of the AFL workers in Omaha."

Brown explained he represented the labor body whose members included 75 per cent of Nebraska's AFL membership.

CALIFORNIA LEADER

Sensational testimony by J. Vernon Burke, state secretary of Labor's Non-Partisan of California and prominent member of the Printing Pressmen's Union, AFL, torpedoed the AFL claim that their amendments would not promote company unionism.

Burke told instance after instance of open collusion between California employers and state AFL officials.

He declared:

"I am sure that the great mass of rank and file members of the American Federation of Labor are not in accord with the amendments which are now being considered by you gentlemen. There have already been in the state of California 119 AFL labor unions and central bodies who have gone on record as opposing any amendments to the National Labor Relations Act.

"This number represents the overwhelming majority of the members of the AFL in California.'

CHICAGO ITU HEAD

Ralph E. Fisher, secretary of Labor's Non-Partisan League of Illinois and member of the Typographical union that started the AFL, told the committee Illinois labor opposed the AFL and other amendments. He explained his own international opposes the changes and that it has also refused three times to comply with AFL edicts to fight the CIO.

Explaining why AFL amendment proposals do not represent the view of many AFL internationals or of the membership generally, Fisher told the committee:

"It is highly significant that (so far as I know) not one International union affiliated with the AFL has by official action endorsed the pending amendments proposed by the AFL executive council. On the other hand, many of them are actually on record as opposing any changes in the law."

Other state League witnesses, mostly AFL officials and veteran members of AFL unions, who testified similarly were R. R. Tisdale, Atlanta, Ga., C. N. Robertson, Jacksonville, Fla., Walter V. Risley, Brockton, Mass., Lawrence Spits, Woonsocket, R. I., and John Souter, East Chicago, Ind. Another witness was Monroe Sweetland, Portland, Ore., who testified for the Oregon Commonwealth Federation.

OLIVER SPEAKS

Careful analysis of the AFL amendments and the devastating effect they would have on legitimate unionism was presented to the committee by E. L. Oliver, executive vice-president of Labor's Non-Partisan League.

On the basis of his analysis, Oliver said:

"Congress has before it proposals that amount to complete nullification of the National Labor Relations Act. Neither these specific amendments, nor any others, should be adopted at this time. The labor clauses of the Transportation Act of 1920 were unchanged for six years; the Railway Labor Act of 1926 for eight years; that act, as amended in 1934, has not been changed in five years.

"Certainly, Congress should avoid any of the destructive proposals now under consideration, and equally certainly should not expect to be able to find whatever slight imperfections there may be in the statute, on the basis of the brief experience under unprecedentedly trying conditions."

Wage Act Endangered, Andrews Says

Washington, July 22.—A group of tory Congressmen, working with the full approval of the anti-union Associated Farmers organizations, is attempting to commit mayhem on the wage-hour law, U. S. Administrator Elmer F. Andrews charged today.

In a letter to Mary Norton, chairman of the House Labor Committee, the wage-hour official poured heavy ammunition on the wage-hour amendments proposed by Rep. Graham Barden of North Carolina—the same Congressman who is serving as sponsor of the AFL's Wagner Act amendments in the lower House.

SEEK TO WRECK ACT

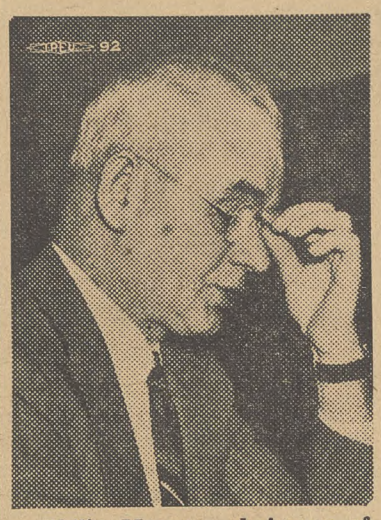
"What is proposed in the Barden amendment is the wreckage of the Fair Labor Standards Act," he said. If the bill were to pass, more than a million workers in 18 industries would be completely exempted from provisions of the act, while additional thousands would be no longer protected by the wage or hour sections of the law.

"Textiles and apparels aside," Andrews continued, "the net result of this bill would be to remove from the coverage of the law the great bulk of employes who have had their wages raised by the Act."

The Barden bill received a decided set-back when Pres. Roosevelt assailed the proposed amendments, warned of the harm they would do to the nation's lowest-paid workers, and gave an indication that he would veto the Barden bill if it were passed by Congress.

Shipyard, Guild Leaders Urge Congress To Save Act

Testifies



Philip Murray, chairman of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, who led off the string of CIO witnesses appearing before the House Labor Committee to attack proposed amendments to the Wagner Labor Relations Act.

WASHINGTON, July 22. — Following Philip Murray, SWOC chairman and CIO vice-president in the first full week of CIO testimony on the Wagner Act, John Green, president of the Marine and Shipbuilding Workers and Victor Pasche, secretary-treasurer of the American Newspaper Guild, opposed all amendments now under consideration by the House Labor Committee.

Speaking on the AFL craft union amendments, to the Act, Pres. Green of the Shipbuilders, declared: "A craft group has no more right to secede from a plant-wide unit than the southern states had to secede from the Union in 1861. Collective bargaining with the more than 20 crafts that would have to be considered under such amendments would be impossible," he pointed out.

Big shipbuilding corporations are already violating the act wholesale, he added, and such amendments as those proposed by the AFL, both on craft unit representation and on court review of Board decisions, would only encourage them to further lawbreaking.

Testimony by Victor Pasche for the Newspaper Guild similarly attacked the craft unit proposals of AFL top leaders, pointing out that close to 35 splinter groups had claimed jurisdiction on newspapers under Guild jurisdiction.

Propaganda in favor of amendments from big dailies should be heavily discounted, Pasche warned, since it springs from a direct interest the papers have as large employers against collective bargaining. Many of them are violators of the act, he pointed out, citing the New York Times, the Hearst, Scripps-Howard and Gannett chains, the Chicago Tribune and a host of smaller papers.

PAPERS GRIND AXE

"These newspapers and wire services therefore have a direct and immediate interest in defeating the purposes of the Wagner Act," he said. "They developed their loudest opposition to the CIO and bias for the AFL after the organized editorial employes had voted by two to one to join the CIO."

Enemies of the act who propose amendments, Pasche said, "refuse to believe that collective bargaining is here to stay, and that they will serve the public and themselves by obeying the law instead of seeking ways to circumvent it."

Murray Describes Gains Under Labor Act

Continued from page three

steel industry, or whether the industry shall revert to the chaotic and barbarous ways Tom Girdler is trying to perpetuate will be determined, in large measure, by the action of the Federal Congress.

FEDERAL POLICY

This success, in which steel labor freed itself from tyranny and industrial warfare, came in great part because U. S. law finally undertook to guarantee the workers their basic constitutional rights.

"The part the industrial relations policy of the Federal government, as administered by the Natl. Labor Relations Board, played in this development, and continues to play in it, is indeterminable," he declared. "But to the credit and glory of our political democracy it has been substantial, and rightly so."

BULWARK TO DEMOCRACY

"This collective bargaining development is unparalleled in American industrial and labor history," Murray said. "It is a bulwark to our democratic form of government. I am happy to report that not a single company that embarked on contractual relations with the SWOC beginning in 1937 has severed connections with SWOC."

Only exceptions to this record of peaceful, democratic labor relations are in the actions of a minority of steel firms — the Little Steel group dominated by Tom Girdler, Murray said.

These companies — Republic, Youngstown, Bethlehem — refused bluntly to obey the law of the nation, provoked strikes, violence, bloodshed, all in the attempt to smash SWOC rather than bargain collectively. They are today, Murray said, "continuing brazenly to violate the NLRA in the hope and expectation that the act will be so weakened by amendments that they will never be called to account for their unlawful conduct."

Turning to the claims of these AFL top officials, Murray showed that in case after case the Labor Board, far from being biased against the AFL, had leaned over backwards to concede craft union certification where no real basis for it existed.

BOARD PRO-AFL

In reality, he pointed out, the Board was pro-AFL rather than pro-CIO in many SWOC cases, such as Worthington Pump, where the wishes of 1600 SWOC members for representation were overruled in favor of 69 AFL craft unionists, the Walworth Co., where the Board ordered an election because 43 AFL craftists wanted it, as against 1,238 SWOC members, and numerous others.

"If this same rule should operate in our national government, then Mr. Alfred Landon would now be the President of the 'United States of Maine and Vermont,'" he said.

"The facts belie the charges of bias levelled at the Board by certain leaders of the AFL. In view of the fact that a cross section of the steel industry, which is more representative than a Gallup poll, shows less than four per cent of the workers belong to the AFL, the charges of bias must be judged accordingly.

"I know, as well as can be known, the attitudes and temperament of those AFL leaders that hurl charges of bias against the Board. In my judgment, gentlemen, the charges of bias we hear from certain AFL leaders sound like so much downright, rotten sour grapes."

In the concluding section of his 2-day testimony, Murray analyzed proposed amendments to the act and condemned them as designed to make the act unfair to labor, as certain to provoke industrial chaos, to tear down a present solidly based democratic system of labor relations in steel and other industries.

New Labor Board Policy: Certification by Poll Only

Washington, July 22 — The National Labor Relations Board indicated today that it will hereafter curb its practice of certifying a union as sole bargaining agency in cases where the union offers signed membership cards as proof of its majority position.

The ruling was made on a plea of the Packinghoue Workers Organizing Committee for certification in the Denver, Colo. plant of the Cudahy Packing Co.

"Although in the past, we have certified representatives without an election upon a showing of the sort made by this record, we are persuaded by our experience that the policies of the Act will best be effectuated if the question of representation which has arisen is resolved in an election by secret ballot."

Edwin S. Smith filed a minority dissent, pointing out that the PWOC obviously had a majority of the workers in the plant.

A similar decision, with a like dissent, was also filed in a PWOC request for certification at the Armour plant in Oklahoma City.

Thousands Hear Lewis In Chicago

Negotiate— Or Face Strike, Armour Told

CHICAGO, July 22.—A national strike against Armour and Company, if it refuses to meet with the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee to negotiate a contract, was authorized by the national policy convention of the PWOC meeting in Chicago.

The delegates, representing packinghouse workers from coast to coast, unanimously adopted the strike resolution. They were assured of the full support of the CIO by President John L. Lewis, when he spoke at their convention and later at the mass meeting in the Coliseum.

"Our patience is rapidly becoming exhausted," said Chairman Van A. Bittner of the PWOC, and "the Packinghouse Workers are determined that Armour & Company must sign up with the Union."

The resolution adopted declares that the union is "willing to leave the question of whether or not Armour & Co. officials shall meet with the officials of our union and negotiate a contract in the hands of the President of the United States, Franklin D. Roosevelt."

DEFENSE OF RIGHTS

But in the event Armour & Co. fails or refuses to agree to leave the question in the hands of the President and refuses to meet with the PWOC, the union's representatives are directed to serve notice upon Armour & Co. "that in defense of the rights of its membership, the PWOC is declaring a strike in all of the Armour plants where we have a majority membership."

Replying to a suddenly launched anti-union publicity campaign, Bittner said:

"After reading the Armour ads in the public press, we are happy to say that Armour is on the defensive and the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee is on the march.

The workers in the Armour plants know that these ads are simply bunk. The PWOC is demanding that the representatives of the company meet with the representatives of the PWOC to negotiate and sign a contract. If Armour continues to refuse to sit down around the conference table and settle these matters, the responsibility is theirs."

WARN OTHER PACKERS

The convention also served notice on all other packing companies in which it has a majority membership that if they maintain the same attitude as Armour & Co. "in refusing to confer with our union and negotiate peacefully written, signed contracts, then and in that event the convention authorizes and instructs the national officials of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee and the national bargaining committees of the Swift, Wilson, Cudahy and other independent plants in which we have a majority membership, to declare a strike against such company or companies whenever the same is necessary in defense of the lawful rights of our members employed therein."

78,000 MEMBERS

The PWOC now reports a membership of 78,000 out of some 129,000 employed nationally in the industry. It has been certified by the Labor Board as the sole bargaining agent of the workers in most of the Armour plants. But despite this fact the company has consistently refused to negotiate an agreement with the union.

When Lewis addressed the Coliseum mass meeting, following the PWOC convention, he declared that the organization of the Packinghouse Workers "ranks with the triumphs of industrial organization in the steel, automobile, rubber and other previously unorganized mass production industries."

"The organized packinghouse workers of the nation are now serving notice on Armour & Co. that their patience is nearing an end, and that if the company continues to refuse collective bargaining, it must accept the consequences of its own action," he said.

"I am here to pledge the support of the CIO with its four million members to the packinghouse workers in any struggles into which they may be forced by the intransgeance of the big corporations."

Senate Committee Squats On LaFollette Funds

WASHINGTON July 22.—Apparently engaged in a "Ghandi-ish" race against Congressional adjournment, the Senate Committee on Audit & Control is still squatting on a resolution to provide the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee with an additional $100,000.

A quartet of New Deal Senators this week moved to blast the appropriation out of committee. Senators Schwellenbach and Downey of California, both sponsors of the resolution for the $100,000, were joined by Senators LaFollette and Thomas in a plea that the money be granted.

As a result of the discussion on the Senate floor, Chairman Byrnes of the Audit & Control Committee volunteered to allow hearings at which proponents of the plan may discuss the measure more fully.

Both the CIO and AFL, as well as the National Grange, farmers' organization, wish appropriation of the funds for further investigation of Associated Farmers, big business-farm vigilante outfit, the Senators indicated, and AF itself has requested the probe to continue.

SUSPECT BIG BUSINESS LOBBY

Many observers here believe that the Special Conference Committee, composed of representatives of a dozen of the nation's largest corporations, has been lobbying against continuing the LaFollette investigation, and that delay in acting on the appropriation may in part at least have been due to its influence.

Unless the committee approves within the next few weeks, the civil rights investigation, which has proved of inestimable value to organized workers, will come to an end.

Last week, President Roosevelt told his semi-weekly press conference that he has always approved the work of the committee and favors the granting of $100,000 to it.

Unions should wire immediately to Sen. James Byrnes, head of the committee, and demand action so that the civil liberties probe may continue.

'Biggest Reception' For Lewis

Chicago, July 22—John L. Lewis, president of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, was given the biggest reception ever accorded to a labor leader in the middle west when he came to Chicago to address a CIO mass meeting in the Coliseum.

The huge auditorium was jammed to the rafters with more than 16,000 people, all standing room was occupied, and the crowd overflowed into the streets outside.

UNIONS PARADED

Every CIO union in Chicago participated in the gathering, and delegations paraded through the aisles with union banners, flags and placards in the course of the long and enthusiastic ovation which greeted the CIO leader.

A notable feature of the Coliseum meeting was the speech delivered by Bishop Bernard J. Sheil, who appeared at the meeting despite pressure put on him from employer and AFL sources to stay away. Many priests were also in the audience.

[*See highlights of Bishop Sheil's speech on this page.*]

Other speakers who addressed the meeting included Van A. Bittner, chairman of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee; Don Harris, director; Henry Johnson, assistant director, and Alderman Rowan, representing the city.

In his speech (excerpts from which were printed in last week's issue of The CIO NEWS) Lewis told of the achievements of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee in organizing the industry and pledged full support to the union in the struggle which threatens with Armour & Company and the other "Big Four" packers.

He paid a tribute to the strikers of the Chicago Hearst papers and praised the progress of the Farm Equipment Workers, Steel Workers, Amalgamated Clothing Workers and other CIO unions in Chicago.

PREDICTS STEEL PACTS

Predicting that Little Steel would soon have to follow the example of Big Steel and sign up with the union, Lewis denounced the policy of granting government contracts to such firms as Bethlehem Steel, which have violated the National Labor Relations Act.

Organize! Catholic Bishop Urges Rally

CHICAGO, July 22. — Sharing the spotlight with John L. Lewis at the great mass meeting which closed the PWOC's National Policy Convention was His Excellency, Bernard J. Sheil, Senior Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago and founder of the Catholic Youth Organization who gave the opening prayer before the 16,000 CIO members and their friends who jammed the Coliseum to the rafters.

Bishop Sheil, an outstanding progressive Catholic cleric, accompanied his prayer with a short discourse which gave even more impetus to the CIO's powerful drive in Chicago and other industrial centers to organize the unorganized.

The Bishop opened his remarks with the quotation from the Declaration of Independence:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident — that man was endowed by his Creator with certain inalienable rights; that amongst these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

RIGHT TO LIVE

"But," said the Bishop, "if man has the natural, God-given right to life, then he must have the right to the means of life. To admit the right to ends and to deny the means without which the ends cannot be maintained is self contradictory. Now in every society with which we are acquainted the only means whereby man can secure for himself and those dependent upon him the necessities of life is his labor.

"But since labor is not an end in itself, but only the means to an end, which is the sustenance of life, it will be useless, except insofar as it secures for the workers a sufficiency of those things which are necessary for the well being and happiness of his family and himself. The worker, therefore, has the strict right to receive from his labor such returns as will assure him these necessary commodities . . . . A wage which does not meet those requirements is an unjust invasion of fundamental, natural rights."

QUOTES POPE

Quoting at length from the encyclicals of Pope Pius XI, the Bishop demonstrated that Catholic doctrine endorses union organization as a proper means to attain "the common good."

In his closing words the Bishop expressed the hope that industrial peace might prevail. Every man and woman in the huge audience understood that it was his prayer that Armour and Co. would enter into negotiations with the PWOC.

Comparing international war with industrial war, and pointing the finger of guilt at the party which is the aggressor and seeks to force its will unfairly on the other, the Bishop said:

"No war can ever be justified until all means of peaceful settlement have been exhausted. A nation which plunges rashly into war is a ghastly criminal whose hands drip with guilty blood.

"Now, what is true of international war is equally true, within proper limits, of economic war. Here again, by reason of the unjust aggression of one party upon the rights of the other, such warfare may sometimes be justified, but the heavy guilt of it is upon the head of the unjust party."

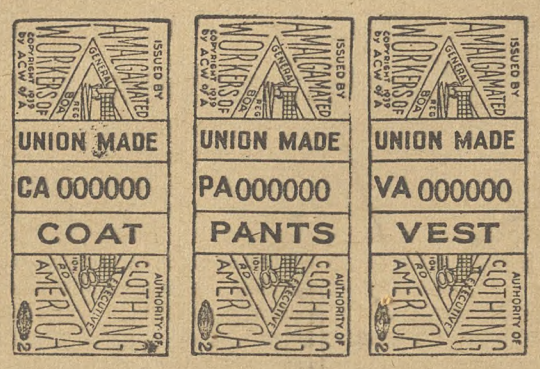
NEW CONTRACTS

Milwaukee, Wis. — The Steel Workers Organizing Committee has renewed four contracts in this area, John Riffe, acting district director, revealed.

BE ON GUARD!

Look for the union label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America when buying men's and boys' clothing, overalls, shirts, undergarments, neckties, lumber jackets, gloves, and all other kinds of men's wearing apparel.

The Amalgamated Label is your guarantee that the articles you buy are of the best workmanship and produced under one hundred percent union conditions by members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.



By insisting on the Amalgamated Label you will help to guard against a return of sweatshop conditions to the industry. By helping the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America you help the labor movement generally.

Ask for the Amalgamated label on each part of the suit, coat, pants and vest. There are different Amalgamated labels for coats, pants, vests, shirts and undergarments, work clothes, neckwear and gloves.

BookShows Sherman Act History

Book Review

By PAUL E. ANDERSON

Criminal Prosecution under the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, by Paul E. Hadlick. Ransdell, Inc., Publishers, Wash., D. C. 1939. Price $3.00.

Though the title sounds formidable, this is an invaluable and readable book for labor organizers, leaders and technicians, for it furnishes them with a comprehensive review of the anti-trust cases, and therewith the background of the Apex Hosiery decision and the action against the steel workers and others.

The book is of immense importance to those whose unions are face to face with monopolistic industries, or those which are integrated and practice price control or production control.

Wisely, the author, one of the foremost anti-trust lawyers, permits the courts to speak for themselves. And while he nowhere states it, the implication is clear:

In labor cases (see especially Chap. V), the courts have traveled far from the original limitations imposed by the Act, and have little by little introduced the concept of broad judicial powers, e. g., criminal contempt, and have tortured the meaning of the Act by including under it legitimate attempts by unions to better conditions, and calling these restraints of trade.

It is the merit of Mr. Hadlick that he builds up step by step the development of this policy of the courts.

From the debates in Congress in 1890, Mr. Hadlick shows that the Sherman Act was unanimously intended by the House and all but one Senator as a "legislative intent to attack the trust and monopoly problem principally by means of criminal action and only incidentally through injunctions and consent decrees."

West Point — Sweatshop

WEST POINT, N. Y., July 22.—The United States Military Academy, where Uncle Sam's future army officers get their training, is a gigantic sweatshop. This is the charge made by the United Federal Workers, CIO affiliate.

Women laundry workers receive far less pay than the minimum required by the New York state minimum wage law for employes of private firms.

Waiters are compelled to work longer hours than the federal wage-hour law permits.

Tailors work long years at low pay and then are faced with no protection under federal old age security statutes.

UFWA CAMPAIGN

As a result, the United Federal Workers is engaged in a campaign to improve conditions.

The waiters are looking forward to a better break as a result of the UFWA drive. The War Department is considering asking an appropriation to lift their salaries and provide for the hiring of more men.

But the tailors and laundry workers have been given no promise of improvements. Both groups receive their wages from a fund collected from the cadets, and so by a trick legal interpretation, they have been refused status as government employes. But, they have also been told that they are not workers in private industry.

Thirty-three laundry workers here get $45 a month; 41 earn $47.50. Yet the state law requires a minimum wage of $50 a month in private establishments, and the Veterans Administration, a little way up the Hudson River, pays $90 a month for the same work.

The UFWA is asking for shorter hours for all the groups, sharply increased pay rates and Civil Service protection for all West Point civilian employes.

Monopolies Seen as Harm To Jobs

Washington, July 22 — Increasing monopoly in industry contributes to the nation's growing unemployment problem, the U. S. anti-monopoly committee observed in a preliminary report filed with Congress.

"The tendency toward the concentration of control of the economic system in fewer and fewer business executives seems proved," the committee said. "The consequence of that tendency is a steadily lessening number of competitors . . .

CUTS EMPLOYMENT

"It is clear . . . that the financial and other resources required for economic endeavor are becoming increasingly difficult for the ordinary enterpriser to obtain, and that concentration of economic power and wealth is accompanied by increasing unemployment and narrowing markets."

The committee recommended tightening of the patent laws, strengthening of anti-trust weapons in the hands of the Dept. of Justice and amendment of the Clayton anti-trust act.

Ohio AFL, CIO Groups Plan Joint Picnic

Warren, Ohio, July 22 — CIO and AFL city bodies will combine forces here on Labor Day for another joint picnic.

Last year some 10,000 people attended the affair sponsored by the Trumbull County CIO Industrial Union Council and the AFL Central Labor Union. Leaders of both groups are proud of the fact that there have been no jurisdictional disputes in this area, and officials of the two councils have cooperated on a number of issues.

4,000 ATTEND

That Trumbull County is picnic-minded was indicated by the fact that 4,000 people turned out for the second annual party sponsored by Lodge 1375 of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee.

President Ernest Webb of the Lodge gave much of the credit for the success of the picnic to Mike Smiley, chairman of the arrangements committee. Rev. Charles A. Rice of Pittsburgh and ex-Cong. Herbert Bigelow of Cincinnati addressed the throng.

Labor Party Marks Third Anniversary

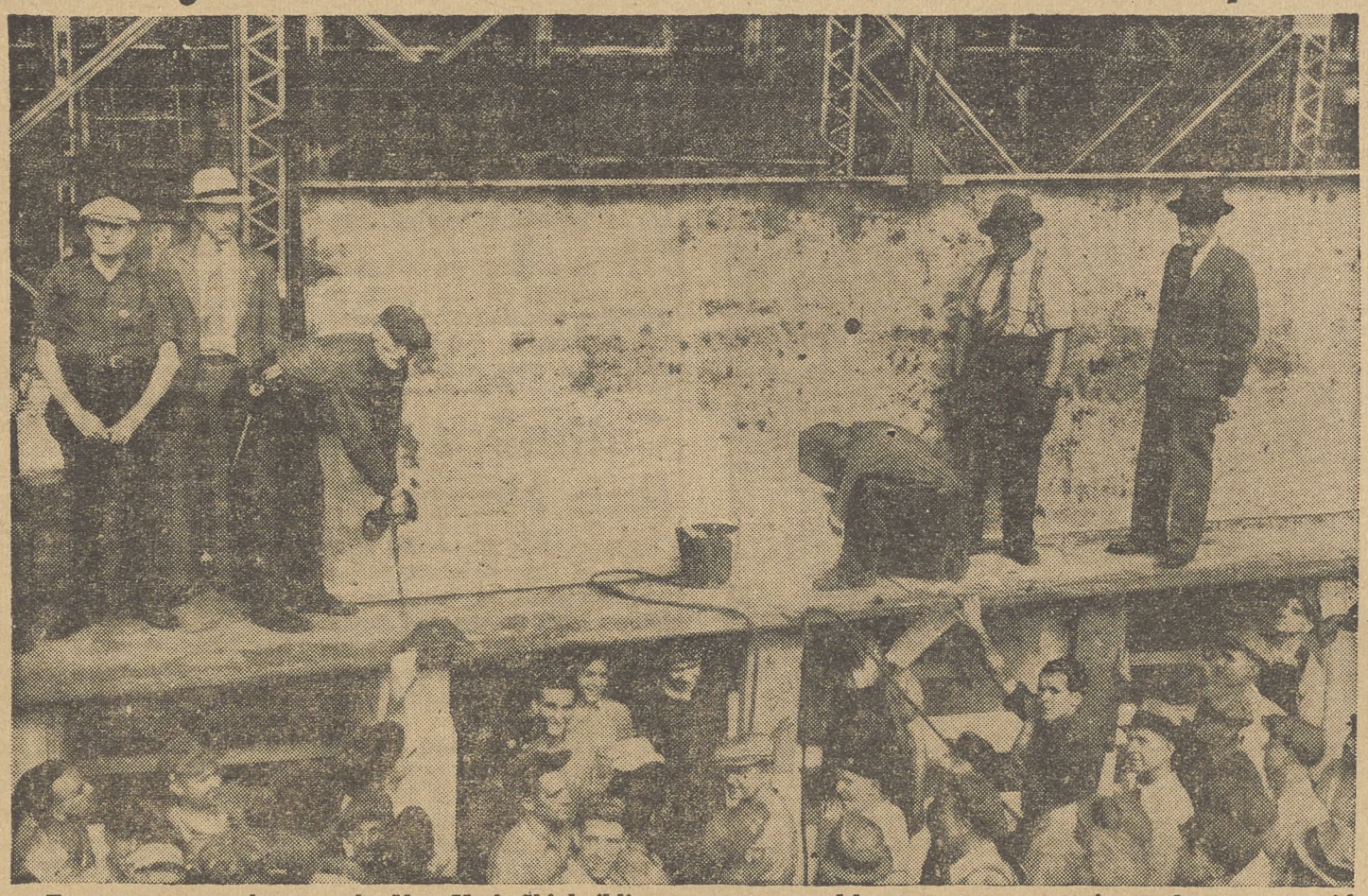
New York, July 22 — The American Labor Party, marking the third anniversary of its formation, pledged itself today to fight "the anti-New Deal and anti-labor forces now trumpeting up and down the land, spewing out hatred and false propaganda against the great social reforms that have spelled out a better and fuller life for the people of the country."

The party, an affiliate of Labor's Non-Partisan League, now holds the balance of power in the New York political area," Alex Rose, party secretary, declared.

"The ALP, from the day of its inception, has been a staunch champion of New Deal aims and policies," Rose declared. "In this, its fourth year of existence, it reaffirms its faith in our great President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

"In the 1939 campaign, it will lay the groundwork for the crucial test that looms ahead in 1940.

Lay Keel for First "CIO Battleship"



Four veteran employes at the New York Shipbuilding Co. yards in Camden, N. J., lay the keel for the new $53,000,000 U. S. S. North Dakota, latest addition to Uncle Sam's marine fighting force and the first battleship constructed by a company operating under contract with the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers. The four men shown in the picture were pioneers in building the powerful CIO union.

Bridges Case In 2nd Week

By MIRIAM ALLEN DeFORD

San Francisco, July 22.—A disbarred lawyer took his place among the witnesses against Harry Bridges, CIO west coast leader, as deportation hearings rounded out their second week.

Aaron Sapiro, a Los Angeles attorney who was disbarred in 1937 from practicing before the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York, attempted to link Bridges and the Communist party through conversations which took place in 1936.

Sapiro, who has been legal counsel for the AFL sailors' union on the west coast, no longer has an extensive labor law practice, Bridges defense counsel pointed out. Carol King, Bridges' attorney, also recalled that Sapiro had been indicted on charges of monopoly practices in Chicago's laundry industry, a case which also involved Al Capone, one-time dominating racketeer of the nation's underworld.

TO CALL EXPERTS

Much of the recent testimony has been aimed at establishing the Communist party as a group desirous of overthrowing the government by force. If, the prosecution holds, it can prove Bridges a member of such an organization, it will establish grounds for deportation of the CIO leader.

To counter the testimony of one John Leech, formerly a Communist organizer in the southwest, the defense has subpoenaed two expert witnesses on Marxism and Communism, H. C. Brown and Walter Thompson, both Stanford professors.

Leech has a criminal record, having been found guilty in 1921 in Toledo of cashing a money order stolen from another person. He was expelled by the Communists as a police spy and provocateur who was known to have been in touch with Larry Doyle, one of the west coast's most notorious labor spies.

Next witness for the prosecution was John Leppold, an expelled member of the Marine Cooks union, who confessed to having a reputation as the "No. 1 red-baiter on the waterfront."

Typo Union Tells Green 'Hands Off!'

Indianapolis, July 22—The Intl. Typographical Union, one of the AFL's oldest affiliates, is indignant at the highhanded methods attempted by Pres. Green to coerce local unions into line with official policy against the Wagner Act.

The indignation was provoked by a haughty letter from Green to Detroit Local 40 of the Mailers, ITU affiliate, in which Green took the local to task for opposing amendments to act.

The ITU, in its reply in the current Journal, points out that the local is not subordinate to the AFL, that it is affiliated to the ITU, and that as a matter of fact "the ITU does not operate under a charter from the AFL."

Furthermore, says the Journal, "It goes without saying that no local of the ITU will accept any such servile status as Pres. Green is attempting to place upon them.

Workers Benefit From Canada's New 'Wagner Act'

VANCOUVER, B. C., July 22.—Making full use of Canada's newly-enacted "Wagner Act," the British Columbia division of the CIO Inland Boatmen's Union of the Pacific claims a speed record in enrolling new members.

In a month's organizing drive the union has enrolled complete crews of the government fisheries patrol boats, the Malaspina and Nitinat and the Imperial Oil Company tanker, the S. S. Albertolite.

Scores of new members have been recruited from the towboats as well as passenger vessels. The drive has had its effect, since shipping lines have granted their engineers a day off per week and two weeks' holiday with pay without being asked for the concession. The licensed personnel is aware this was won through the union's activity and are joining also.

LUMBER UNION GAINS

With most logging camps in this province running at capacity, the B. C. District Council of the CIO International Woodworkers of America is pushing its campaign to bring complete organization in the lumbering and sawmill industry.

The Cowichan Lake local of the IWA reports enrollment of 150 new members in the past two months. Many old members were brought into good standing also.

The union's "Green Gold" hour broadcasts have become very popular with the loggers and is being used to advance unionism in the camps. Recently Mayor Lyle Telford of Vancouver spoke on the program on the subject "Why You Should Join the International Woodworkers of America."

One of the IWA's main campaigns is directed against the high accident rate in the camps. Thirty-two loggers have been killed in the industry since January 1. This is four more deaths than at the same period last year.

Chicago CIO Leader On School Board

Chicago, July 22—Sam Levin, chairman of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Chicago Joint Board, and vice-chairman of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, today became the first CIO leader in the city's history to sit on the Board of Education.

Levin, a veteran in Windy City union affairs, was appointed to the post by Mayor Edward Kelly.

When news of the mayor's action was made public, Alderman Paul Douglas, liberal, declared: "I want to congratulate the mayor upon this splendid appointment. Mr. Levin is an excellent citizen and an outstanding labor leader."

Hollywood Unions Get CIO Support

Los Angeles, July 22—The CIO came to Hollywood today with fraternal greetings and pledges of support to the newly-formed United Studio Technicians Guild, organizing medium for an estimated 40,000 movie workers here.

At the same time CIO President John L. Lewis received a wire from Earl Carroll's chorus girls in Los Angeles, asking him to help them to organize.

"The excellent organizational work that you have achieved compels us to insist that you take over chorus girls of America," they said.

The new Studio Technicians group represents a spontaneous move on the part of studio workers who have been dissatisfied with incompetent and undemocratic leadership in the Intl. Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, AFL.

Greetings were quickly extended by the Los Angeles CIO Council, which resolved to send "fraternal greetings" and to pledge "whole-hearted support wherever possible to this organization."

'Adoption'

CHICAGO, July 22 — Miss Kathryn Lewis, daughter of the CIO president, has become the second member of her family to "adopt" one of the Chicago Newspaper Guild members striking against the Hearst papers.

Miss Lewis sent the Hearst strike committee $25 to provide for Guido Alfonsi, onetime coal miner who became a Hearst circulation branch manager. Previously Pres. Lewis had "adopted" Miss Ann Tonchick, striking Hearst business office employe.

Pump Firm Must Rehire 3 Workers

Washington, July 22 — The Viking Pump Co. was ordered today to stop discouraging membership in the CIO steel union.

Labor espionage at the Viking plant must also cease, the National Labor Relations Board directed, and three union members must be rehired with back pay. One of the men, the Board found, had been fired shortly after he had testified at an NLRB hearing.

Foss Gushard, company superintendent, hid in a real estate office across the street from headquarters of the Amalgamated Assn. of Iron, Steel & Tin Workers, in order to discover who was attending union meetings, the Board revealed.

Senate Vote Hits Movie Monopoly

Washington, July 22—CIO support for a bill to control block booking in the movie industry helped bring a favorable Senate vote here this week, in spite of opposition from Pres. Green of the AFL.

Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, stated the CIO attitude on the measure in a letter to Sen. Neely of W. Va., sponsor of the bill. He described the bill as designed to "establish community freedom in the selection of films and to relieve independent interests in the industry of monopolistic and burdensome trade practices."

DOVE DANCER Rosita Royce, star attraction at New York's World Fair, drops a dollar into the American Newspaper Guild collection box to help the Chicago Hearst strike. The bird looks pleased about it, too!

Lewis To Address U.S. In Labor Day Speech

WASHINGTON, July 22.—John L. Lewis, CIO president, will speak to the nation on Labor Day, September 4, over a coast-to-coast radio network of the Natl. Broadcasting Co.

Pres. Lewis' speech will be available on 110 stations of the NBC Blue Network in all parts of the country, and including one in Montreal, Canada.

CIO organizations, Councils, local unions and other groups are planning to arrange local meetings to hear the speech, which will be broadcast from 4:00 to 4:30 P. M., Eastern Standard Time, Monday, September 4.

Next week's issue of THE CIO NEWS will carry a complete list of stations in the network. In the meantime, CIO groups are urged to contact NBC Blue Network stations in their communities to inquire whether they will carry the speech.

Firm Hails Union's Aid During Emergency

TOLEDO, July 22.—You'll have to argue a long, long time to convince Pres. Charles Pack of the Doehler Die Casting Co. here that unions create hatreds or mistrust or unwillingness to cooperate—or any of the other labels that Tory critics like to pin on organized labor.

The Doehler plant, which recently signed a national contract with the National Assn. of Die Casting Workers, was the scene on July 4 of a serious gas explosion which wrecked part of the factory. Due to the fact that the accident occurred on a holiday, no workers were killed, though a few men required hospital treatment.

In a letter to all Toledo papers, Pack referred to the "most remarkable demonstration of courage, self-reliance and heroism on the part of every man in the explosion area, that I have ever heard of in my experience of some 30 years in business."

He cited a number of individuals for heroic action to avert further destruction, despite great danger to themselves.

The union, to which all the plant's 1,700 workers belong, also was highly praised by the company president.

"While self-styled labor experts and demagogic theorists stand by and bemoan the days when they had no 'labor troubles,' the officers of the National Die Castings League (sic), an affiliate of the CIO representing the employes of the Doehler Co. promptly volunteered to waive all union rules to aid the company in this emergency," Pack declared.

The union's action was taken by National Sec.-Treas. Edward Cheyfitz, who assured the firm that union members would aid the company in any way possible during the emergency reconstruction period.

"We have done only what any other CIO union would do in such a critical period," Cheyfitz said. "As a responsible organization, we will give the company all possible aid to restore normal operations."

Catholics Rap Hearst

Chicago, July 22 — The Association of Catholic Trade Unionists, composed of members of various labor unions, has thrown its support behind the Newspaper Guild strike against the Hearst-owned Chicago American and Herald-Examiner.

The ACTU demanded that the management of the two papers "at once enter in good faith into negotiations with the Chicago Newspaper Guild looking towards a settlement of the strike."

"The management has repeatedly resorted to violence, misrepresentation and other illegal tactics to break the strike," the Catholic labor group charged.

Three pretty maidens help out on the picket line of the United Automobile Workers at the Cleveland Dental Manufacturing Co., Cleveland, Ohio. They're leaders in the contest to determine which girl will represent the local in the beauty contest sponsored by the Cleveland CIO. That other prize in the picture is a new car to be given away at the affair.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 31 | JULY 31, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

LEWIS ASSAILS GARNER FOR ATTACKS ON LABOR

The News In Brief

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

GM Strike

Detroit.—The strike of tool and die workers employed by the General Motors Corporation spread to a 12th plant as management negotiators stalled on a settlement of demands for a supplementary contract and higher wages.

Rape

Pontiac, Mich.—Gov. Dickinson of Michigan, self-proclaimed guardian of the nation's morals, has winked at rape of civil liberties in this auto city, leaders of the United Automobile Workers charged.

Wagner Act

Washington. — Proposed amendments to the Wagner Act will destroy carefully-nurtured employer-employe relations in the men's clothing industries, Pres. Sidney Hillman of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers told the Senate Labor Committee.

Spy Bill

Washington. — The LaFollette-Thomas Oppressive Labor Practices Bill, aimed to cut the heart out of the labor spy-strikebreaker industry, received an O. K. from the Senate Committee on Education and Labor.

Warning

Washington. — A wave of discontent, the like of which hasn't been seen since Hoover days, will sweep the country unless Congress passes amendments to the WPA bill, the CIO warned.

Conventions

United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, Philadelphia, Sept. 8.

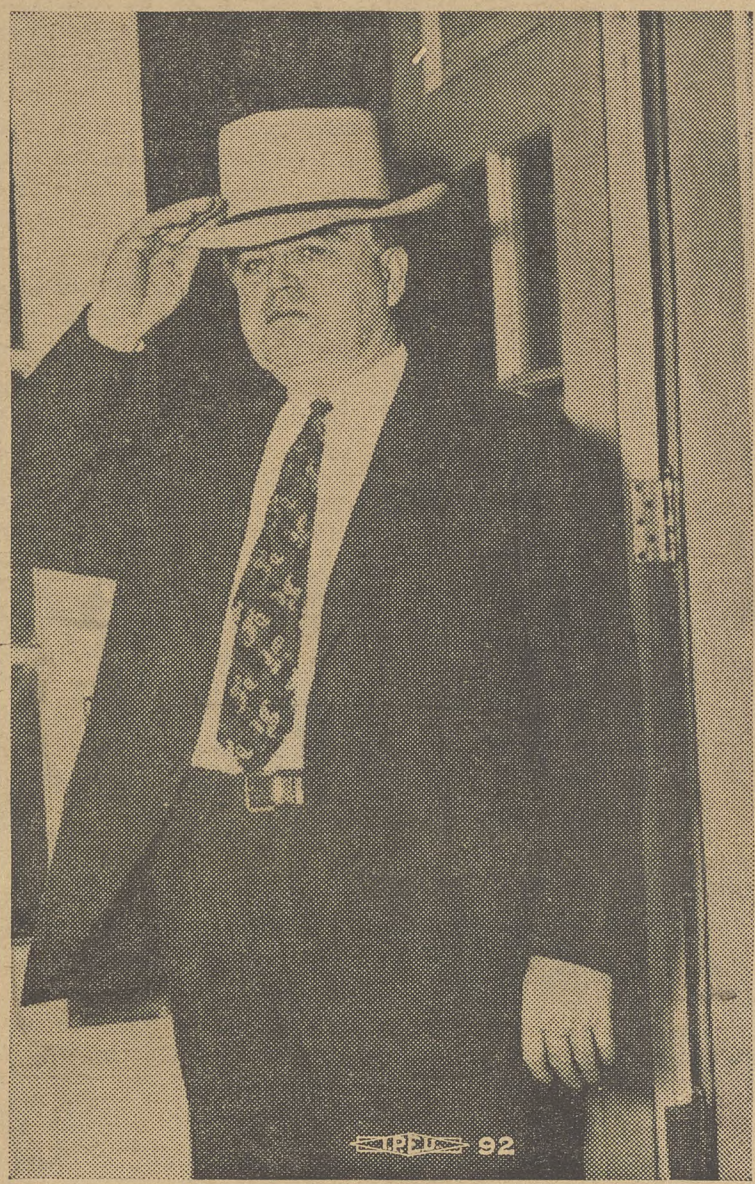
State, County and Municipal Workers, New York, Sept. 27.

Hearst Meets With Guild

Chicago, July 29—Representatives of the Chicago Hearst papers and striking members of the Chicago Newspaper Guild are meeting in negotiations for the third time during the course of the eight-month walkout.

Mindful that previous negotiations have indicated only a management desire to destroy the strikers' morale, Guild leaders are maintaining their fight for job security on the two papers until a definite settlement is announced.

Lewis Sees F.D.R.



CIO Pres. John L. Lewis emerges from the White House, where he had a conference with Pres. Roosevelt this week. No indication was given of the matters discussed.

CIO Forms New Construction Workers Union

(See Other Story, Page 3)

WASHINGTON, July 29.—Formation of a United Construction Workers Organizing Committee to bring the benefits of industrial unionism to the three million workers in the construction industry was announced today by CIO Pres. John L. Lewis.

The new committee, which will be headed by his brother, A. D. Lewis, was formed in answer to thousands of requests since the CIO was started, Pres. Lewis said.

The UCWOC will aim to bring improved wages and conditions to construction workers, while at the same time eliminating the jurisdictional disputes and instability which have plagued the industry for many years. Dues will be $1.50 a month, and no initiation fees are being charged.

Headquarters of the new organization will be in the United Mine Workers Building, 15th & Eye Streets, Washington, D. C.

Blames 'Evil Old Man' For Tory War

(See Story, Page 3; Editorial, Page 4)

(Full Text of Statement, Page 6)

WASHINGTON, July 29 — CIO Pres., John L. Lewis, appearing before the House Labor Committee to testify against crippling amendments to the wage-hour act, nailed on "a labor-baiting, whiskey-drinking, poker-playing, evil old man named Garner" the blame for recent heavy-artillery Congressional attacks on labor.

"I am against Garner in 1939 and I will be against him in 1940," Lewis declared. He predicted that Garner never would get the presidency of the United States "by baiting labor and seeking to debase Americans."

The vice-president has been field marshal of the forces which are aiding chiselling employers in their fight against a minimum wage of "25 lousy cents an hour" for underpaid workers, the CIO leader charged. His statement created a sensation among House Labor Committee members, themselves engaged in a parliamentary war with the Garnerites, as well as among the crowds of newspapermen and spectators attending the committee meeting.

Lewis urged that action on amending the wage-hour act be postponed until the law, barely a year old at the present time, has had a chance to be efficiently administered and enforced. The tory-dominated House Rules Committee is pressing for amendments which would remove protection of the act from 2,000,000 workers and seriously impair its efficiency for several hundred thousand others.

Packinghouse Union Raps Armour Stalling

CHICAGO, July 29.—CIO Packinhouse workers' demands for a national contract with Armour and Co., member of the anti-labor Big Four in the meat industry, sharpened this week with union protests against Armour's labor-baiting tactics.

Five hundred workers gathered in the yard of one Chicago plant to burn an effigy representing the company in protest against discrimination on the demotion of a union member, who was dropped from an 85-cent-an-hour job to common labor at 62.5 cents for no justifiable reason.

At the same time, Herbert March, PWOC district director, presented Armour officials with a list of close to 1,000 grievances on which management has been stalling.

ARMOUR STALLS

Armour has been stalling on union demands for a national agreement, placing ads in daily papers throughout the country claiming that the workers receive good wages, work short hours, and in general have heavenly conditions.

Chicago workers, who turned out 16,000 strong to hear John L. Lewis pledge full CIO support to the PWOC, and to vote a strike if necessary, know better.

Editor Describes Mine Problems

WASHINGTON, July 29. — Introduction of labor-saving devices in the mining industry, the large number of deaths and accidents to miners, and the continuous shrinkage in the demand for coal are the outstanding problems facing the United Mine Workers today, Ellis Searles, editor of the UMW journal, says in an article in the July issue of Labor Information Bulletin, published by the U. S. Dept. of Labor.

Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers Look Forward To Best Convention

By HAROLD ROSSMAN

DENVER, July 29.—Already certain to present one of the most outstanding programs of noted speakers and educational features ever attempted by the union, the 36th Convention of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, which opens here Monday, Aug. 7, is expected to top all previous meetings of the CIO affiliate for interest and attendance.

Headline speakers will include Tom Mooney, Elmer F. Andrews, Wages and Hours administrator; Harry Bridges, West Coast maritime leader, and Walter Smethurst, assistant to CIO President Lewis. Other CIO national leaders will also address the convention.

MASS MEETING

A special feature of the convention will be a giant open mass meeting honoring Tom Mooney, to be held in Denver's Civic Center, Monday evening, Aug. 7, at which CIO, AFL and Railroad Brotherhoods union executives will speak. Thousands of trade unionists in Colorado and surrounding states are expected to converge on Denver to hear Mooney and participate in the demonstration.

Topping the list of educational features will be a series of films showing operations in all branches of the copper industry, from mining through fabricating, which will be presented with the cooperation of the Bureau of Mines.

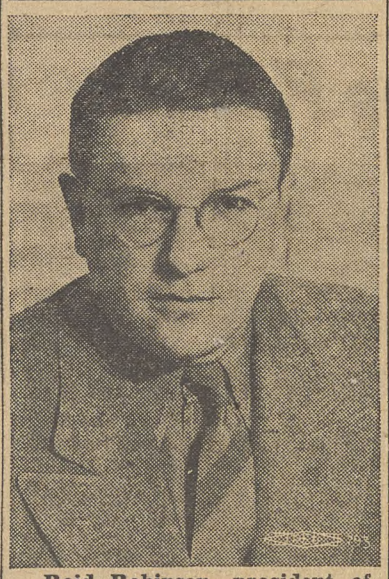
OVERCOME SHUT-DOWNS

This convention will wind up a year in which the union overcame the effects of shut-downs and low production levels to keep its membership intact and register a significant extension of its power in mines and plants of key operators who control the non-ferrous metals industry.

Continuance of these gains, especially in the fabricating plants of the metal monopolies, will be a major concern of the union as it outlines its organizational program for the coming year, President Reid Robinson declared.

The delegates also will have the task of setting up a program to consolidate other gains, including the signing of the first two closed shop contracts won in the "gas belt," the creation of strong local unions in several mining and smelting towns of British Columbia, Canada, and increased strength in Arizona, paradise of the open-shop operators.

Presides



Reid Robinson, president of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers, who will preside at the union's annual convention August 7.

AFL Heads Under Fire In Toronto

Toronto, Ont., July 29—The campaign to halt AFL splitting tactics in the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada received a spurt when the Toronto District Labor Council decided at its last meeting to ask the 55th convention of the Congress to rescind the suspension order against the industrial unions.

Composed of AFL and CIO delegates, the council, largest central labor body in the dominion, termed the expulsion order "unwarranted and arbitrary." Now before council's executive board, the motion was contained in a resolution presented by Local 2 of the Canadian Seamen's Union, an affiliate of the AFL Seamen's Union in the United States.

DEPLORES EXPULSION

The resolution deplored the fact that the Congress executive council had been influenced by AFL leaders to expel the CIO unions last January contrary to the decision of the Congress three previous conventions, which overwhelmingly voted for unity.

If this resolution is finally approved, the Toronto council's three delegates to the convention will be under instructions to vote for the rescinding of the expulsion decision.

Congress affiliates are now in receipt of the call for the convention, which will open Sept. 25 in London, Ontario. The call specifies that CIO unions will not be given representation, nor will central labor council delegates who are members of CIO unions be seated.

Report Big Gains in Gold Mine Areas

Kirkland Lake, Ont., July 29—Ontario locals of the CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Works Union will have an encouraging report for submission to the union's international convention being held in Denver August 7.

Since the last convention, the union in Northern Ontario gold mining camps has increased its membership considerably and its officers have become outstanding leaders in the community. Four of them hold seats on city and town councils.

The union's campaign for holidays with pay embraced the whole community and won the support of all but the mining barons.

SHARE OF PROFITS

One of the union's main bids now is to obtain a share for the employes of the huge profits rolling into the pockets of the mine owners.

According to production figures released here, the mine owners have obtained $311,433,302 in dividends since 1910, or 32 per cent of the yield of the gold mines.

In view of these huge profits, the union is seeking that some of the money be returned to the community in the form of a 15 cents-an-hour wage raise for all gold mine employes. It is also asking an eight-hour day "from collar to collar," two weeks holiday with pay and the right of employes to choose their own doctor.

ACCIDENT RATE

Another factor which makes a wage boost necessary is the soaring cost of living, which has risen 21% since 1935.

Ex-Lax Sales Sluggish; Firm Has That 'Tired Feeling' About Unions

NEW YORK, July 29. — Resistance of the Ex-Lax Company to collective bargaining with District 50 of the United Mine Workers of America (Chemical & Drug Division) is creating an effective sales-resistance on the part of organized workers all over the country.

Local unions in California alone have forwarded 20 resolutions condemning the anti-labor policy of the company and promising to remember it in their purchases. The Retail Clerks Union and the Nurses Union added that their members will not recommend the scab-made product to customers and clients.

BUY NAZI MACHINERY

A key to the attitude of the management is their recent purchase of Nazi-made machinery for the New York plant. When this was known several Jewish organizations, and consumers' groups joined the fight against the firm. District 50 has maintained picket lines in front of the plant and around stores that sell Ex-Lax ever since the company fired four union members four months ago. A Labor Board referee has recommended the reinstatement of the discharged workers but the company retaliated by firing three more workers.

Fierce intimidation is exercised. Fights in the plant are common in order to provide a basis for trumped-up charges of assault and battery against union members.

Ex-Lax has no fear of the Wagner Act. Ex-Lax can disregard American unemployment and buy machinery in Germany. The only way the management can be brought to reason is through a curtailment of sales. The union asks that every member of the CIO write to the company in New York City and tell them what they think of such a labor policy.

District 50 Wins Two Labor Board Cases

WASHINGTON, July 29.—District 50 of the United Mine Workers won two major Labor Board decisions today as company unions at the Dow Chemical Co. in Midland, Mich., and the Mathieson Alkali Works at Saltville, Va., received official U. S. bans.

Dow Chemical was ordered to disestablish the Midland Chemical Workers Assn., which the NLRB found to be company-dominated, to rehire 30 employes with back pay from the time they were dismissed for union membership, and to post the Board's cease and desist orders for 60 days.

The firm was found to have used police to spy on the activities of members of Local 12,075 of the UMW, and to have used coercive methods to discourage the workers from joining the union.

ARGUMENTS FLOP

Company arguments that most of the discharged workers had been laid off for business reasons were overridden by the NLRB, which found that 30 of the men had definitely been fired for their union membership and activity.

In the Mathieson case, the Board ordered disestablishment of the Saltville-Mathieson Employes Assn., and the company was told to bargain with it no longer. The complaint had been filed by Local 12,002 of District 50, located at Saltville, Va.

Peace Plea Rejected

Officials of the CIO Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee shown at the Chicago City Council meeting, at which their offer to meet with Armour & Co. for contract negotiations were refused by corporation executives. Left to right: Henry Johnson, asst. national director; Herb March, district director, and Nicholas Fontecchio, vice-chairman of PWOC.

CIO Forms Construction Workers Union, Launches Major Campaign

To Increase Pay, End Industry's Instability

WASHINGTON, July 29.—The CIO set the wheels in motion today for a big campaign in the construction industry under the aegis of the newly-created United Construction Workers Organizing Committee.

In making public the formation of the newest CIO affiliate, CIO Pres. John L. Lewis said that "there have been thousands of requests from individuals and groups of construction workers throughout the country" for an organization which will "bring the benefits of collective bargaining to all the workers, will eliminate jurisdictional disputes and will improve their wages and working conditions."

A. D. Lewis, brother of the CIO president and a veteran official of the United Mine Workers, is chairman of the new UCWOC. Headquarters will be opened August 1 in the UMW building at Washington.

Other members of the new organizing committee are CIO Vice-Pres. Philip Murray, CIO Sec. James B. Carey, Pres. R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers and Pres. Sherman Dalrymple of the United Rubber Workers.

Dues in the new construction union will be only $1.50 a month, and no initiation fees are being charged. Members of CIO local industrial unions already chartered in the field will be transferred immediately into the new union.

Aim of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, Pres. John L. Lewis said, "will be to organize all construction workers into a powerful industrial union," which will abolish the many abuses which have beset the industry in the past.

TO BRING STABILITY

"Special provisions will be made by the committee for the elimination of unauthorized strikes, jurisdictional disputes and lockouts, and for the peaceful adjudication of labor disputes," the statement said.

A system of transfer cards for members, and provision for apprentice training to eliminate the need of new workers learning the trade on non-union jobs will be arranged by the new organizing committee.

Further details of the organizing drive, which will be vigorously conducted, will be made known in the next few days, it was indicated.

THE STATEMENT

The statement of Pres. John L. Lewis follows:

"There are some three million workers employed in the construction industry, of whom less than one-third are organized.

"Since the CIO was formed, we have received thousands of requests from individuals and groups of construction workers throughout the country asking for organization and affiliation with the CIO.

"These requests have come to us because the construction workers desire a modern form of organization which will bring the benefits of collective bargaining to all the workers, will eliminate jurisdictional disputes and will improve their wages and working conditions.

"Acting under the constitution of the CIO, which calls for the effective organization of the working men and women of America into labor unions for their mutual aid and protection, the executive officers of the CIO have therefore decided to estab-

Continued on page five

West Coast CIO Unions Use Radio

Los Angeles, Cal., July 29—Plans for a radio broadcast over one of the biggest stations in Southern California have been announced by the CIO Industrial Union Council here.

A CIO program known as "Your Daily Bread" originally scheduled for a five-day fifteen minute broadcast over station KFAC beginning July 20, had to be cancelled when the manager withdrew a previous committment from agents of the station.

The CIO committee in charge of the program then opened negotiations for time on a larger station, and expects to announce the starting date of the broadcasts shortly.

Longshoremen Aid Movie Union

Los Angeles, Cal., July 29—CIO longshoremen in San Pedro have voted to lend $1,000 to the newly formed United Studio Technicians Guild.

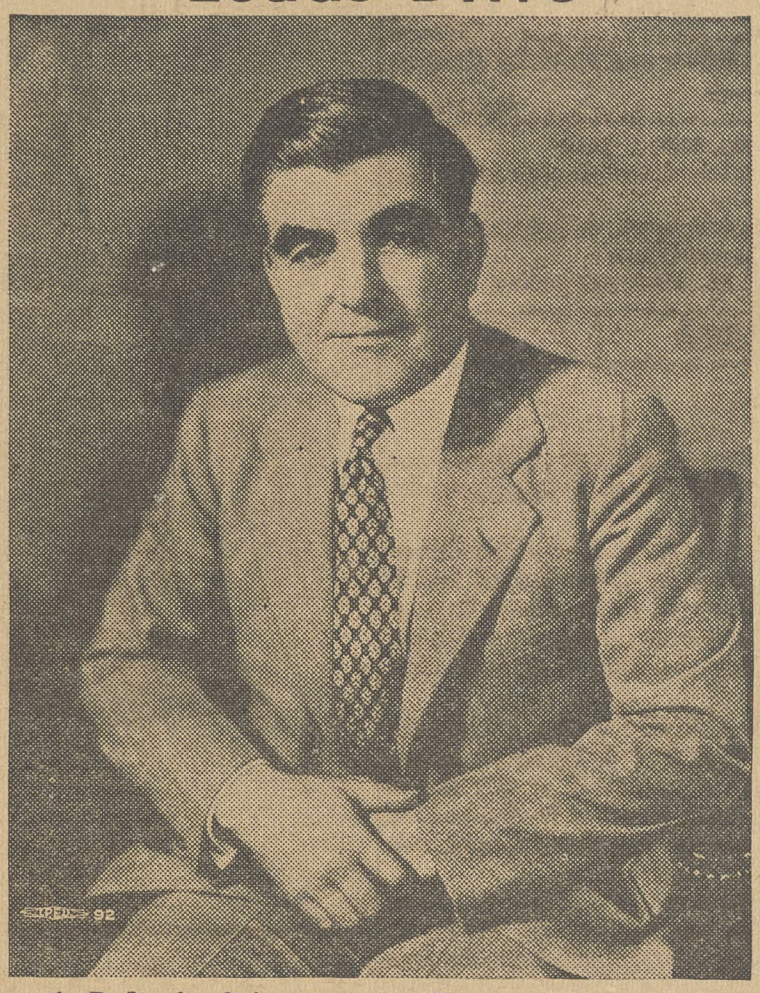
The new union, formed by members who formerly belonged to the Intl. Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, affiliated recently with the CIO, and has petitioned the Natl. Labor Relations Board for certification as bargaining agent for 12,000 workers.

Vote Support For CIO Drive

Indianapolis, Ind., July 29 — Support for the CIO's Mid-Western organizational drive was voted at the last executive board meeting of the Indiana Industrial Union Council, John Bartee, secretary-treasurer of the Council announced this week.

The board also went on record in favor of having Bartee and President James Pascoe tour the state, outlining the program of the CIO to local unions.

Leads Drive



A. D. Lewis, chairman of the CIO's newly-formed United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, which has embarked on a major organizing campaign in the construction industry. Lewis is a brother of the CIO president.

Warn of Resentment If WPA Bill Stands

WASHINGTON, July 29.—A solemn warning to Congress that failure to act on the WPA situation during the closing days of this session will result in "nationwide resentment" was voiced today by Ralph Hetzel, CIO unemployment director.

The CIO statement was contained in a letter addressed to Sen. James Murray of Montana, sponsor of amendments designed to correct many of the worst abuses in the present WPA-slashing law. Together with 21 other New Deal Senators, Murray introduced a bill to restore WPA prevailing hourly wage provision and to protect monthly wage payments. In addition, he has also filed a bill to end the firing of WPA employes after they have been on the rolls for 18 months.

This legislation, Hetzel said, "will do a great deal to improve the WPA situation. But, he added, "unless these measures or very similar ones are passed at this session, there will arise in this country . . . a nationwide resentment such as has not been experienced since the days when the Republican party's 'do nothing' policy on unemployment was overwhelmingly repudiated.

"This time, as then, it will be the party in power who will be blamed by the people."

5-POINT PROGRAM

Hetzel reviewed the CIO's attitude and actions on the relief bill, recalling that Pres. John L. Lewis had stated five fundamental principles which should be written into any government work relief measure:

1. WPA jobs for all unemployed workers willing to work.
2. Guaranteed rights of self-organization for WPA workers.
3. Projects to provide all WPA workers with jobs suited to their needs and skills.
4. Projects of a socially useful and productive type.
5. Wages sufficient to preserve the American standard of living and high enough to prevent reduction of union scales in private industry.

Immediate action will have to be taken by Congress if it is to pass on any new WPA legislation. With half a dozen other important measures in the legislative hopper as the session nears its end, New Dealers are pressing for immediate consideration of the WPA amendment proposals.

Firm Ordered To Bargain

Washington, July 29 — The Holston Manufacturing Company, Knoxville, Tennessee, has been ordered by the Natl. Labor Relations Board to bargain collectively upon request with the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, as sole representative for the firm's production and maintenance employes. If an understanding is reached, the company was ordered to embody it in a written, signed contract.

The Board which found that the firm had refused to enter into a signed contract, regardless of the terms agreed upon, ruled that this constituted an unfair labor practice.

Lewis Lashes Garner

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, July 29.—In the most bluntly worded statement heard on Capitol Hill at this session of Congress, CIO Pres. John L. Lewis demanded that the House of Representatives turn down the Tory plea for crippling amendments to the federal wage-hour act, and extended his attack to the reactionary onslaught on all labor legislation, which he said "emanates" from the office of a "labor-baiting, whiskey-drinking, poker-playing, evil old man named Garner."

Referring specifically to the wage-hour law, endangered by amendments proposed by Rep. Barden of North Carolina, Lewis pounded the table at a House Labor Committee hearing as he said:

"All we are asking is that the lowest-paid be assured of 25 lousy cents an hour. I don't believe 25c an hour is too much, nor do the people I represent, believe it.

"We don't understand the reasons for this spectacle, where the Republican minority aided by a band of 100 or more renegade Democrats have conducted a war dance around the bound and prostrate form of labor.

"Many of these people were not above accepting the help of labor in gaining their seats and may plan to ask it again."

The CIO president, obviously angered by reactionary back-biting during this session, explained that "all labor wants to do is to live and to protect the nation's democratic institutions."

FLAYS GARNER

The "genesis" of this Tory hatchet war, he continued, "is not hard to find.

"It runs through the House Democrats and in the Senate, and it emanates from a labor-baiting whiskey-drinking, poker-playing, evil old man whose name is Garner.

"I'm against him. I'm against

Continued on Page Six

Auto Union Wins Strike, $11,000 Raise

Cleveland, July 29—Some 78 union employes of the Cleveland Dental Manufacturing Company celebrated the victorious conclusion of their 11-week strike last night and returned to work today.

The workers walked out 100% strong in May and remained out solidly, keeping the plant completely closed. They are members of Miscellaneous Local 217 of the United Automobile Workers of America, CIO.

A new two-year contract grants $11,000 in pay increases and guarantees other improvements in wages and working conditions, it was announced by President Axel Hansen.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II July 31, 1939 No. 31

The Tory War Dance

John L. Lewis voiced the feelings of millions of Americans when he denounced the labor-baiting intrigues that have disgraced the present session of Congress.

Appearing to testify against the slaughter of the Fair Labor Standards Act (the wage-hour law) by amendments which would remove millions of the lowest-paid workers from its protection, Lewis expressed the rising popular indignation against this and other Congressional attempts to destroy all legislation passed for the benefit of labor.

"We don't understand the reason for this spectacle," he said, "where the Republican minority aided by a band of a hundred or more renegade Democrats have conducted a war dance around the bound and prostrate form of labor in the well of the House. They dance with glee every time that extraordinary combination is able to hamstring labor."

There seems to be no limit to the arrogance of this tory crew who have voted to cut a million unemployed off WPA; to harry the Labor Board with an alleged investigation for the purpose of preparing the ground for the emasculation of the Wagner act; and who at this writing have out their axes to destroy the wage-hour law.

Their attempts to deny to American workers wages as low as "25 lousy cents an hour" was the last straw for the CIO leader. His voice rose in anger as he expressed labor's wrath at the tory intrigue, and as he pointed the finger publicly at Vice-President Garner as the instigator and director of this intrigue.

Big anti-labor corporations, chiseling sweatshop employers, financial interests that seek to fatten on the poverty and misery of the many—these have all had their day in the present Congress. They have found ready tools in the unholy alliance of tory Republicans and renegade Democrats that has worked so hard to starve the unemployed through the slashing of WPA, to deprive labor of its rights under the Wagner act, and to deny American workers even 25c an hour under the wage-hour law.

But labor and the American people have yet to be heard from. Many of this same tory crew, Lewis pointed out, "were not above accepting the help of labor in gaining their seats and may plan to ask it again."

When and if they do, Lewis has expressed the answer that every right-thinking citizen should give them. He told Garner that he would "never achieve the presidency of this republic by baiting labor and seeking to debase Americans". And every other tory Democrat or Republican will likewise feel labor's wrath for the crimes they are now committing against labor.

A Modern Union for Construction Workers

The CIO has opened the door of opportunity for the workers in the construction industry through the formation of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee.

Pres. John L. Lewis points out that less than one-third of the three million workers in this industry are organized.

Millions of construction workers have long been denied the benefits of collective bargaining because of AFL craft policies similar to those which prevented union organization in so many other great industries until the CIO got on the job.

Excessive initiation fees and dues, exorbitant re-entry fees, and other similar practices have resulted in exclusion rather than organization of the workers.

In this unhealthy situation, jurisdictional disputes, graft, racketeering and other abuses of all kinds have flourished.

The construction workers have been knocking on the door of the CIO for a long time. Now this door is opened to them. A committee of top-notch CIO leaders has been formed to make available to all construction workers a modern industrial union, with low and equal dues for all.

The object of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee is to unite all the workers in one organization, for the improvement of their wages and working conditions through collective bargaining.

The Committee will also make special provisions for the elimination of jurisdictional disputes and of the other evils and abuses that have cursed the industry.

This is the type of organization which forward-looking construction workers have long been demanding. The CIO pledges them full support and wishes them all success in this great enterprise of industrial organization which has now been launched.

Nibbling Away

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Wreckers and Builders

THE old story about the WPA wrecking which allegedly pulled down the wrong house, is a favorite among tory members of Congress.

But what is one house compared to the whole structure of New Deal legislation and economic recovery which the tory wrecking crew is working so hard to demolish?

Most of the voters thought they were putting a construction gang on the job in Congress.

It may be funny to some people that this gang has turned into a wrecking crew which is pulling down all the wrong houses.

But the unemployed who are being driven from WPA to the breadline, hard-pressed unionists whose Wagner Act is threatened, and sweatshop workers for whom even 25c an hour is considered too much, won't be able to enjoy the joke.

Three Wrecking Jobs

The tory wreckers have been concentrating on three jobs, none of which were ordered by the people who sent them to Congress.

They have been trying to wreck the WPA program, the National Labor Relations Act and the wage-hour law.

The success of their work on WPA is testified to by the reappearance of breadlines in many American cities, the laying off of hundreds of thousands of WPA workers and the slashing of the meager wages of those who remain.

The wage-hour law is now feeling the wreckers' axe. Appropriately enough the amendments to legalize sweatshop wages and long hours for those who most need protection, have been introduced by the same Congressman Barden who sponsors the AFL leaders' amendments in the House for the wrecking of the labor relations act.

The work of the wrecking crew on the Wagner Act has been stalled for the time being by the strenuous resistance of the CIO, aided by the AFL rank and file.

But nevertheless the wrecking crew is not discouraged. It feels that it has won full license to continue its work by the passage of the Smith resolution for an investigation of the Labor Board.

The idea of this seems to be that, if the demolition of the act can not be performed at this session of Congress, at least the constructive work of the Board can be harried and hampered at every turn for the rest of the year — to loosen things up for the wrecking crew in the next session.

What's On Our Minds

When Congress adjourns, its members are supposed to return home and there to get a closer idea of what is on the minds of their constituents.

If they get the idea that the unemployed would sooner starve than have WPA jobs; that American workers love to work in sweatshops for 10c an hour; and that they don't give a hoot for the rights they have won under the Wagner Act—then look out for more and worse trouble in the next session of Congress.

But if the tory wrecking crew are shown unmistakably that the voters are not amused at their antics; if they are impressed with the fact that the American people want builders not wreckers in Congress—that they want work not breadlines for the unemployed, security and the right to organize, not sweatshop wages and the open shop—then 1940 will see victories for the builders, not the wreckers of American prosperity.

CIO Builders

When Philip Murray, Sidney Hillman and the other CIO witnesses testified before Senate and House committees on the Wagner Act, their sober and constructive statesmanship presented a most startling contrast to the reckless destructiveness of the tory blatherskites who claim to see a "menace" in the CIO.

The testimony of these statesmen of industry told of security, independence and better conditions won for the workers through union organization under the Wagner Act; of many achievements in the direction of industrial stability and peaceful labor relations; and of labor's concern for the country's welfare and prosperity.

But more than that, the CIO testimony pointed the way to checking the work of the tory wrecking crew in this Congress and other Congresses to follow.

For it is only through organization that the workers can become articulate and impress their will on Congress. In proportion as the CIO expands its organizing work in the coming months, therefore, it will play a leading part in saving the whole country from the tory wreckers who now misrepresent the people's interests in Congress.

Wagner Act Gains Told by Longshore, Metal Mine Leaders

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON, July 29.—A combination of "misinformation" and a deliberate conspiracy to break down orderly labor relations were shown as the sources of AFL leadership and anti-union employer opposition to the Wagner Act by two CIO witnesses in testimony before the House and Senate Labor Committees here this week.

The two witnesses, Matt Meehan of the Intl. Longshoremen and Warehousemen and Jess Gonzalez of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, agreed in ascribing AFL demands for amendments to partisan spite against the CIO and a policy of collaborating with the worst labor-hating employers in the country.

According to Meehan, AFL and employer demands for crippling changes had a basic three-point "philosophy," which was:

1. "The law of the AFL Executive Council is higher than the law of the United States.

2. "The workers have a right to join a union of their own choice so long as this union is the AFL.

3. "In case the workers do not wish to join the AFL, the employer is allowed to influence them to do so."

LOOKS AT RECORD

Citing the record of the AFL leadership in the industry under Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers jurisdiction, Gonzalez analyzed the Eagle-Picher and Tennessee Copper Co. cases, in which AFL officials combined with reactionary bosses to violate the Wagner act in setting up stooge unions and attempting to thwart the workers' choice of their own type of organization.

Gonzalez told how the Eagle-Picher Co. and others in the tri-state area (Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma) supplied $17,500 to one Mike Evans to set up a company union. Evans, who was also a mine owner, "signed a contract with himself as an operator, signed it as president of this union, recognizing himself as sole collective bargaining agency for his own employes."

Pres. Green, who chartered this company outfit in the AFL as part of his offensive against the CIO, had the nerve, as Gonzalez pointed out, to criticize the Labor Board for hearing charges against it.

AS USUAL, MISINFORMED

On the Tennessee Copper case, Gonzalez explained that the Board ordered a new election after and AFL stooge group had won from the CIO with the aid of open employer intimidation. Green, who also charged the Board with pro-CIO "bias" on this case, went to the length of complaining that the Board had set aside an AFL "contract" in favor of the CIO.

"As usual, President Green was misinformed," Gonzalez said. "No contract was involved. No contract was set aside. An election was held. The CIO protested the results because of employer interference. The Board held hearings on these protests, and the evidence led it to throw out the election and hold a new one — this time a fair one, without employer interference. And the workers selected their real choice, the CIO union."

Both Gonzalez and Meehan declared that the defense of the Wagner Act against all amendments was essential to maintain peaceful, stable labor relations, and that the defense of the Act was part of the struggle to maintain democracy in America.

AFL Amendments Hold Threat to Labor Relations, Hillman Tells Senate

WASHINGTON, July 29.—The president of a powerful union which has won nationwide respect for its 30-year record of peaceful industrial relations warned the Senate Committee on Education and Labor today that proposed Wagner Act amendments would help tear down the system of collective bargaining which has been developed in recent years.

The witness was Sidney Hillman, vice-president of the CIO, head of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and chairman of the executive council of the Textile Workers Union of America.

Recalling how the industrial form of organization in the clothing workers union has eliminated jurisdictional disputes and endless squabbles by bringing all the groups of workers into one bargaining agency, Hillman predicted that the craft union amendments backed by the AFL "will threaten with destruction what has been built up during almost 30 years of constructive and cooperative effort."

PRAISES FLEXIBILITY

The CIO official took the position that one of the Wagner Act's greatest assets is its lack of rigidity and the freedom it provides the Labor Board to use its discretion in complex and changing cases.

"I am apprehensive of any effort to freeze the detailed application of fundamental principles into permanent and unchangeable law," he declared.

"The Wagner Act has been successful largely because it is confined in its provisions to the statement of fundamentals, leaving their application to the sound discretion and good common sense of an administrative body which is rapidly becoming expert in this difficult field of human endeavor.

"What would the proposed craft amendment do to the structure which we have built up over a close to 30-year period in the clothing industry?" Hillman asked.

WOULD SPLIT UNION

"Despite the industry's uninterrupted history of industrial organization, the amendment would require a vote of each separate craft—cutters, pressers and the rest—to determine whether a majority of that craft desired to bargain as an independent unit or as part of an industrial unit.

"The amendment is an open invitation to every irresponsible group in the labor field to attempt to seize control of a single craft in a single shop, and having won certification for that craft as a separate bargaining agency, to disrupt the process of collective bargaining in that shop.

"Similarly, every employer desiring to weaken and finally rid himself of the union would encourage the organization of 'independent' craft groups, careful to avoid the stigma of company unionism, and by separate elections and certifications of a few crafts attempt to break down the union in his factory."

Adoption of the AFL amendments, he said, "might provide a temporary crutch to certain affiliates of the AFL which limp along on their antiquated structures over the difficult terrain of the mass-production industries. But they would deal body blows to those progressive affiliates of both the AFL and CIO which travel in a vehicle designed to make the journey in speed and comfort."

CITY-WIDE PACTS

Much of the success of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers in stabilizing the industry has come from a series of market-wide agreements with employers' associations, Hillman added. Yet the AFL leadership, "piqued by a single decision" of the Labor Board has proposed prohibiting certification of unions on such a multiple-employer scale—a move which would injure CIO and AFL unions alike.

The CIO vice-president made it clear that many NLRB decisions seem to have favored the AFL craft unionism, but, he added, "I have never permitted differences in policy to blind me to the inestimable value of the National Labor Relations Act or to the intelligence, integrity and devotion to duty of those primarily charged with its administration.

"I have never been tempted to tear down the whole structure because I felt that some of the windows needed washing."

Lists Act's Benefits

Pres. Sidney Hillman of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers shown as he told the Senate Committee on Education and Labor how the Wagner Act has helped bring better industrial relations to the men's clothing industry. Hillman, who is a CIO vice-president and a high official of the textile union, charged that most foes of the Act are either misinformed or have never given collective bargaining a chance to work.

CIO to Organize Construction Workers

Continued from Page Three

lish the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee.

"The work of this committee will be directed by Chairman A. D. Lewis, who will be authorized to issue charters to construction workers who desire to become affiliated with a modern industrial union in their industry.

TO TRANSFER LOCALS

"A large number of Local Industrial Unions have already been chartered by the CIO in this industry and they will be transferred to the UCWOC at once, to compose its initial membership.

"The United Construction Workers Organizing Committee will be organized on an industrial basis. Dues will be $1.50 per month for all members in all classifications of employment in the construction industry. No initiation fees are being charged.

ABOLISH EVILS

"The aim of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee will be to organize all construction workers in a powerful industrial union which will abolish the many evils and abuses that have beset the industry in the past and improve wages and working conditions of all those employed in it.

"Special provisions will be made by the committee for the elimination of unauthorized strikes, jurisdictional disputes and lockouts, and for the peaceful adjudication of labor disputes.

"A system of transfer cards will be arranged for the benefit of union members, and arrangements will be made under the union agreements for training skilled mechanics so that workers may not have to learn their trades on non-union jobs.

FOUR OBJECTS

"The declared objects of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee are as follows:

"1. To unite into one organization, regardless of creed, color, nationality or classification of employment, all workers in and around construction work.

"2. To increase wages and improve the conditions of employment of the members of the organization and to secure through proper negotiations joint agreements covering wages, hours and working conditions of its members.

"3. To stabilize the construction industry through the elimination of unauthorized strikes, jurisdictional disputes and lockouts, and to provide for adjudication of disputes arising between employers and employes in the industry.

"4. To provide for the education and better living conditions of our members and their families and to obtain a greater participation in the economic and political affairs of our country."

Chicago Times Signs Guild Contract

Chicago, July 29—The Chicago Times, tabloid daily, ended three years of negotiations today by signing a contract with the American Newspaper Guild.

The agreement, which will vastly strengthen the Chicago Guild—now engaged in the eighth month of its strike against the two Hearst papers—provides that the management must first apply to the union when filling editorial staff vacancies, and only after five days can it hire anyone else.

Three weeks vacation with pay, high dismissal indemnities, eight per cent differential for the night shift and, with few exceptions, the 8-hour day, 40-hour week are provided by the agreement.

Textile Union Wins Case

New York, July 29 — Charges made against the American Viscose Corporation by the Textile Workers Union of America, were upheld by Dr. Willard E. Hotchkiss, impartial chairman, following a hearing on a dispute over the patrol system.

Herbert W. Payne, director of the synthetic yarn division of the union said the ruling upholds the TWUA's charge that the company refused to give preferential employment to technologically displaced workers in any of its plants, as specifically provided in Dr. Hotchkiss's previous decision handed down March 23.

The impartial chairman's latest ruling, affecting employes in the company's plants at Marcus Hook and Lewistown, Pa.; Parkersburg, W. Va., and Roanoke, Va. reaffirmed his previous decision and laid down specific instructions for the company to follow in re-employing displaced workers.

Lewis Hits Garner Tactics, Asks Help For Wage-Hour Law

Continued from Page Three

him officially, individually and personally, concretely and in the abstract.

"I am against him in 1939 and I'll be against him in 1940 when he seeks the presidency. He'll never get the presidency by baiting labor and seeking to debase Americans.

"I object to Mr. Garner putting his foot upon the neck of millions of Americans by conducting this intrigue on every proposal to protect the rights of labor.

"Gentlemen may arise and say that Mr. Lewis has made a personal attack on Mr. Garner. Yes, I have made a personal attack on Mr. Garner because his knife is searching for the quivering, pulsating heart of my people.

Lewis explained that the wage-hour act has had no time to be thoroughly tested, that it has never been thoroughly administered — let alone enforced — and that until more time has passed, amendments would be sheer folly.

LIKENED TO THIEVES

"Obviously, he said, 'the people against whom the penalties of this act are directed are opposed to it. Certainly opponents of 25c an hour would like to cripple the act."

FIVE WITNESSES

Lewis was one of five people who appeared before the House Labor Committee on the wage-hour problem — a question which in the closing days of the Congressional session has become a test of the strength of the liberal and reactionary blocs in the House of Representatives.

The Labor Committee, overwhelmingly liberal in sentiment, is engaged in a struggle with the Rules Committee, perhaps the most powerful — and also the most reactionary — single group in the lower House.

Early in the session Wage-Hour Administrator Elmer F. Andrews suggested to Chairman Mary Norton of the Labor group that minor amendments to the wage-hour law to "iron out a few rough spots" might be advisable. The Andrews proposals were incorporated into a bill drawn by Mrs. Norton, and were sharply criticized by CIO leaders both for their content and for the danger of more serious amendments being tacked on to the bill by representatives of the sweat-shoppers.

PREDICTIONS COME TRUE

The CIO predictions were shown to be well-founded when Cong. Barden, a member of the Labor Committee and sponsor of the AFL amendments to the Wagner Act, introduced a bill which would eliminate an estimated two million workers from coverage by either the wage or hour provisions of the Act.

Barden's bill won immediate support from Rep. Gene Cox of Georgia, dominating force on the Rules Committee.

BREAK PRECEDENTS

In an action unprecedented in recent Congressional history, the Rules Committee proposed to give the Barden bill a "rule" — that is, a place on the House calendary —even though it had not been passed upon by the Labor Committee. At the same time, it refused to give the Norton bill an opportunity to come before the House with provisions to protect it from recationary amendments.

These actions brought forth sharp comment from members of the Labor Committee. Rep. Welch of California said the Rules group had "committed parliamentary larceny, while Rep. Wood of Missouri described it as "arrogant" and Rep. Keller of Illinois charged that "the Rules Committee is trying to run this Congress. If so, let them take the responsibility."

Box Workers Renew Pact

Indianapolis, July 29. — United Paper Box Workers Local Industrial Union 31 renewed its contract with the Inland Container Corporation plant here for another year. Four hundred production workers are covered.

The company tried to reduce a wage increase granted last year, but the union kept the old rate, which also includes sole bargaining rights, check-off, a 40-hour week and strict seniority.

Representatives of the United Mine Workers sign a two-year contract with the Harlan Coal Operators Assn., ending a three-month lockout of 6,500 miners. Seated, left to right: Sec. George Ward and Vice-Pres. R. E. Lawson of the Association; Earl Houck of the UMW legal department; O. E. Gassoway of the UMW executive board; Attorney C. Dawson for the Assn., and Pres. William Turnblazer of UMW Dist. 19.

Standing: Sec. George Titler of Dist. 19, UMW Atty. T. C. Townsend and W. H. Sienknecht, former member of the operators' scale committee.

Full Text Of Lewis Speech Before House Committee

WASHINGTON, July 29. — Following is the full text of the testimony of CIO Pres. John L. Lewis before the House Labor Committee against amendments to the Wage-Hour Act:

"I come before the committee today to say that that great membership and those great instrumentalities and all that they represent are opposed to the amendments to this act," he said.

"There are numerous groups of amendments. Labor has had no opportunity to become familiar with the application of the vast crop of amendments. So far as I know, this is the first public hearing that the committee has had.

"We think the Administrator, Mr. Andrews, erred when he came before this committee to suggest amendments to the act before he had undertaken the job of administering and enforcing the act.

"We do not believe the act has had an opportunity to demonstrate its effectiveness, its elements of strength or its weakness, or its impositions or its blessings. We think the act is entitled to an opportunity to demonstrate its effectiveness its lack of effectiveness. It has not had that opportunity. There has not been any effective administration or enforcement of the act.

CHISELERS FIGHT LAW

"Obviously the people against whom the penalties of this act are directed are opposed to its application, its spirit, its intent, and its effective administration.

"Certainly the chiselers in industry, in all industry, who believe that 25 cents an hour is too much for an American would like to cripple this act with amendments, all running to the point of destroying its effectiveness.

"So he who proposed in this Congress to amend this act must have known that he was opening up the flood-gates of complaint and lamentations and propaganda and sinister political influence which has revolved around the discussion of this proposition ever since this committee began to sit upon it.

" Why, certainly, the Amalgamated Association of Porch Climbers and Sneak Thieves would like to get together and have the various State acts covering their professions amended, so that they might take ladies' purses with impunity; or that county fairs might be made more convenient for the purposes of that association by refusing to have the police interfere with them.

"It all runs to the point that the Congress of the United States believed that this act was vitally necessary when it was enacted; that the act would run against certain industries and certain peoples and give protection to certain workers in industry, to the extent of many millions in the United States.

'GIVE IT A CHANCE'

"Why not give it a chance? That condition has not changed. The workers by and large have not been consulted about these amendments. They have had no opportunity to come in here from the industries of the South, or the industries of the West, of the Pacific or the Atlantic seaboard, to tell their story in competition with the corporation lawyers and lobbyists that have infested this Capitol for the past number of months, asking for relief from the provisions of a Federal statute, for certain individuals who believe that 25 cents an hour is too much for an American.

"I do not believe that 25 cents an hour is too much for an American and the people I represent do not believe that 25 cents an hour is too much for an American. And we do not believe that the Congress of the United States believes that.

"We want this act to have a chance. We do not understand the necessity for this spectacle that has recently confronted the Republic, in the House of Representatives, where the Republican minority, aided by a band of 100 or more renegade Democrats, have conducted a war dance around the bounden, prostrate form of labor in the well of that House, whirling like dervishes, and dancing with glee when that extraordinary combination is able to do something to hamstring labor in the United States.

"Many of the men who participated in that outrageous conduct in the House are men who, in the past, have not hesitated to accept the help of labor to be elected to their offices, and who are looking forward to asking for the help of labor in their respective districts in 1940.

'CHANCE TO LIVE'

"All labor asks in this republic of ours is a chance to live. It wants to live so that it can make a contribution to our public life and to the internal economy of our nation; so that it can protect this institution of Congress and this flag of ours; so it can protect the desirable and meritorious institutions of our republic; so it can protect the Congressmen's salaries — whatever they are.

"It is only asking in this instance, before this House, that it be permitted to the least of them to be assured of 25 lousy cents an hour.

"You know, the genesis of this campaign against labor in the House of Representatives is not hard to find.

"It is within the Democratic party. It runs across to the Senate of the United States and emanates there from a labor-baiting, poker-playing, whisky-drinking, evil old man whose name is Garner.

"Some gentlemen may rise in horror and say, 'Why Mr. Lewis has made a personal attack on Mr. Garner.'

"Yes, I make a personal attack on Mr. Garner for what he is doing, because Garner's knife is searching, searching for the quivering, pulsating heart of labor. And I am against him.

"I am against him officially, individually and personally, concretely and in the abstract, when his knife searches for the heart of my people.

"I am against him in 1939 and I will be against him in 1940 when he seeks the Presidency of the United States.

"And I say to Mr. Garner and I say to the people of the United States that he will never achieve the Presidency of this Republic by baiting labor and seeking to debase Americans.

"I have no objection to Mr. Garner if he wants to do it and his neighbors let him get away with it, to debasing sheep men and cattle men in Texas by charging them extortionate interest for loans through the banks that he controls.

HITS INTRIGUE

"But I object to Mr. Garner putting his foot upon the neck of millions of Americans by conducting this intrigue that he has been conducting in recent weeks in this Congress on every proposal that protected the rights of labor or sought to give labor increased or additional privilege.

"I say to this committee—and I am trying to say it briefly, although I am rather full of this subject—that all of these amendments should be laid aside in this session of Congress and the people against whom this act is directed come to know that the Congress of the United States and the republic require and expect them to comply with the law.

"And when there is a record of experience in the administration of this act; when its weaknesses and elements of strength are so recorded that they can be read by the Congress and by the people, will then be the time to take up the question of what are virtuous or non-virtuous amendments to this act.

PROBLEM FOR CONGRESS

"I hope that Mr. Andrews and his administration, whom I admire very highly, will give a little attention to this act from the standpoint of its enforcement and not from the standpoint of its amendment to meet the ideas of individuals in his administration.

"There is work to do. Americans are hungry. Americans want to be protected against further debasement of their living conditions.

"Gentlemen, there is a crisis in your nation, do you know it? Your country is not out of the woods. There are millions unemployed. And this Congress has made no contribution to the well-being of the average American in the seven months it has been in existence, at the expense of this country.

"If the House of Representatives wants to do something, let it set aside some hours of debate, so that its great intellects can tell the American people where 12,000,000 workers can get jobs. There is a task that will tax their I. Q.'s. There is a job for them.

"Do not tinker around and chisel away at acts that were passed with enthusiasm and great majorities and never given a chance to demonstrate themselves.

New Homes for Old

A department dealing with the need for better housing and how to obtain it, conducted by the CIO Committee on Housing.

A New Approach

By THOMAS HUMPHRIES

At the recent meeting of the CIO Housing Committee a new approach to the housing problem was worked out.

It was decided that the Committee would concentrate on helping the various CIO internationals develop specific housing programs to meet their specific needs. In other words, the main activity of the CIO Housing Committee—aside from its legislative work—will be to help the individual CIO unions analyze the housing problems of their members and devise ways of solving these problems.

HELP UNIONS

To illustrate: The CIO Housing Committee is now cooperating with United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing, and Allied Workers. It has supplied the UCAPAWA with information on the cities and towns where UCAPAWA members are located. It has told the union which towns have local housing authorities already established and have USHA housing projects under way and in which towns the union will have to go to bat before local authorities are set up. It is studying the means whereby the needs of UCAPAWA members among the farming population and the migratory workers may be met through the aid of the Farm Security Administration and the United States Housing Authority.

Work is also being carried on with the State, County and Municipal Workers of America. A questionnaire is being drawn up for possible use by the SCMWA in studying housing needs in state capitals. Prominent housing experts are being asked to write articles for the SCMWA's monthly paper.

During the next few months the CIO Housing Committee plans to extend this type of activity considerably. Any unions that are interested in buckling down immediately to a serious consideration of their members' housing problems contact the CIO Housing Committee without delay.

ROLE OF COUNCILS

Naturally, there is still as great a need as ever before for housing action on the part of Industrial Union Councils.

The international unions can get their locals interested in doing something. But this "something" must always be coordinated with the activities of other local unions in the same city or town. A cannery workers local cannot, by itself, carry the whole burden of agitating for a local housing authority. But when cannery workers, textile workers, office workers and others work together — through their local industrial union council—then real results can be expected.

'Guardian of Morals' OKs Wholesale Rape Of Rights, Union Says

By SWANSON C. SHIELDS

PONTIAC, Mich., July 29.—Ruthless disregard of the constitutional rights of labor was charged to the Michigan state police in a telegram sent to Gov. Dickinson by UAW-CIO officials here last week.

Rushed into Pontiac by Michigan officials when the Pontiac police department refused to use violence to break a strike called by the union against the Fisher Body plant here, the state troopers launched a wave of terrorism against the strikers.

Picket lines were smashed by force, several union leaders arrested, unionists insulted by top-ranking officers and spectators were manhandled by Michigan's streamlined "Storm Troopers."

200 STATE POLICE

Almost 200 members of the state police force, armed with tear-gas and machine guns, patrolled the strike area two days for protection to scabs.

Despite the strike-breaking tactics of the state police, the strike remains 100 per cent effective. Even under police protection, there were not enough scabs to operate the plant.

The Fisher plant here is among the 11 General Motors plants on strike in the UAW-CIO's fight for a supplementary agreement for tool and die makers, maintenance men and other skilled workers.

Pontiac CIO Rolling Up New Gains

Pontiac, Mich. — July 29. — A scrappy CIO continues to roll up new victories in this automobile town.

The recently-formed Pontiac CIO Industrial Union Council represeenting 40,000 workers won a smashing victory in its first skirmish when it wrung from the city government a pledge for maximum relief funds.

Through pressure exerted by to urge Michigan Congressmen the CIO, city officials also voted to support the Casey-Murray bill which is being pushed by the CIO on a national scale.

Victory of the CIO in its fight for the unemployed was described here as "very significant in view of the notorious anti-labor record of Pontiac officials."

Fresh from a clear-cut victory over the Homer Martin union-busters, the Pontiac CIO is forging a strong labor movement here. Today it is recognized as a powerful force in this community — a force fighting to make Pontiac a better place in which to live.

WPA Builds Lots of Roads

Washington, July 29. — WPA workers have built or improved about 68,000 miles of streets and roads on projects completed during an eight-month period ending March 1, Col. F. C. Harrington, Work Projects Commissioner, announced this week.

This is an aggregate mileage sufficient to span the continent nearly 24 times from New York to San Francisco, he said.

Delegate

John Anderson, representative of the CIO Committee on Housing, who is attending the 17th annual convention of the Intl. Federation on Housing and Town Planning at Stockholm, Sweden.

GM Strike Hits 12th Plant

Detroit, July 29—With negotiations for a supplementary contract being stalled by General Motors negotiators, the United Automobile Workers, CIO, today had tied up a twelfth plant and threatened strikes at GM powerhouses throughout the state of Michigan.

The latest plant to close down in the strike of tool and die makers, engineering and maintenance workers, was Fisher No. 1 at Flint, where a Homer Martin call for a walkout had been disregarded a few weeks previous. Three other Flint tool and die plants have taken strike votes.

UAW officials said the strike "went off like clockwork," with 500 of the plant's 550 employes on the picket line.

Demands of the powerhouse men concern wages and working conditions, and are to be consolidated with the tool and die makers' demands by UAW representatives at the parley.

CALL MASS MEETING

A mass meeting in front of the General Motors office building at Detroit to call attention of corporation executives to the strikers' unity was also scheduled for this week.

With its key plants closed down tight, and with UAW members employed in independent tool and die shops refusing to work on products ordered by General Motors, the colossus of the auto industry has lost a two-week advantage in the race for production of 1940 models. Chrysler, which had been held up by the strike at Briggs Body Mfg. Co. earlier this year, has caught up with GM on its 1940 work.

News of this development, first published in the Wall Street Journal and printed in local papers, gave the GM management a bad case of irritations and unbelieved denials.

The strikers, all of them skilled workers, are seeking a supplementary contract to the main GM agreement which will recognize the UAW as their bargaining agency, lift wages 10c an hour and improve seniority system and working conditions.

Housing Confab Evades Discussion On Key Problems

By JOHN ANDERSON

(By Trans-Atlantic Airmail)

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, July 15.—Over 800 delegates from 34 countries attended the 17th congress of the International Federation for Housing and Town Planning held in Stockholm, Sweden, from July 8 to July 15.

Delegates ranged from local administrative officials, architects, engineers, town planners, housing experts, and interested private individuals to a scattering of bank directors and real estate men.

Only one of the 800 delegates, John Andrews, as observer for the CIO Housing Committee, officially represented trade union organizations. This is the most significant fact of the congress. The absence of trade unionists resulted in the congress' failure to consider adequately the problems of that vast low-income group whose housing needs are most urgent. Instead the delegates treated the questions from a narrow and technical viewpoint.

COULDN'T DENY FACTS

Despite the theoretical level of the reports and discussion, the congress could not conceal a number of important and ugly facts. The delegates could not deny the miserable housing conditions of agricultural workers.

They could not deny the precarious economic position of old people no longer able to work, a position which presents them with the prospect either of becoming an added burden upon relations or inmates of an institution or poorhouse. Yet the Italian reporter was able to conclude that there was no problem at all.

The reports of the countries, represented at the congress revealed no comprehensive program effectively designed to meet the housing needs of low-income groups. Some slight measures have been taken to better the living conditions of agricultural workers in a few countries.

The reports did not go beyond suggesting glorified poor-houses as the way out for the aged. None suggested that increasing social security and pension benefits might be the basis for a satisfactory solution.

No country at the conference indicated any extensive provisions for single workers in their current housing programs. More attention, however, was given to the housing problems of people with large families.

PICK LOS ANGELES

The next international congress on housing and town planning has been set for Los Angeles.

If American labor wants better housing at rents within reach of the ordinary worker's income, trade unions and other labor organizations can utilize this opportunity to transform an international organization used now primarily as a forum for theoretical discussion into a practical means for bringing action.

Stool-Pigeon Parade Attacks Bridges

By MIRIAM ALLEN DEFORD

SAN FRANCISCO, July 29.—The dreary procession of ex-Communists and undercover men continues as the Harry Bridge deportation hearing enters its third week at the tiny government building on Angel Island in San Francisco harbor.

The prosecution expects to finish its case within the next few days, at which time the hearing will be moved to the mainland and thrown open to the public. Defense counsel expect to take about four weeks to present their case.

The testimony of the second week's witnesses may be summarized as follows:

1. William Howard of Portland, former Marine Firemen union official: "A dozen or fifteen people told me Bridges was a Communist."

2. Joseph W. Marcus, employed during 1934 at a night club and bar run by the father of Arthur Scott, alias Kent, alias Margolis, a confessed burglar who was pardoned by ex-Gov. Merriam for his services to the Dies Committee.

IDENTIFIES WRONG MAN

Marcus' testimony was centered in an assertion that during the 1934 longshore strike here, Communist party headquarters were located in the same building as the union office. Marcus' value as a witness tumbled when he identified Dean James Landis of Harvard Law School—the trial examiner at the hearing—as Bridges.

3. Theodore Stark of Bellingham, Wash., a former Communist who did not know Bridges.

4. M. R. Bacon, member of the Portland, Ore., red squad and a former undercover man in the Communist party, called as an "expert" witness on Communism.

Dean Landis has ruled that in a deportation hearing, testimony bearing on the reputation of the accused may be granted greater credence that would hear-say testimony in a court trial. Inasmuch as not one of the government witnesses has been able to give proof of Bridges' membership in the Communist party, this is considered a vital legal point.

Wages Up 60% In CIO Pact

EL PASO, Tex., July 29—Wage increases ranging up to 60% were won by the CIO for striking Mexican bakers, Maurice Dineen, CIO field representative, announced.

Four large firms came to agreement with the CIO on the wage rates, at the same time consenting to a marked reduction in hours. Six smaller firms which have refused to deal with the union face possible Labor Board action.

Senate Group OKs Anti-Spy Bill

Aimed At Foes Of Labor

Washington, July 29.—Designed to put a Federal damper on labor spies, professional finks, scab herders, private industrial armies and arsenals, and other vicious anti-labor weapons, the LaFollette-Thomas Oppressive Labor Practices Bill (S. 1970) was reported to the Senate this week by the Committee on Education and Labor.

The bill, based on almost three years of investigations by the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee, has received the unanimous support of labor throughout the country. Pres. Lewis, testifying at earlier hearings, said:

"In passing this bill, our government will take a long step toward securing not only the right of workers to organize in trade unions, but will secure its own future and its own safety as well. The forces with which this bill will deal are not only the enemies of labor organization. They are enemies of democracy and of all government that is not dedicated to their profit alone."

OBJECTIVES

In its report this week, the Senate Labor Committee, headed by Sen. Thomas of Utah, declared "the bill will give vitality to the rights of free speech and assembly guaranteed by the Constitution, which have been denied by private spy systems and by private force."

The report also cited unanimous support by all labor and progressive groups, and remarked: "The committee conducting the investigation under S. Res. 266 (The LaFollette Committee) reported that throughout the entire course of its investigation not a single witness was found who presented a reasoned justification for the use of labor spies, machine guns, professional strike-breakers, or for the employment of armed men away from company property.

"Similarly, the hearings on the bill itself produced not a single witness to defend the practices against which the bill is directed."

The Senate Labor Committee further pointed out that the constitutionality of the bill has been carefully checked by Attorney-General Murphy, who gave it a clean legal bill for passage. According to the Committee report, it will outlaw; 1. labor spies; 2. strikebreakers and strikebreaking agencies; 3. armed private police off company property; and 4. industrial munitions, machine guns, sawed-off shotguns, and bombs containing chemical gases.

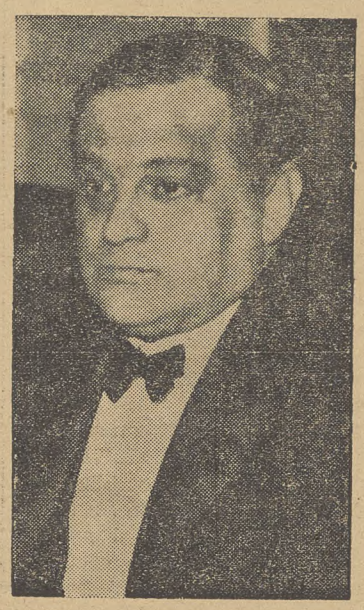
Protest WPA Cuts

Protests against provision of the Tory 1940 WPA bill continue to grow throughout the nation.

At left: Sen. James Murray of Montana, who has introduced new amendments to end the lay-off of workers who have been on the WPA rolls for 18 months or more.

At right: Mayor LaGuardia of New York, who warned that the entire WPA program will collapse unless Congress votes additional funds and corrects abuses in the present law.

Below: New York teachers meet for a mass demonstration.



Lewis On Radio Labor Day

Washington, July 29. — All CIO affiliates are urged to make local arrangements to hear Pres. Lewis' Labor Day speech, Monday, Sept. 4, on the Blue Network of the Natl. Broadcasting Co.

Suggestions for arranging meetings with loudspeakers, for calling CIO groups together to hear the address, and for inquiring whether local stations of the NBC chain will carry it, are included in a circular letter sent to all affiliates this week.

Below is a list of stations available for Pres. Lewis' address, at 4 to 4:30 P. M., EST, Monday, Sept. 4. The list is complete to July 5, and others may be added later. Those interested in hearing the address should inquire of the station listed below which is nearest to them to see whether it will carry it.

WJZ, New York; WBZ, Boston, Mass.; WEAN, Providence, R. I.; WFIL, Philadelphia; WMAL, Washington, D. C.; WHAM, Rochester, N. Y.; KDKA, Pittsburgh; WXYZ, Detroit; WENR, Chicago; WMT, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; KSO, Des Moines, Iowa; WRTD, Richmond, Va.; WMFF, Plattsburg, N. Y.; WLEU, Erie, Pa.; WIBM, Jackson, Mich.; WFDF, Flint, Mich.; KMA, Shenandoah, Iowa.

WLBZ, Bangor, Me.; WFEA, Manchester, N. H.; WEEU, Reading, Pa.; WBZA, Springfield, Mass.; WICC, Bridgeport, Conn.; WBAL, Baltimore; WSYR, Syracuse; WEBR, Buffalo; WHK, Cleveland; WOWO, Ft. Wayne, Ind.; KWK, St. Louis, Mo.; WTCN, Minneapolis, St. Paul; WREN, Kansas City; WNBC, New Britain, Conn.; WJTN, Jamestown, N. Y.; WJIM, Lansing, Mich.; WELL, Battle Creek, Mich.

WBCM, Bay City, Mich.; WCKY, Covington, Ky.; WRDO, Augusta, Me.; WBRE, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; WSAN, Allentown, Pa.; WGAL, Lancaster, Pa.; WTAR, Norfolk, Va.; WOOD, Grand Rapids, Mich.; WEBC, Duluth, Minn.; KROC, Rochester, Minn.; KSOO, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.; WPTF, Raleigh, N. C.; WFBC, Greenville, S. C.; WCSC, Charleston, S. C.; WFLA, Tampa, Fla.

WIOD, Miami, Fla.; WSM, Nashville, Tenn.; WSGN, Birmingham, Ala.; WDSU, New Orleans, La.; WALA, Mobile, Ala; WROL, Knoxville, Tenn.; KTHS, Hot Springs, Ark.; KGKO, Fort Worth, Tex.; KFDM, Beaumont, Tex.; KRGV, Weslaco, Tex.; KLO, Ogden, Utah; KIDO, Boise, Idaho; KGHL, Billings, Mont.; KSEI, Pocatello, Idaho; KGHF, Pueblo, Colo.; KTSM, El Paso, Tex.

KECA, Los Angeles; KFSD, San Diego, Calif.; KGA, Spokane, Wash.; KFBK, Sacramento; KERN, Bakersfield, Calif.; KTAR, Phoenix, Ariz.; CBL, Toronto, Canada; WORK, York, Pa.; WKBO, Harrisburg, Pa.; WCOL, Columbus, Ohio; WIBA, Madison, Wisc.; KYSM, Mankayto, Minn.; KFAM, St. Cloud, Minn.; KANS, Wichita, Kans.

WSOC, Charlotte, N. C.; WIS, Columbia, S. C.; WJAX, Jacksonville, Fla.; WLAK, Lakeland, Fla.; WAVE, Louisville, Ky.; WMPS, Memphis, Tenn.; WAGA, Atlanta, Ga.; WJBO, Baton Rouge, La.; WCOA, Pensacola, Fla.; WAPO, Chattanooga, Tenn.

KTOK, Oklahoma City, Okla.; KXYZ, Houston, Tex.; KRIS, Corpus Christi, Tex.; KVOD, Denver, Colo.; KUTA, Salt Lake City, Utah; KGIR, West of Butte, Mont.; KPFA, Helena, Mont.; KTFI, Twin Falls, Idaho; KOB, Albuquerque, N. M.; KGO, San Fran[illegible]

KTMS, Santa Barbara, Calif.; KJR, Seattle, Wash.; KEX, Portland, Ore.; KWG, Stockton, Calif.; KVOA, Tucson, Ariz.; KMED, Medford, Ore.; CFCF, Montreal, Canada.

Six CIO Unions Meet During September

By HOLLACE RANSDELL

WASHINGTON, July 31.—Six important CIO national unions and two state CIO Councils hold conventions during the month of September.

On September 4, the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, will hold its fifth convention in Springfield, Mass. The union, which has a membership of nearly 158,000, was formed in 1935.

The Industrial Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers, with a membership of more than 24,500, will open its convention in Jersey City, N. J., September 8. On September 11 the United Rubber Workers will meet in LaCrosse, Wis., and the International Oil Workers will convene in Hammond, Ind., on the same day.

Another of the larger CIO national unions, the Transport Workers Union of America, with a membership of more than 90,000, will open in Atlantic City, September 13.

The Washington State Industrial Union Council will hold its second convention in Tacoma, September 16, and the Ohio Council will meet in Columbus, on the 29th.

HOSIERY WORKERS

In addition, the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, a division of the Textile Workers Union of America, will meet in New York City beginning September 18. The convention at which the TWUA was formed by a merger of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee and the United Textile Workers, was held in Philadelphia last May.

On September 27, the State, County and Municipal Workers will hold its national convention in New York City. It has a membership of more than 52,000.

Ask Passage Of Mine Safety Bill

Washington, July 29—Death of 28 Kentucky coal miners in a disaster this week prompted Pres. John L. Lewis to send a letter to all Congressmen and Senators urging immediate passage of bills S. 2420 and H. R. 6532, which set up Federal standards of mine safety regulations.

"Last week 28 coal miners died like rats in a hole," Lewis wrote. "The loss of these lives was preventable, and the accumulation of explosive quantities of gas and dust was contrary to law. Inadequate and criminally negligent mine inspection permitted this financially irresponsible coal company to operate without regard to the safety of the lives of its employes.

"As a result, 28 lives were lost, and the wives and children of these men become dependent on public charity. The same hazard of eminent disaster hangs over hundreds of other coal mines."

HUMANITARIAN GESTURE

Lewis appealed for quick passage of the two mine inspection bills, saying they "can be passed within a few days if each member of Congress will only resolve to take a few minutes' time to exercise his personal influence."

Carpenters Fight AFL Split Attempts in Canada

Victoria, B. C., July 29 — The local union of the AFL United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners unanimously rejected orders from its general executive board to support the expulsion of CIO unions from the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. Instead the local voted in favor of unity in Canada's largest trade union center.

The union's move was warmly acclaimed by the Victoria Trades and Labor Council which endorsed the unity resolution.

Many other AFL union locals are expected to follow the same course with orders from their executive boards. The sentiment here is predominantly for unity.

Delegates are being named to the 55th annual convention of the Trades and Labor Congress meeting in London, Ontario, Sept. 18 who will vote to reinstate CIO unions in the congress. They were suspended last January on the demand of the AFL executive council.

Quarry Union Files Charges In Hawaii

Honolulu, T. H., July 29—Charges of anti-union attacks by the Ready-Mix Cement Co., and a petition for certification as sole bargaining representative have been filed by the CIO Quarry Workers Union with the National Labor Relations Board.

The union accuses the company, notorious for its low wages and long hours, of using foremen and stooges to intimidate the workers against belonging to the CIO. A petition in favor of a company union was circulated on company property during working hours, the union charges.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 32 20 AUGUST 7, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

HOUSE REACTIONARIES PUSH ANTI-LABOR WAR

The News In Brief

Wagner Act

Washington. — Three CIO international presidents, four industrial union council officials and Lee Pressman, general counsel, took the stand at Senate Labor Committee hearings this week to protest against adoption of proposed amendments to the Wagner Act.

80,000 Vote

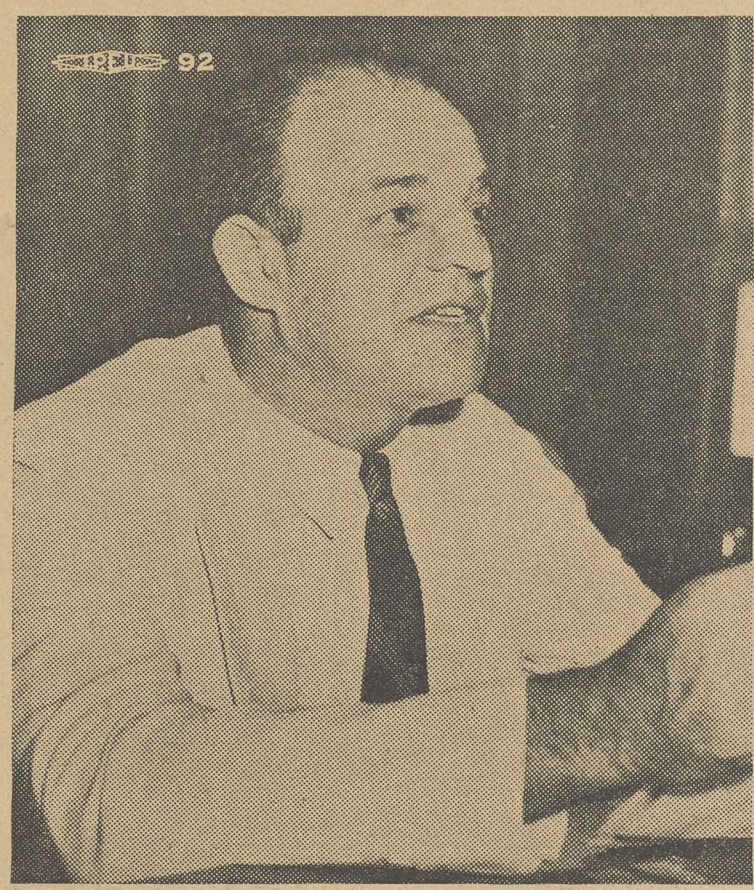
Washington. — Eighty thousand auto workers, employed by Chrysler, Briggs and Motor Products, will soon take part in National Labor Relations Board elections which are expected to place the CIO United Automobile Workers strongest position in its history.

Guild

San Francisco. — Delegates to the sixth annual convention of the American Newspaper Guild here received praise from union and public officials for gains made in recent years.

Garner

Washington—John L. Lewis' attack on Vice-Pres. Garner and his Tory cohorts won criticism from the business-controlled press and praise from the people, observers here declared after watching reactions to the CIO leader's sensational statement.



THE CIO IN ACTION: Above: Women take to the picket line in the United Automobile Workers strike at Cleveland, Ohio, following brutal police attacks on tool and die strikers at the General Motors Fisher Body plant there. Morale remained high despite serious injuries suffered by 56 workers during the tear-gas barrage.

At right: Pres. Joseph Curran of the National Maritime Union tells the Senate Labor Committee that amendments to the Wagner Act will bring instability and discord to labor relations on the nation's waterfronts.

Lewis's Charges Proved

(See Story Page Three)

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—Congress moved towards adjournment today with the House Tory bloc engaged in open warfare against all labor and progressive legislation.

Making no effort to hide its reactionary attack, the bloc composed of anti-New Deal Democrats and gloating Republicans in rapid fashion turned down the President's lend-spend bill and extension of lending facilities for the government slum clearance program, passed a vicious anti-alien bill, appropriated $50,000 for a smear "investigation" of the National Labor Relations Board, and seemed bent on refusing to amend the worst sections of the Woodrum WPA bill.

A move to cripple the wage-hour administration by denying it funds to operate more than a skeleton staff was halted, for the time being at least, by popular pressure mobilized by the United Shoe Workers of America.

Fallen by the wayside were such measures as the Wagner Health Bill, which had the support of the administration and labor; and the Wagner Child Refugee Bill, to permit entrance of 20,000 children from Germany during the next two years.

The Senate Civil Liberties Committee looked forward to another year of life, however, as the Senate Audit and Control Committee approved an allotment of $50,000 to carry on the work of investigating the Associated Farmers outfit on the west coast.

W. Virginia Mine Signs With Union

Charleston, W. Va., Aug. 5.—A contract covering 2000 miners of the Kingston-Pocahontas Coal Co., has been signed by the United Mine Workers. The McKell Coal & Coke Co., is now the only major West Virginia coal mining firm not yet under union agreement.

Labor groups through the state attacked Governor Holt for what they termed was his strike-breaking attempts to get the miners to desert their union if necessary and go back to work before they got a signed contract.

Before the signing of the contract the Governor had written a letter to the miners advising them to return to work and informing them that he would not permit them to be placed on the relief rolls.

Clothing Union — Industry Plan Lifts Wages 10%, Eliminates Chiselling

NEW YORK, Aug. 5.—Eight thousand workers in the men's clothing industry in the East have won wage increases totalling $500,000 a year as a result of the union's stabilization program, Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, announced today.

The "chiseling five per cent" in the men's clothing industry, which is 95% organized, were brought into line, Hillman said, under the stabilization program. Leading manufacturers loaned their technical experts as "dollar-a-year men" to aid the plan, which has resulted in five and ten per cent increases in piece-rates for underpaid workers in New York City, Philadelphia, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Initiated by Hillman and the Amalgamated's General Executive Board, the stabilization program was planned to eliminate cut-throat competition at the expense of labor between both markets and manufacturers, as well as between contractors working for the same manufacturer.

Enforcement of the program on a national scale, Hillman said, has eliminated temptations to favor, exempt or give special consideration to individual firms which result in tearing down the general wage structure.

The stabilization commission made up of both union and management experts, determines the piece rates for every operation in grades I and II, the cheaper lines of clothing where "chiseling" was possible. Hillman has made himself personally responsible for the enforcement of these rates on a national scale.

Packinghouse Workers Win Two Polls

Chicago, Aug. 5.—The Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee today rang up two major victories in its drive to unionize the industry's "Big Four" packers.

At Armour's meat processing plant on 31st Street here, the PWOC scored an easy Labor Board victory, getting 660 votes to only 148 against the union, according to S. Dorfman, regional NLRB director here.

Meanwhile, the PWOC scored an overwhelming NLRB victory at the Cudahy plant in Denver, Colo., trouncing an independent union by a 142-16 score.

Steel Union Plans Drive On Bethlehem

By VIN SWEENEY

CHICAGO, Aug. 5. — The "Little Steel" segment of the steel industry, and Bethlehem Steel Corporation in particular, will be the chief target of a renewed drive which was planned and launched by a conference of sub-district directors of the CIO's Steel Workers Organizing Committee held here recently.

Determination to push the organizing drive at Bethlehem mills came after a sweeping denunciation of that company's labor policies by Philip Murray, SWOC chairman, who presided over the sessions.

"The SWOC and labor generally must realize that Bethlehem Steel is the most forthright enemy of labor unions in America," he declared. "The largest independent steel manufacturing firm in the country, it has, since the passage of the National Labor Relations Act, steadfastly violated that law."

"It continues its acts of intimidation, coercion and discrimination. It maintains, up to the present moment in violation of the Act, the largest single company union in the United States.

'MILITANT CAMPAIGN'

"We shall proceed with an aggressive, militant campaign of organization at each of the properties of the Bethlehem Steel Corp. until bona fide unionization is recognized and accepted," he told the directors.

Mr. Murray reviewed the history of the Bethlehem situation since the birth of the SWOC, pointing out that charges of unfair labor practices were filed with the Labor Board 18 months ago.

The hearings were concluded about seven months ago, and the steel workers of the nation "have been waiting a decision from the Labor Board since the hearings closed," Mr. Murray said.

Taking a definite stand to push the Bethlehem drive, the SWOC leaders unanimously adopted a resolution declaring:

"The international officers of the SWOC shall institute a tremendous and vigorous organizing drive at the properties of the Bethlehem Steel Corp., and they shall be unrelenting in the determination until the benefits of unionism are extended to all eligible employes of that company."

DISCUSS PROBLEMS

While the status of the steel union in Bethlehem mills, Republic Steel Corp., Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co., and Inland Steel Co., was the primary consideration of the conference, methods of settling grievances, conducting local lodge affairs and collecting dues were compared and analyzed by the directors.

Some 70 directors, representing every steel center in the United States and Canada, offered reports, the tenor of which emphasized the tremendous strides made by the steel union even in the face of a business depression which struck the steel industry with particular viciousness.

The reports shattered any doubt as to the future of the SWOC, and Chairman Murray was quick to predict that the steel union is on the way to becoming one of the most powerful industrial unions in the world.

LAUD OFFICERS

Also attending the conference were the president and two vice-presidents of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers. They included J. Frank Bennett, president, and Joseph Gaither and Ward Walcott, vice-presidents. Mr. Walcott is currently directing affairs of the SWOC in Portsmouth, O.

A resolution was unanimously adopted commending national officers, including Philip Murray, chairman; David J. McDonald, secretary-treasurer; Van A. Bittner, midwestern director; Clinton S. Golden, northeastern director; William Mitch, southern director, and Silby Barrett, Canadian director.

Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, sat in on all sessions. He came before the conference with a complete report on legal aspects of the steel union dealing in detail with major Labor Board cases involving the SWOC.

Came the Dawn!

New York, Aug. 5. — A half dozen persons who placed their faith in big business had a rude awakening today.

They appeared in a city court with a demand that the Executives League of America, Inc., be forced to turn over $900 in back pay. The League platform demands that the "rights of industry be respected and that taxes be reduced."

Though it has received plenty of money from anti-New Deal businessmen, the League allowed its office conditions to reach the point where a girl clerk fainted from hunger and another had to pawn her coat to get money for electric bills. Counsel for the outfit tried to argue that the employes, being white collar workers, had no redress under the law!

Seamen Vote On Changes In Constitution

NEW YORK, Aug. 5.—A referendum on the new constitution for the National Maritime Union, CIO, drawn up at the recent national convention in New Orleans, is being held among the 58,000 seamen and inland boatmen who belong to the NMU.

Union agents in each of the 18 major Atlantic and Gulf ports have been provided with printed, numbered ballots which they will take aboard as ships enter their ports. Voting will take place on shipboard. As the ballots are marked they will be placed in sealed envelopes and turned over to the agent who will mail them to union headquarters in New York.

The referendum will continue until September 30, at which time the ballots will be opened and counted by a committee at headquarters. If accepted, the new constitution will go into effect January 1, 1940.

ELIMINATE DIVISIONS

Principal changes made in the proposed constitution include elimination of craft and district divisions to centralize membership control, and increase in dues from $1 to $2 a month, with no other assessments permitted.

Instead of the present council of nine national and district officers and the district committee of nine members, the new constitution proposes a National Council composed of the national president, secretary and treasurer, three field organizers, and 20 port agents, three of whom are to be in New York.

Transit Showdown Near in Buffalo

BUFFALO, N. Y., Aug. 5.—This city of 500,000 tensely awaited today the outcome—due soon—of the struggle of the city's transit workers for the right to genuine collective bargaining.

A strike of all trolley and bus employes which would completely shut down all public transportation facilities, ordered by the CIO Transport Workers Union for August 1, was temporarily averted with the issuance of an order by Supreme Court Justice George A. Larkin restraining the International Railways Company from putting into effect a "closed shop contract" it had entered into with the Frontier Bus and Street Car Employes Union, a company union outfit.

On the same day — July 31 — Justice Pierce Russell denied the application of the IRC (company) for an injunction against an order by the State Labor Relations Board that an election be held to determine the proper collective bargaining representative for the company's employes.

ORDERED POLL

On August 2, the State Labor Board ordered the election to proceed within 15 days, but IRC lawyers on August 3 were again in court seeking to upset Justice Larkin's decision.

The IRC, having a monopoly on all public transit facilities in New York State's second largest city, for years has controlled the political destinies of this upstate region.

Its union-busting record ranks amongst the most notorious, having prior to the Wagner Act conducted employe relations under the infamous Mitten (Company Union) Plan. When the national and state labor laws outlawed company unions, the Mitten Plan was diverted into the Frontier Bus and Street Car Employes Union. The latter subsequently also was outlawed by the State Labor Board, but this ruling was upset by the courts.

UNION MET RESISTANCE

The drive for genuine collective bargaining was undertaken by the Transport Workers Union in Buffalo about two years ago. Many firings and beatings of union men occurred during the initial stages of the drive and on several occasions street riots were provoked by company stooges attacking TWU shop gate meetings.

Steel, Coal Unions Seek Joint Pact

Sydney, N. S., Aug. 5. — Officials of the Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation have been asked jointly by executives of the United Mine Workers Union and the Steel Workers Organizing Committee to begin negotiations for a contract for employes in the company's steel plants.

Organized employes in the mining and steel industry here are seeking a wage raise which they claim is justified in view of the current upturn in business. They are determined there will be no stalling on the part of the corporation.

Win 100-Day Strike at Singer

South Bend, Ind., Aug. 5—A 100-day strike against the Singer Company here was brought to a successful conclusion when the firm signed an agreement with Local 917, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, CIO, promising not to cut wages and not to discriminate against union members.

The company previously had demanded a wage cut as the price of a signed contract.

Canadian Steel Workers To Hear Murray Sept. 4

Hamilton, Ont., Aug. 5.—Philip Murray, chairman of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee and vice-president of the CIO, will be the featured speaker at the Labor Day celebration in this steel center of the dominion.

The local Labor Day committee is rapidly completing preparations for a gala affair in which thousands of unionists and citizens are expected to attend. The fete is under auspices of the Hamilton District Trades and Labor Council.

CANADIAN 'PITTSBURGH'

"It is particularly appropriate that Mr. Murray's first visit to Canada should be to the 'Pittsburgh' of the dominion," said Silby Barrett, Canadian regional director of SWOC. "Local steel workers are looking forward to this Labor Day as the 'red letter' day of unionism in the Canadian steel industry, particularly in Hamilton."

Mr. Murray's visit will add impetus to the efforts of the employes of the Steel Company of Canada to abolish the company union existing in the firm's plants and establish a powerful union of the SWOC.

Map Little Steel Drive

Leaders of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, shown during the district directors' conference at Chicago where they mapped plans to complete organization on Bethlehem, Republic, Youngstown and Inland Steel Cos. Chairman Philip Murray (center) is flanked by Sec.-Treas. David MacDonald (left) and Van A. Bittner, midwest regional director (right). Standing, left to right, are Lee Pressman, general counsel; Clinton Golden, northeast regional director, and William Mitch, southern regional director.

Reach Agreement In GM Strike; AFL Scab Plot Fails

DETROIT, Aug. 4.—Leaders of the CIO United Automobile Workers and General Motors announced they had reached an agreement to end the 12-plant strike of tool and die makers, thereby balking AFL leaders' scab plots.

A conference of AFL building trades national officers held here last weekend had ordered their workers to go through CIO picket lines at General Motors.

Local AFL officials refused to enter the maneuver.

"Our members are not going through the picket lines," said F. P. Tise, business agent for the AFL pattern makers. "We have no brief for the CIO, but as a matter of principle we won't break strikes."

A spokesman for the AFL teamsters union said "we don't wish to get pushed around" in attempting to cross the picket lines.

COPS ESCORT SCABS

A disturbance broke out at the machine and die unit of Fisher Body here when police escorted 35 scabs through the picket lines. Tear-gas was used against the strikers, as a result of which one man required hospital treatment.

Pres. R. J. Thomas attributed the violence here and in Cleveland, Ohio, to stalling on the part of General Motors.

"The company has failed to budge the strikers by three weeks of stalling at the conference table," the UAW-CIO leader declared.

"Its backstairs deal with AFL leaders has also failed to make a dent in the picket lines.

"Now the company is attempting to bring the police and the courts into play. GM's use of brute force to intimidate the workers is having the reverse effect."

ATTACK 5,000

The tear gas attack on 5,000 pickets at Cleveland followed efforts of strike breakers to go through a picket line composed of Fisher Body employes, their wives and children. At six a.m. Monday the workers attempted

Continued on Page Five

House Tories Slaughter Progressive Bills

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—Acting as if determined to prove to the nation that John L. Lewis' sensational anti-Garnerite blast last week was correct in every detail, House Tories used the axe on each piece of progressive legislation which ground through the Congressional hopper as the session neared adjournment today.

Breaking squarely with the New Deal, a large number of conservative Democrats made common cause with the minority Republican bloc and defeated a half-dozen administration bills.

At the same time, however, a few bright spots shone through the haze of reaction over the Capitol.

The Senate Audit and Control Committee, after months of stalling, reported favorably on a resolution to provide the La-Follette Civil Liberties Committee with $50,000 to continue its investigation of Associated Farmers on the West Coast. Though only half the amount requested, the sum, if approved — as it probably will be — by the Senate, will be sufficient to conduct the much-needed probe. Other favorable developments:

Wagner Act amendments: Out of the picture for the time being. CIO witnesses are winding up their testimony before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor. The House Labor Committee has finished hearings, but will make no report for several months.

Oppressive Labor Practices Act: The LaFollette - Thomas anti-labor spy bill has received a favorable report from the Senate Labor Committee and will be in a good position on the calendar when Congress convenes next year.

GET THE AXE

Compared to this list, however, the damage caused by the House Tory bloc is tremendous.

Lend-spend bill: Killed by the House, which refused even to give it a spot on the calendar.

National Labor Relations Board: To be investigated by a committee—members of whom are still un-named — with $50,000 at its disposal for what may become a giant smear campaign.

POSTPONE LAY-OFFS

WPA: Amendments offered by Sen. Murray of Montana and Sen. McCarran of Nevada to restore the prevailing wage clause and end the 18-month layoff provision were temporarily scuttled when the lend-spend bill met its doom in the House. The amendments were immediately inserted in the deficiency bill, and still have an outside chance to get passed.

WPA Commissioner Harrington has instructed regional officials to make no layoffs under the 18-month clause until final action has been taken by Congress.

Housing: Provision for extension of U. S. Housing Authority's lending capacity by $800,000,000 was killed in the House of Representatives.

Wage-Hour: House Garnerites were fighting desperately to bring the crippling Barden amendments on the floor for a debate, with New Dealers led by the House Labor Committee opposing the move. The Senate has taken no action on wage-hour amendments.

SHOE UNION ACTIVE

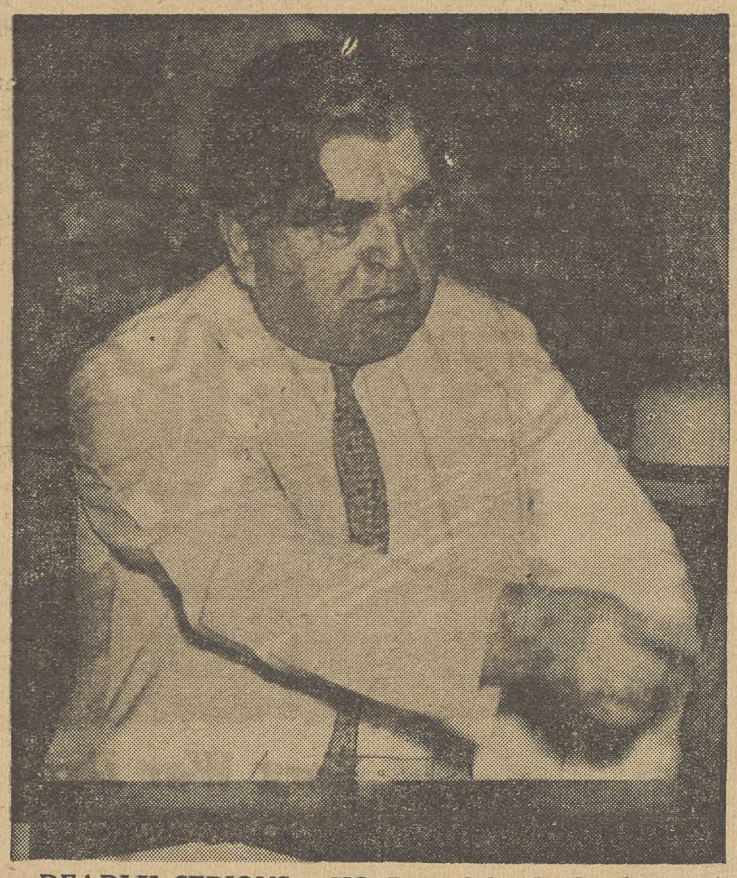
A back-handed effort to make the widely-flouted wage-hour law still more ineffective was defeated when the House defeated a move to kill a request for $2,000,000 to administer the law. The sum was sliced from the deficiency bill, but later $1,000,000 was re-inserted after leaders of the CIO United Shoe Workers spoke to dozens of Congressmen.

Closeted with representatives of industry and the public in a wage-hour shoe industry committee meeting when the $2,000,000 appropriation was defeated, the USWA members led the entire committee to the Capitol to buttonhole legislators. Thanks to their action, the wage-hour administration was saved from complete collapse.

Anti-alien legislation: The Smith bill, a collection of the worse parts of a dozen bills that were filed during the session, passed the House. No action has been taken on it in the Senate.

Social Security: Amendments to the Social Security Act, some of them endorsed by the CIO, were tied up in Senate-House conference committee. CIO leaders supported some of the proposed changes, though pointing out that no adequate provision for old age pensions for improving unemployment compensation had been made.

Wagner Health Bill: Still in Senate committee.



DEADLY SERIOUS: CIO Pres. John L. Lewis was in grim earnest as he denounced Vice-Pres. John N. Garner and other members of the Congressional reactionary bloc at the wage-hour hearings called by the House Labor Committee last week. His speech won nationwide applause of workers and progressives.

Letters, Wires Praise Lewis For Speech

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5. — Hundreds of letters and wires were received by CIO President John L. Lewis, applauding his exposure of the anti-labor intrigue in Congress organized by Vice-President Garner.

The letters came from AFL as well as CIO members, from professional and business people as well as workers, and from every part of the country. Many of them expressed the opinion that a body-blow had been struck at Garner's presidential aspirations.

Following are a few typical excerpts from these communications:

"While some people in Washington knew about the skulduggeries of the Garner gang, it took your forthright statement to bring this knowledge to the country as a whole.

"I know that you will not be in the least perturbed by the current reactionary propaganda to the effect that your remarks will prove a boomerang. After all, the function of the boomerang is to hit the mark at which it is aimed. You mowed down that shining mark with masterly aim."

"Those who know, think you have a pretty good concept of the Texan, grown rich through governmental service — once poor but now being groomed for the presidency by the tory element, who are turning heaven and earth through the subsidized press, now absolutely controlled by wealth and corruption, and every other available avenue to defeat decency and consideration for the middle and lower classes."

"As an old labor man with some 36 years membership in the AFL, I am writing to congratulate you for your open and aboveboard estimate of our (un)-worthy Vice President."

"Congratulations to you for your very courageous, sincere and to-the-point remarks, placing the blame on the man who is steadily blocking all labor legislation. I have been hoping for a long time someone would say just what you did. You have the thanks of multitudes." (From a teacher).

"Congratulations . . . Hope you tell the truth about some more of them. Trouble has been too much soft-pedaling and back-scratching, with fellows like Cactus Jack pretending to be friends of labor at elections and double-crossing after they get in — and keeping it up for years." (From a member of a state legislature.)

"It matters not what any of the 'renegade' Democrats say, your statement coincides with what many Americans have long been aware of, that we have entirely too many of what might be called the selfish, gambler-drinker-eater-seller-outer type of statesman in Congress — too many private watchmen for big Republican interests are riding into public office on the Democratic bandwagon, instead of servants of the general public."

"If telling the TRUTH is a mistake — then John L. Lewis made a mistake!"

"A poor, lone old woman . . . I find myself in imagination clasping the hand of the workingman's friend, and with genuine tears of gratitude in my dim old eyes, trying to tell you how proud I am of ONE man who has the courage and

Continued on page six

Shoe Pay Group OKs 35c Wage

Washington, Aug. 5—By unanimous vote, the shoe industry committee today recommended to Wage-Hour Administrator Elmer F. Andrews a minimum wage of 35c an hour.

The committee of 27 members had been studying industry conditions for several months and has taken testimony from representatives of shoe workers and employers.

Leaders of the United Shoe Workers of America, CIO affiliate, who were represented on the committee by several delegates, expressed a belief that the proposed wage, if and when it is finally accepted, will go far to rid the shoe industry of the curse of starvation wages and runaway shops.

As a result of this set-up, the industry has become almost demoralized, and setting of a floor for wages will help to stabilize conditions.

The USWA was represented on the committee by Powers Hapgood, national director; Mae Young, Henry Schwarzott and C. Frank Farrell, all international board members.

Adjourn Hearings To January 15

Chairman Thomas of the Senate Education and Labor Committee announced today that hearings on the Wagner Act would be recessed until January 15, when CIO Pres. John L. Lewis and Vice-Pres. Philip Murray will be given an opportunity to testify.

CIO Leaders To Speak On Radio

Washington, Aug. 5. — The U. S. Department of Labor announced today the launching of a new radio program—"America Unlimited"—on which leaders of the nation's workers will discuss current problems.

The series will be heard over the National Broadcasting Co.'s red network on a coast-to-coast hook-up.

CIO Vice-Pres. Philip Murray is scheduled to speak on the program Aug. 11 at 9:30 P. M. Eastern Standard Time, Vice-Pres. Sidney Hillman on Aug. 25 and Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, on Sept. 8.

Murray will discuss collective bargaining in the steel industry and technological unemployment, while Hillman will review the progress of collective bargaining in the men's clothing industry.

William Green, Daniel Tobin and Matthew Woll of the AFL will be other speakers on the series of broadcasts.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C

Vol. II August 7, 1939 No. 32

Enemies of the People

The Republican-Garnercratic camarilla, which usurped power in Congress through a parliamentary intrigue, in defiance of the will of the voters, has dealt one blow after another to the interests of labor, the farmers, the unemployed and the whole American people.

After bringing hunger and misery to the doors of a million American homes, by its slashing of the WPA program, it has mowed down with machine-gun precision nearly every measure advanced for the relief of farmers and workers and for the promotion of business recovery. The refusal even to vote on the Housing Authority Expansion Bill, to mention but one example, shows the arrogant contempt of the Garnercrats and their Republican allies for the demands of the common people. Low-cost housing and slum clearance are a crying need for millions of Americans besides furnishing a much-needed stimulus to business generally.

But the Tory usurpers of Congressional power have turned thumbs down on this and every other constructive measure proposed by the administration which the voters thought they had placed in power.

Only the strenuous opposition of the CIO and the other progressive forces to which it has given a lead, has prevented Garner and his motley crew of renegade Democrats and Republicans from destroying the Wagner Labor Relations Act and the Wage-Hour Law by crippling amendments.

The exposure by John L. Lewis of the real character of the Tory intrigue against the American people aided in saving the Wage-Hour Law and preventing some of the other worst excesses. But it has done more than that. It has pointed out clearly to all of the millions who will suffer in coming months from what the Tories in Congress have done to them, just who are responsible for what has happened.

Labor and the rest of the common people now know who their enemies are, and they will not forget them in the next elections.

No Friend of Labor

The Texans know where John Nance Garner stands on labor.

When John L. Lewis exposed Garner's part in organizing the anti-labor bloc in Congress, he was commended by all sections of Texas labor.

"Texas labor is completely anti-Garner — we will back Lewis in this," said Pres. A. S. McBride of the state AFL.

"All Texas CIO members were already anti-Garner," said Secretary P. F. Kennedy of the state CIO council.

Even the Texas Congressmen who felt impelled to adopt a resolution in defense of Garner would not go so far as to describe him as a friend of labor.

A news release on their resolution in which Garner was described as a friend of labor, was hurriedly withdrawn after it had posted in the House press gallery and before the statement was made to the House.

Within half an hour a revised copy was back, identical with the original release except that the reference to Garner as a friend of labor was deleted.

Canadian Labor Protests

The Toronto District Trades and Labor Council, representing some 40,000 union members, has passed a resolution in which it "deplores the action of the Executive of the American Federation of Labor in prevailing upon the officers of the Trades and Labor Congress to arbitrarily violate the wishes of its membership by suspending the CIO unions last January."

Having seen the arbitrary fashion in which the AFL leaders split the United States labor movement by suspending the CIO unions some years ago, Canadian unionists have long been fighting to preserve unity without impairment of the rights of CIO industrial organization.

Now that the AFL splitters are going about their dirty work of division in Canada, they are arousing a storm of protest from all honest unionists, and their responsibility for such division as may ensue has been established beyond all question.

Tory War Dance

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

A Revealing Incident

WHEN a log that has been lying on the ground for a long time is turned over all manner of bugs and other insect life are exposed to the sunlight.

As they scurry for cover in all directions, they denounce the man who exposed them. He is ungentlemanly, crude, a dictator, the insect equivalent of a Communist, and the wiseacres insist he has made a grave political error.

The liberals of the insect world, however, concede that perhaps there is some merit in exposure to sunlight. But, say they, why did he have to turn over the log so forcefully? Would it not have been better if he had praised the benefits of sunlight in polite and well-qualified words, and then left it to nature to effect the turning over of the log in due time and with perfect propriety?

But if we go outside the insect world, we find there are a lot of plain human beings who think that the best way to turn over a log is to turn it over.

An Intrigue Exposed

The recent exposure of John L. Lewis of the tory anti-labor intrigue in Congress has proved a most revealing incident in more ways than one.

The squawling, the squeaking, the yelping, the yelling and the mock heroics of the reactionary elements whom he exposed revealed that his blow struck home in the quarters for which it was intended.

The frantic attempts of most of the press to dodge the real issue by an almost unprecedented campaign of abuse and misrepresentation, revealed the alignment of this press with the forces of anti-labor reaction.

And the spontaneous flood of letters which immediately poured in to CIO headquarters, congratulating and thanking Lewis for what he had done, revealed how much more closely he represented the feelings of millions of Americans than the reactionary politicians who misrepresent them in Congress.

He Spoke Their Minds

"I have never written a letter of this sort in my life before. But I think there must be many millions of Americans who feel as I do tonight that something clean and straight has been said for them and by them against a gang of cut-throats."

This sentiment in one of the letters addressed to Lewis is achoed in hundreds of others from individuals in all parts of the country and in all walks of life.

The following ideas are repeated again and again in different words in the letters received:

Lewis is thanked for doing a "personal favor" to the writers by expressing what is in their minds and the minds of thousands of others.

He is praised for throwing a "lightning flash" of light on a confused political situation, and for exposing the real character of the tory plot from which the whole country is suffering.

His courage is commended, for being the first man in public life to tell the truth about a scandal which others have long known but have not dared to speak up about.

He is urged to continue his exposures of reactionary rottenness in high places and assured that most of the plain people of America will applaud his championing of their cause.

American Style Is Direct

The letters reveal further that most Americans like a direct, forthright and hard-hitting style in their politics.

They do not share the pitiful squeamishness of many alleged liberals, who nearly pass out when a telling blow is struck for the cause they are supposed to support, and who spend most of their time criticizing and bewailing everything that is done by those who bear the brunt of the fight for true liberalism.

A Puzzle Solved

Many people have been shocked and puzzled by the vicious attacks made in Congress against all legislation of benefit to labor and the common people. They have wondered how this could happen in a Congress in which a supposedly New Deal party has had an overwhelming majority.

Lewis exposed the intrigue between the Republican minority and the renegade Democrats which has defeated the people's will. He called public attention for the first time to a fact long known in Washington, that John Garner has been the man behind the scenes who has organized and instigated the activities of this reactionary bloc.

And millions of Americans have called him blessed for doing a duty which others in public life have neglected.

The frantic character of the cover-up campaign immediately launched by reactionary politicians and press may have deceived many by obscuring the real issues. But it hasn't fooled all of the people by a long shot.

Shirt Makers Ask 10% Wage Raise

New York, Aug. 5—A national 10 per cent wage increase will be demanded of all manufacturers and contractors under contract with the Shirt Department of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, the CIO union has announced.

Reveal GM Aid to Union-Busters

Cleveland Bosses' Thugs Fought Labor, LaFollette Reports

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—While police were dropping tear gas shells into crowds of strikers at the General Motors-Fisher Body plant in Cleveland, the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee here was releasing a report which revealed GM as the heaviest contributor to Cleveland Associated Industries, purveyor of anti-labor services to embattled employer in the Ohio city.

Spies, provocateurs, strikebreakers, industrial munitions and advice on how best to resist unionism are peddled by the boss outfit, the LaFollette report declared.

Referring to the fight against the Wagner Act, the report asserted:

"Organized employer groups, such as the Associated Industries, acting in unison in the adoption of policies and purposes through the National Industrial Council, have been responsible during the period since 1933 for one of the greatest campaigns of nullification ever waged against any federal statute."

The furnishing of strike guards, over whom—according to newspaper reports from Cleveland — the fight at the General Motors plant occurred, constituted "one of the most important and significant activities" of the association, the LaFollette committee reported.

TOUGH CHARACTERS

"They were frequently men of bad moral character, predisposed to violence, and some of them had criminal records. On the job they engaged in petty theft and pilfering, provoked riots and disorder, slugged pickets and damaged property, often with the intent of embittering and prolonging the strike in order to extend their own employment."

For services of this type, General Motors paid $3,000 a year over a period of three years, while 500 other Cleveland corporations paid out lesser amounts, depending on the number of workers they employed. General Motors representatives not only filled the organization's coffers, but helped to direct its policies through representatives on the board of directors and advisory committee, the report revealed.

OTHER FIRMS

Others among the firms which control the Cleveland employers' group include Midland Steel Products, Thompson Products, Aluminum Co. of America, Willard Storage Battery and the Ohio Rubber Co. One out of every three workers in the city's manufacturing business works for a company which belongs to the Associated Industries.

Indication that the outfit's law-of-the-jungle labor relations policies were no local product was seen in the committee's statement showing that 73 of the 116 Cleveland companies affiliated with the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers belonged to AI, and that AI activities were generally in accord with program laid out by the NAM on a national scale.

THE RESULT

How these policies worked out for labor and the community were discussed by the Senate Committee, which said:

"Examined in detail in one single plant during the period 1933-1937, the labor relations policy of the Associated Industry is demonstrated to be productive of strife, distrust, bitterness, strikes and industrial warfare of the most ruthless and relentless sort."

Alarmed by prospects of the Senate Committee's investigation, Associated Industry destroyed and altered its books "to conceal the labor espionage services which it had rendered to its members, and its business connections with a detective agency engaged in spying on unions."

HAD OWN SPIES

At first, Associated Industry maintained its own espionage service, which it placed upon request in the shops of member corporations — in its own words —to advise "members of labor conditions within their own plants of which they are ignorant" and to reveal "the danger in time to avert serious trouble." Later, the AI made arrangements with a private detective agency to do the gumshoe work.

CIO Leader In Canal Zone Files Charge

New York, Aug. 5.—The firing of Lionel Moore after he was made head of the CIO's recently organized Panama Canal Zone Organizing Committee, has caused the National Maritime Union to ask the Natl. Labor Relations Board to assume jurisdiction over Wagner Act violations in the Canal Zone.

Moore, who was a stenographer employed for nine years by the Panama Agencies Co., subsidiary of the Grace Line, was fired July 2 the day after his appointment as secretary of the CIO committee.

CALLS ON NLRB

Louis H. Rubenstein, representing the NMU, under whose auspices the PCZWOC is operating, pointed out at a preliminary hearing held before a Labor Board examiner in New York that the NLRB has jurisdiction in Hawaii, and that if the Board failed to establish its jurisdiction over the Canal Zone, workers employed there would be denied their rights under the Wagner Act, even though employed by American companies.

H. A. Stoudt, PCZWOC chairman, chief witness at the hearing said that Moore had been called into the office of E. J. Brown, manager of the Christobal office, and asked about his name appearing as an officer of the new CIO union. When he confirmed this, Moore was told that he was discharged as he could "not serve two masters."

ARBITRATE

Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 5—Arbitration of a wage dispute at the big plant of the big Cluett-Peabody Co., makers of Arrow shirts, was embodied in a written understanding won by the Amalgamated Clothing Workers here.

Freedom of the Press: Writes Letter to Paper, Gets Fired by GM!

PONTIAC, Mich., Aug. 5.—For tops in union discrimination, take the case of a Pontiac UAW-CIO steward who was fired last week by General Motors for exercising freedom of press.

Ted Hegelson is an American citizen. He believes in democracy. So Hegelson wrote a letter to the local newspaper defending his union against vicious company attacks.

The next morning Hegelson was summoned before the personnel director. Angrily thrusting the letter before Hegelson, the personnel chief demanded:

"Either retract or be fired."

When he explained that, "I cannot retract the truth," Hegelson was fired.

The case was immediately filed with the NLRB by William McAulay, Regional UAW-CIO Director. Hegelson was employed in the Pontiac Fisher Body plant, a division of General Motors.

80,000 Auto Workers to Vote In Board Polls

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5. — Eighty thousand automobile workers, employed by Chrysler, Briggs Manufacturing Co. and the Motor Products Co., will trek to the polls during the next two weeks in the biggest series of elections ever ordered by the National Labor Relations Board.

Leaders of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, immediately predicted that the workers' ballots would sound the death knell for what remains of Homer Martin's shrunken rump-AFL outfit, at the same time making the CIO union sole bargaining agency in the three corporations' plants.

Pres. R. J. Thomas of the UAW-CIO foresaw an "overwhelming victory" for his union.

"We have better than 90 per cent of the Chrysler and Motor Products workers enrolled in our locals now," he declared. "The contract of our Briggs local with the company gives us exclusive recognition and our strength in the Briggs plant is almost 100 per cent."

Proof of the union power at Briggs was indicated a few months ago when it won a strike of several thousand workers, despite efforts of Martin to disrupt the walkout.

OVER-RULED CIO

In decreeing by a 2-1 vote that each of the companies' plants constitutes a separate bargaining unit, the Labor Board overruled the UAW-CIO, which had pointed out that in each case labor relations policy is determined in the executive office for the entire corporation. In one plant it ordered a separate craft poll for die sinkers, also over UAW-CIO protests.

Edwin S. Smith, sole dissenter on the NLRB, argued that his colleague's decision "makes possible further frustration of collective bargaining, and insofar as bargaining is rendered ineffective, gives rise to further disruptions of industrial peace.

"It apparently constitutes an effort to be fair to one faction of the international union (the AFL outfit—Editor) at the expense of the other. The result, I feel, constitutes an unfairness to the employes as a whole."

Ask Probe Of Attack On Pickets

Continued from Page Three

to persuade a group of scabs not to enter the plant.

Before strikers had an opportunity to talk to the scabs, several mounted police, trampling upon men, women and children, forced their way to the scabs' car and motioned them inside.

One of the police reached into his pocket and pulled out a tear gas bomb, which he threw into the crowd.

CHILDREN PANIC-STRICKEN

Many pickets were blinded. Small children and women ran panic-stricken through the streets. The police, laying down a constant barrage of tear gas, threw stones, used their clubs and turned high pressure streams of water on the crowd.

The attack did not end until the police supply of tear gas had been exhausted. Onlookers reported that many cops, sickened by the violence of the attack on the workers, laid down their clubs and refused to join in the war on their fellow-citizens.

'WORST' VIOLENCE

A local labor reporter described the tear gas attack—an average of 75 bombs an hour were hurled by the cops—as the "worst I have seen in 10 years of strike reporting." At times the air was so filled with yellow gas from "scooter shells," which hop from place to place, that the picket line was scarcely visible.

Later the same day, five more strikers were injured in a second attack, which was looked upon approvingly by Mayor Burton and Police Chief Ness.

ASK PROBE

Strike committee leaders wired Atty. Gen. Frank Murphy and Sen. Robert LaFollette for investigations. On the same day that the violence occurred, the LaFollette committee made public a report on hearings conducted last year which showed General Motors as a $3,000-a-year contributor to Cleveland Associated Industries, an employers labor-spy and strikebreaker service.

WHOSE POCKETS —

ARE YOU FILLING? When you buy your clothes do you help pay the wage of a union worker, or do you help swell the profits of a sweatshop boss?

- **The Label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America** will give you the answer. When you don't see the label you know that the garment was probably made by an un-American sweatshop chiseler. When you see the Amalgamated label you know that your money will go into the pockets of union workers, earning union pay, working under union conditions.
- **Demand the union label in the clothes you buy** and insure yourself against sweatshop garments, against sweatshop conditions in industry.

You can find the Amalgamated label in union made suits, overcoats, uniforms, work clothes and overalls, workshirts, dress shirts, underwear, gloves, neckties, sheeplined, leather, and sport coats, children's clothing and wash suits.

ISSUED BY AMALGAMATED GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD WORKERS OF AMERICA REG. 10th DIST. COPYRIGHT 1939 BY ACW of A. — UNION MADE — CA 000000 — COAT — AUTHORITY OF CLOTHING

ISSUED BY AMALGAMATED GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD WORKERS OF AMERICA REG. 10th DIST. COPYRIGHT 1939 BY ACW of A. — UNION MADE — PA000000 — PANTS — AUTHORITY OF CLOTHING

ISSUED BY AMALGAMATED GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD WORKERS OF AMERICA REG. 10th DIST. COPYRIGHT 1939 BY ACW of A. — UNION MADE — VA 000000 — VEST — AUTHORITY OF CLOTHING

Pressman Charges Green, In Fighting Wagner Act, Rebuffs Own Members

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5—Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, told the Senate Committee on Education and Labor today that the campaign against the Wagner Act by reactionary business interests and leaders of the American Federation of Labor is based upon a "host of downright deliberate mis-statements and absolute distortions of the record!"

AFL leaders, whom Pressman accused of "incredible gall and the most brazen hypocrisy," have come before the Committee to defend startling changes in the Act to protect their power, without mandate from their membership. He recalled that many of the most powerful unions in the AFL have had no conventions in many years, so that the present ruling groups in these organizations have no directions from the workers to attack the Act and the National Labor Relations Board.

". . . . It is perfectly clear that if the handful of office-holders of the AFL who seek an amendment to deprive the Board of its power to set up industrial units have their way, the interests and wishes of vast numbers of members of the AFL itself will have been overridden."

"AMAZING DEMONSTRATION"

AFL testimony has been an "amazing demonstration of the ability of certain sections of the public press to distort very simple facts beyond all possibility of recognition," he said.

This propaganda barrage, Pressman asserted, has succeeded in convincing many intelligent people that there must be something wrong with the Labor Act and the Board which administers it.

"Were it not for the fog, and the noise, and the false representations which have been spread by the enemies of the law, and of collective bargaining, and of organized labor, it would be more difficult to fool so many intelligent people on this issue," he declared.

AFL LEADERS UNSUPPORTED

Pressman pointed out that while the CIO membership is unanimously lined up in opposition to amending the Act, the workers enrolled in the AFL are openly hostile to the amendments supported by the AFL's top leadership.

"We speak of these bills as the proposals made by the AFL executive council, or the top officials of the AFL, and we do so advisedly, because it is by now established that despite the approval of Mr. Green, these bills have the open and unequivocal opposition of a number of outstanding and important organizations in the AFL, a number of local and regional organizations of the AFL and a number of established independent unions which have no connections with the CIO, such as the railroad workers."

AGAINST WORKERS' NEEDS

In pushing its demands for compulsory setting of craft unit elections by the Labor Board, the AFL top leadership is directly moving against the interests of this vast bloc of unconsulted members, Mr. Pressman charged.

"In any event, it is perfectly clear that if the handful of office-holders of the AFL who seek an amendment to deprive the Board of its power to set up industrial units have their way, the interests and wishes of vast numbers of members of the AFL itself will have been over-ridden.

"In their hatred for the CIO, which they conceive to threaten their security, their positions, and their power, these men have turned against the form of organization best suited to the needs of American Labor. In so doing, they have turned against the interests of their own members."

Presents CIO Case

Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, shown as he testified before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor to wind up the list of CIO officials who have argued against proposed amendments to the Wagner Act.

Letters, Wires Praise Lewis For Speech

Continued from Page Three

manliness to tell John Garner what is true about him."

"Thank you, John L. Lewis, for this — to us — personal favor. And may you always be as right as this in all your public and private utterances."

"May I congratulate you on your frank and open denunciation of the subversive activities which we in the street have for long suspected. It was strong meat, but this is not a time for minced peacock tongues."

"Hearty congratulations from a member of an AFL union. It's time some of our people told men like Pecan Jack where to get off at. Stand by your guns, no matter what the politicians and newspapers say."

"Bravo! John L. Bravo! Texas labor knows that 'evil old man' is one of its worst enemies!"

"Congratulations . . . May none of the leaders of labor pull their punches when it comes to putting the enemies of popular government in the right categories. There are many other pets of privilege in need of classification."

"I personally think you did not make your words strong enough to show some of these labor-baiting individuals where they get off."

"I fully believe you have expressed the sentiments of a vast majority of the electorate in your statement as of today."

"Your statement . . . is the sharpest truth. But it did not go quite far enough. The writer is not a laborer but a small manufacturer who has had experience and ought to know. When labor has money it buys the small manufacturers' product, the storekeepers' merchandise and the farmers' produce, making all of us prosperous. Betrayers of men like Garner have bled the American home market white."

"I thank you for your lightning flash before the Congressional committee on June 27. It will clear the skies. We need more frankness to lead the millions away from their covert enemies and toward recognition of their friends . . . The clear, terse outspokenness such as you gave the committee should be often repeated from now on to the 1940 national election."

"Kindly accept our heartiest approval regarding your recent statement on the wages and hours bill, and especially your condemnation of the reactionary members in Congress."

As usual you called a spade a spade. It was just what the country needs. There are too many stuffed shirts in Washington . . . All of us little devils of underdogs are with you 100%."

"As a member of the AFL and an American citizen, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart . . . It was certainly time somebody spoke up against the wave of reaction among those misrepresentative politicians in Congress."

"You may have made a political error, but you sho' used perfect English!"

"I want to congratulate you and the labor movement as a whole for your courageous stand and the splendid fight you are putting up for American labor. The poorest paid workers will remember you and fight with you to the bitter end."

"A helluva good wallop . . . well timed and well-placed . . . There are more in Congress that need it, and it is high time that someone representing labor has the courage to stand up and let these wreckers know how labor feels about the rotten game they are playing with the destinies of this great nation."

"CIO leadership has again courageously voiced the protest of labor against the sniping attacks of the tories upon the American working people's living standards and constitutional rights."

Union Officials Warn of Danger In Amendments

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—Members of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor received additional evidence today of the unanimous feeling of CIO members against Wagner Act amendments, as leaders of four affiliated international unions took the witness stand at hearings here.

Pres. Mervyn Rathborne of the American Communications Assn., Harold Straub, organizational director of the Amalgamated Utility Workers; Powers Hapgood, national director of the United Shoe Workers; and Pres. Joseph Curran and William Standard, counsel, of the National Maritime Union all told the same story of workers' enthusiasm for the Wagner Act and fear that gains made in recent years would be wiped out by employer-AFL proposed amendments.

AVOIDED DISPUTES

Rathborne said that the Labor Board is, if anything, "pro-AFL" in its bias, but that the Act nevertheless has been of incalculable aid to the ACA in its organizing activities.

The ACA, he pointed out, has filed 236 Labor Board cases. Without the Wagner Act, many of these disputes which were peacefully settled would have resulted in costly strikes.

FIRM FLOUTS LAW

Straub warned the Senate Committee that proposed AFL amendments are "nothing more than an attempt to persuade Congress to legalize the illegal tactics used for their benefit in Consolidated Edison."

When the AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers won recognition from the giant New York utility, Straub asserted, it had only five members among the company's 42,000 employes. Since the Supreme Court decision which upheld that contract but ordered certain unfair labor practices to cease, discrimination and defiance of the Wagner Act have continued, he added.

NLRB administration of the Act has displayed no bias, Pres. Curran of the NMU declared.

"The dispatch and fairness with which it conducted elections," Curran said, "has greatly facilitated the negotiations and execution of collective bargaining agreements between operators and the certified unions. Thus peace was brought to the maritime industry of our country, previously much troubled and harassed by labor disputes."

Curran told of discontent in the AFL sailors' union, which culminated the refusal of the membership to accept a "shockingly inadequate" contract in 1936. As a result, the AFL leaders pulled a behind-the-scenes deal with the shipowners—a deal which was stoutly defended by Green and Joseph Padway, AFL counsel, before the Senate Committee some weks ago.

AFL CLIQUE 'EXPOSED'

But the seamen felt differently about it, Curran related, and after formation of the NMU, they voted their "utter contempt for the AFL Seamen's Union officials" by voting almost 30-1 for the CIO union in 11 major elections.

"We submit that the vindictiveness and the unjustified criticism of the AFL officialdom is due more to the fact that it was exposed as an autocratic clique, rather than to the alleged bias of the NLRB," he concluded.

CHISELERS HATE ACT

Wagner Act amendments would seriously impede efforts of the United Shoe Workers to lift wages above the $880 average annual wage, National Director Powers Hapgood told the Senators.

Seven shoe manufacturers have already been charged with wage-hour act violation, he pointed out, and wages as low as 7c. an hour have been discovered in "factories on wheels" which migrate from place to place.

"If these amendments to the Wagner Act are passed, they will force workers to belong to unions of their company's choice, rather than of their own choice," Hapgood predicted, and efforts to improve wages and stabilize the industry will result in failure."

Sewing Machine Firm Signs

Cleveland, Ohio, Aug. 5—Sole bargaining rights at the White Sewing Machine Corp. here were won for the first time in a new contract signed recently with Local 721, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, CIO. The agreement runs to July, 1940.

Although the CIO union was certified by the Labor Board as sole bargaining agency in the spring of 1938, the company had refused to include this in previous contracts.

Equalize The Wagner Act?

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5—A formula for altering labor laws to please those employers who want the Wagner Act amended to work "equally" for employer and employe was suggested here by Pres. Allan S. Haywood of the New York State Industrial Union Council.

Testifying before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, Haywood said it might be a good idea to treat pickets the same way as employers are treated when they break the labor law.

"Wouldn't it be nice," he said, "to devise a procedure where the picket, instead of being jailed, or worse still—shot and killed, as in the Chicago Memorial Day massacre—received a letter from the police department asking him to come in at his convenience to discuss a charge of disorderly conduct or improper picketing, sit around and talk whether the picket wouldn't cease and desist from such picketing in the future; and if the picket wouldn't agree, have a hearing before a trial examiner, receive an intermediate report, have an oral argument and finally be served with a cease and desist order which did not punish him but required him not to do it again."

Four CIO Council Leaders Rap 'War' On Wagner Act

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—Officials of four CIO State Industrial Union Councils in New England, the East, South and Middle West appeared before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor today and advised that workers in their localities are united in opposition to amendments of any sort for the Wagner Labor Relations Act.

The four who testified were: President Allan S. Haywood of the New York State Industrial Union Council; President Michael F. Widman, Jr., of the Massachusetts Industrial Union Council Yelverton Cowherd, Secretary-Treasurer of the Alabama Industrial Union Council; and Secretary-Treasurer Gunnar Mickelsen of the Wisconsin Industrial Union Council.

Haywood, representing some 700,000 members in the Empire State, said that employer demands for amending the Wagner Act must be considered in the light of persistent hostility to labor unionism on the part of many employers—hostility including "the widespread use of labor spies and provocateurs."

The Wagner Act "constitutes an effective declaration of basic national policy, a true charter of liberties for all people who work for a living," Haywood said.

BLAMES EMPLOYERS

"The most bitter strikes involving organizations with which I have been connected during the last two years in the New York area," he continued, "have been due to the refusal of the employers to follow the clear provisions of the law and sit down and bargain with the duly chosen representatives of their employes."

WIDMAN TESTIFIES

Widman, speaking for 100,000 CIO members in Massachusetts, said that the history of the CIO in New England reveals that "since the enactment of the Wagner law, there have not been more than half a dozen strikes in New England in our jurisdiction over the issue of union recognition."

Widman said that the vast majority of some 290 petitions for certification filed with the Boston office of the NLRB have been peacefully settled. "Ninety-nine per cent of these cases, I venture to say, were it not for the good offices of the Board, would have resulted in strikes causing loss of pay to tens of thousands of workers and a consequent loss of business."

WISCONSIN KNOWS

Mickelsen told the committee that "we in Wisconsin are in a peculiarly significant position" in regard to Wagner Act amendments, for "here in Wisconsin there has just ben put upon the statute books a law which Sen. Burke joyfully proclaims to be the 'very thing that I want to do to the Wagner Act.'

"Moreover, here in Wisconsin, the AFL, led by Atty. Joseph Padway, has appeared side by side with CIO in the most vigorous opposition to the new Wisconsin labor laws—laws which as written and passed are virtually similar to what the Wagner Act would be if amended according to Mr. Padway's stated wishes."

SOUTH HAS GAINED

Yelverton Cowherd, secretary-treasurer of the Alabama Industrial Union Council, said that through benefits obtained under the Wagner Act, the United Mine Workers has been able to raise wages from a low of $1.40 a day and has won operators' praise for doing it.

The CIO official charged that George Googe, southern AFL representative who appeared before the Committee some time ago, was "stating falsehoods in attempts to belittle the Board and the Act."

Cowherd denied that Lawrence Hunt, an NLRB official, had ever spoken at a CIO mass meeting in New Orleans, as charged by Googe. Persons who were escorted from the meeting by police were labeled as "AFL union members" by Googe, but Cowherd identified them as "professional gunmen who at the time were under arrest on charges of assault with intent to murder."

"If Googe wishes to claim this type of citizen as his members, we believe that it would be very interesting to the Committee," Mr. Cowherd declared.

Order 4th Poll At Alcoa, Tenn.

Washington, Aug. 5—A fourth election to determine a collective bargaining agency has been set by the Labor Board among employes of the Aluminum Company of America at the Alcoa works in Alcoa, Tenn.

At previous elections, the latest of the three held in June, the Aluminum Workers of America, CIO, won the most votes but failed to get a majority of those cast, and the Board was forced to call for another run-off. In the coming election to be held some time in August, the CIO union will be the only one on the ballot, as the choice will lie between the AWA or no union.

Your WPA Job

By RALPH HETZEL
CIO Unemployment Director

There is agreement here in Washington that if Congress were given an opportunity to vote on a number of the vicious clauses of the WPA Bill, it would cut them out. The game of the reactionaries has been to prevent Congress from ever clearly voting upon the issues raised in the WPA Bill.

The passage of the bill reveals a most remarkable record: the issue of the bill's evil effects was never once placed before either the members of the House or Senate in such a way as to put on record the people who were trying to attack the WPA workers.

Ever since the Act was passed there has been a strong fight going on to amend it. Many of the members of Congress realize that this bill is one of the most serious blows to the common people of the country that has been passed by Congress since the advent of the New Deal.

An example of the way the cards are being dealt to hide the issues was the fate of Senator Murray's amendment to the so-called Spending-Lending Bill. The Senate by a substantial majority passed an amendment which would stop the 18-month layoffs as forced by the new bill. We believe that it is very clear that if the amendment itself had come before the House it would probably have passed. Yet it went to a quiet death when the reactionary coalition of conservative Democrats and Republicans smashed the President's spending-lending bill. Nobody voted against the bill. They simply voted against a rule to consider it, but the truth was they voted to smash the bill and the WPA amendment.

FIGHT NOT YET OVER

At this writing the fight has not yet been given up. There is one last ditch chance which the CIO is straining every effort to take advantage of. The Congress must pass a Third Deficiency Bill which carries certain appropriations that have to be made before Congress adjourns. A number of the Senators have promised that they will attach to this bill amendments to the WPA Act. These amendments will at least cover the restoration of the prevailing hourly rate, prevention of cuts in the security wage and wiping out of the 18-month layoffs.

Until this bill is voted on it has been announced by Colonel Harrington that the 18-month layoffs will be held up.

Several Senators who voted against the prevailing wage and the prevention of cuts in the security wage have made emphatic statements in the Congressional Record that they would vote for these measures as amendments to the appropriations bill. There is, therefore, an excellent chance that this will pass.

Very soon the Senators and Congressmen will be going back to their constituents, and they will learn what the common people of this country really feel about the record of the 1939 session of Congress. Here in the air-conditioned, well-fed atmosphere of Washington the members of Congress forget what WPA means to a jobless man with a wife and children. Those in the know here in Washington freely predict that those reactionaries who have smothered the New Deal program at this session will find themselves exceedingly unpopular at home.

Truth A La Mode:

NAM to Dish Up Some New Propaganda

By C. W. FOWLER

Washington, Aug. 5 — Telling the truth about industry is always a laudable thing to do. The labor movement has been doing it for years. Liberals, progressives, crusaders have tried to get it across for generations. The American people are entitled to it, especially the workers who make their living in industry.

Now the truth has a powerful "booster", the Natl. Association of Manufacturers, which is getting itself all set to jump into print, radio, movies and the lecture platforms with a new and greatly-improved line of truth for a waiting nation.

The program, incidentally, comes just at the right time — in the NAM's own words, they're fixing to "plan the program (of truth about industry) well into 1940."

FREE, GRATIS

And it won't cost the public a cent. The manufacturers will pay for it all, at the rate of $25 for an employer with 10 or fewer workers, graduated up to $25,000 for the biggest bosses.

At least, that's what the Natl. Industrial Information Committee of the NAM is outling for its sponsors in a circular letter over the personal signature of Ernest T. Weir, chairman of the NIIC, head of National Steel Co., Czar of Weirton, organizer of the Weirton hatchet gangs, consistent violator of the Wagner Act.

According to Chairman Weir, there's a "growing interest by the public in the problems of business. All segments of the public are coming to look once more to business and industry for leadership in meeting our national problems and in attaining recovery.

"I need not recall how different is this attitude from the one prevalent a few short years ago," he writes. And who's to get the credit for this? None other than the NAM, which alone has had "the vision to see this and the breadth of support to undertake this job for all industry. The NAM's forceful public information program in behalf of all business and industry begins to be heard above the din."

THE LAYOUT

The program is a thorough one, judging by the efforts the Natl. Industrial Information Committee has already been putting forth, and those it plans to put forth, in the cause of industrial truth. Here are some of the things it has been doing, and some of those it plans to do—if the sponsors come across. They're outlined in a handsome layout titled, "Re-selling the American Way to America."

On the radio, they're got "The American Family Robinson" going out weekly over 250 stations. (This program has been sharply attacked by labor leaders as anti-union propaganda.) To back this up, they have Geo. E. Sokolsky, weekly commentator over 200 stations. Sokolsky was named by the LaFollette Committee as receiving close to $30,000 of NAM funds during the steel campaign of CIO. (His latest advice to his clients is to deal with WPA demonstrators with machine guns—N. Y. Herald Tribune, July 24.)

For the press, they have their "Industrial Press Service" going to 6,600 editors of rural and small town weekly papers, plus a weekly cartoon, columns by "six outstanding economists," and a weekly boilerplate editorial.

Plus a billboard series, "The American Way," seen by "an estimated 65,000,000 people daily," plus material for industrial house organs going to 1000 company publications, plus a committee for "farm cooperation" whose job is to educate the farmers to the industrial way of thinking.

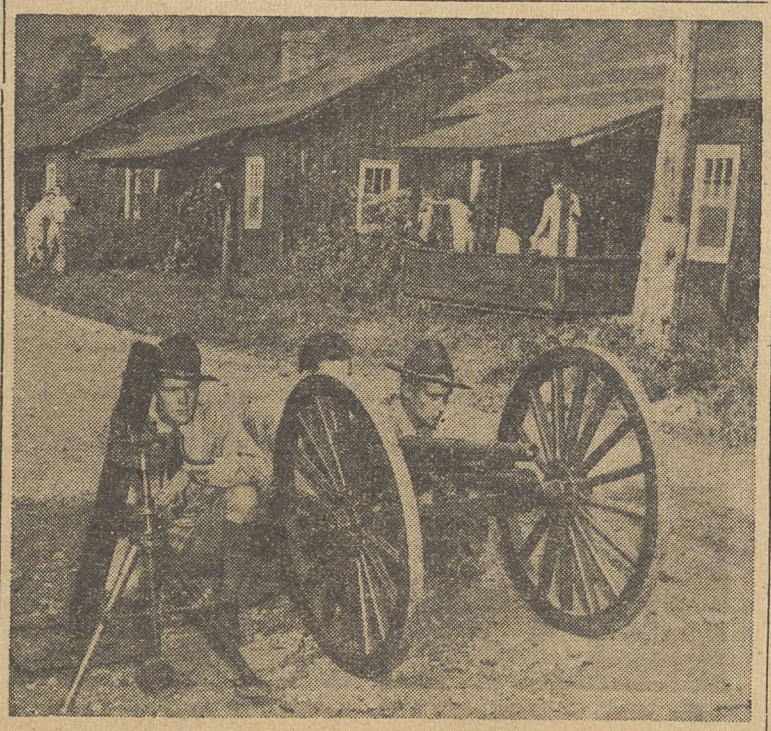
NEW PLANS

For the new campaign—extending "well into 1940" — the NIIC proposes a womens' division, a school division, increased radio, movie and newspaper work, — all with emphasis on the job of regaining "full public regard for industry."

It is a seductive program. So seductive that a long roll of America's leading industrialists, including the most flagrant violators of the Wagner Act, the most vicious enemies of labor organization in the country, have joined with Chairman Weir in the appeal to businessmen to help put it across.

Tom Girdler is one. Richard K. Mellon, head of the Mellon empire, is another. Donald W. Douglas, of Douglas Aircraft, leading Wagner Act violator, is another. So is Floyd Carlisle of Consolidated Edison — builder of company unions and friend of the AFL.

The list is a long one. It has many of the leading union-busters of the U. S. on it. They're all dedicated to the truth about industry. And if the American public doesn't watch out, these gentlemen will slip it over on them — via the movies, the radio, the newspapers, the lecture platform, the schools, the women's organizations — in a program, as Chairman Weir says, planned "well into 1940."



THE REAL THING: The Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers propaganda sounds smooth—until you realize that its anti-union talk is as close to anti-union action (like that above) as ham is to eggs.

Guild Praised For Gains During Last Five Years

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 5. — The American Newspaper Guild prepared to wind up its sixth annual convention here today, after acting on a number of proposals for future activity and hearing a number of nationally-important speakers discuss issues facing labor and the New Deal.

Pres. Heywood Broun, presiding officer at the get-together of more than 100 delegates from various sections of the nation, read a telegram from CIO Pres. John L. Lewis, who said that "the CIO is very proud of your union and what it stands for. It has pioneered in this field where organization was once thought impossible."

Wage-Hour Administrator Elmer F. Andrews, a convention guest, charged that foes of the Fair Labor Standards Act "really want the right to pay their workers something less than 25c an hour, $11 for a 44-hour week, and the taxpayers to be forced to make up the difference in the form of relief between the wretched wages they are willing to pay voluntarily and the minimum essential to sustain life."

Langdon Post, a U. S. Housing official, told the Guildsmen of the government's slum clearance program.

BRIDGES SPEAKS

Harry Bridges, CIO west coast director, complimented the ANG for its progress since formation in 1935, adding, "We're all for the Guild, and more and plenty of it . . . it has earned the respect of all unions."

The delegates were told by the CIO director that deportation proceedings now in session against him will end in failure.

"We're not afraid of a parade of labor spies, stool pigeons and perjurors when we have a fair judge like Dean Landis," Bridges commented.

Broun, commenting on the frame-up case against the longshoremen's president, said that the Bridges trial "has nothing to do with the so-called issue, but is going on because he is an honest, efficient, able labor leader." Broun predicted that the day is near when the Guild will have complete organization in its field.

'WON RESPECT'

Making his annual report, Exec. Vice-Pres. Jonathan Eddy noted that the Guild has won its battles "for self-respect, decent wages and security."

"We have placed a mighty stumbling block in the path of the fascist-minded people of this country," he said, "and have shown them that the interests of the white collar workers lie not with those of the employers but with those of the workers."

Eddy pointed out that fascists in other countries have been able to fool white-collar workers into believing that their interests "lie with big business, with low wages, with long hours, with watering down of democratic rights in every way." Guildsmen, he added, won't be fooled by such propaganda, adding that the ANG is "committed to the New Deal."

111 CONTRACTS

Sec.-Treas. Victor Pasche revealed that the Guild has close to 19,000 members, and 111 contracts covering 140 papers, wire services, radio stations and news magazines.

A resolution passed unanimously commended Gov. Culbert Olson of California for his activities in behalf of labor. Olson sent a message to the delegates welcoming them to the city.

Bridges Refutes Red-Baiters

San Francisco, Aug. 5—Harry Bridges, CIO West Coast director, took the witness stand at his deportation hearing today and vehemently denied that he is—or ever was—a Communist, that he accepts orders from Communists, or that the Intl. Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, which he heads, is Communist-dominated or Communist controlled.

Bridges' testimony came after a succession of stoolpigeons and professional red-baiters had sought, with a minimum of evidence, to link him with the Communist party.

FOR DEMOCRACY

Asked if he believed in "the democratic form of government," Bridges replied:

"I most certainly do. We practice it every day. From my knowledge of the government, we have certainly followed that policy, and in all our actions have supported the democratic form of government."

Under question, the CIO official said his conception of democratic government was "rule by the majority and in the interests of the majority." He went on to differentiate democratic government from capitalistic society, for the latter of which Bridges said he "had not much use" because "to me, it means the exploitation of a lot of people for a profit, and a complete disregard of their interests for that profit."

'SMOKE-SCREEN'

Telling of his experience in the union, Bridges said the "question of Communism and the red herring has been used and has always been used to divide our unions, to lay smoke-screen down under the cover of which a lot of anti-union activities can be carried on."

Bridges declared that in his position as a union leader he had had no particular trouble with Communist members. Asked if he saw any indication that the Communists were "trying to take over the union," the ILWU president declared:

"We have the most democratic trade unions in the country and it is impossible for anybody to take them over."

CIO Construction Union Announces Regulations

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—Provisions for the elimination of jurisdictional disputes and unauthorized work stoppages in the construction industry were announced today by A. D. Lewis, chairman of the new United Construction Workers Organizing Committee of the CIO, in making public the rules and regulations under which the new union will operate.

Training of journeymen workmen and a transfer card system are other matters covered by the regulations, which also detail the duties of state and regional directors, business agents, job stewards and other local officers.

In order to eliminate jurisdictional disputes on any construction job, the regulations provide that "every effort should be made to establish a procedure whereby any workman doing work, for which a scale of wages is provided, shall be paid either his regular scale of wages, if the work performed by him calls for a lower scale, or he shall be paid at the higher scale if the class of work calls for a higher scale of wages."

The regulations state that "the organization shall make every effort to stabilize labor conditions in the construction industry and eliminate strikes and stoppages of work during the adjudication of grievances."

PROVIDES FOR PEACE

They therefore provide for the insertion in all contracts of stipulations that where grievances arise between workers and the contractor, there shall be no suspension of work on account of such differences, and every effort shall be made to settle them immediately. The procedure details steps to be taken in the settlement of grievances, first between local representatives, and if that fails between the general manager of the construction company upon the election of an umpire to decide the case.

"Pending the adjudication of any dispute, construction workers shall not cease work,' it is stated. "When a joint decision is reached at any stage of the procedure, it shall be binding upon both parties thereto and shall not be subject to reopening by either party, except by mutual agreement."

PROVIDES FOR HELPERS

Recognizing the necessity for the "proper and adequate training of journeymen workmen in the construction industry,' the Committee declares that "Local unions shall make rules to govern the admission into Local Unions with full membership workers in helper classifications and the employment of helpers upon a practical basis on all construction jobs."

'Enemy' Navy Fails to Sink Guild Fleet

Chicago, Aug. 5. — Indication that foes of the Chicago Hearst strikers had embarked on a program of "naval warfare" on the waters of Lake Michigan near Chicago's busy loop district, grew clearer today as the union "picket boat" was attacked for the second time by another mystery ship.

The attacking craft collided with the Guild boat, crippling its motors. A week previous an unregistered 37-foot cruiser tried to smash the Guild boat, but without success.

Hague in New Role: CIO Strike Mediator!

Jersey City, N. J., Aug. 5. (FP)—Faced with the threat of a strike, the first major one since the U. S. Supreme Court upheld the CIO's right of assembly in Jersey City, Mayor Frank Hague about-faced and aided in mediation efforts today, instead of using his old method of running all the strikers out of town.

Requested by Local 421, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers to intervene and avert a strike against H. Goodman & Sons, Hague appointed City Commissioner Daniel Casey (also a former member of the city's anti-CIO board of strategy) as arbitrator. A conference was held and an agreement reached to avert the walkout.

The union agreed to postpone strike action and the company promised not to institute its proposed wage cuts pending further discussions. The union had set the strike deadline for the firm's 350 workers after the company tried to push through pay slashes of as much as $9 a week.

Serve Warning on Armour

An effigy typifying the labor policies of Armour & Co., giant meat packing firm, goes up in smoke as members of a Chicago local of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee show resentment at firm's long stalling. A work stoppage followed management's withdrawal from negotiations.

Do You Know This Man?

Toledo, Aug. 5.—John Brezinski, Jr., a former employe of the Logan Gear Company here and a member of the United Auto Workers, Local 12, has been missing for over two years and all efforts to locate him have failed. He is 31 years old, weighs 165 pounds, is 5 feet, 9 inches, brown eyes and black wavy hair. Thumb on his right hand amputated at the first joint and has large mole on the left cheek under his nose. He sometimes shortens his name to "Breezy".

His mother is in poor health since his father's death two years ago and her conditions is aggravated by John's absence. Anyone having any information is urgently requested to contact Mrs. John Brezinski, Sr. at 860 Tecumseh Street, Toledo, Ohio, who will pay a reasonable reward for any information leading to the location of her son.

CIO Wins Hands Down In Baltimore

Baltimore, Md., Aug. 5.—A Labor Board election held here among 442 employes of the Locke Insulator plant eligible to vote was won overwhelmingly by the CIO. The election, held in three voting units — machinists' department, power house and all other maintenance and production workers—was carried by the CIO in all three departments by a total of 354 votes.

In the machinists' department, the CIO defeated the AFL machinists union 13 to 1. The power house workers cast nine votes, all for the CIO. In the largest unit the CIO defeated the National Brotherhood of Operative Potters by a vote of 332 to 23. Only 20 workers altogether voted for no union.

Murray Urges U. S. Unemployment Confab

See Story Page 5

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II — No. 33 20 AUGUST 14, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

CIO UNIONS SCORE MAJOR VICTORIES

The News In Brief

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

Construction

Washington. — Announcement of CIO plans to organize the construction industry have met an enthusiastic welcome, Chairman A. D. Lewis of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee revealed.

LaFollette

Washington. — Armed with a $50,000 appropriation, the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee will soon resume its investigation of the Associated Farmers group on the west coast.

Guild

San Francisco.—The American Newspaper Guild, winding up its sixth annual convention here, endorsed plans for a strenuous campaign to win an agreement with Associated Press, which it accused of "stalling" in Guild negotiations.

Mine, Mill

Denver. — Delegates to the 36th annual convention of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers here pledged defense of the New Deal against reactionary attacks.

NLRB & Banks

Washington. — Employes of banking institutions come under the provisions of the Wagner Act, National Labor Relations Board ruled in a decision ordering the Bank of America, with headquarters in San Francisco to rehire two workers.

Armour Heeds Tie-Up Threat

Chicago, Aug. 12—Armour & Co., giant meat packing firm, today had bowed to union strength and rehired 15 suddenly-discharged members of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, thereby averting a strike of the company's several thousand employes.

Discharge of the 15 men occurred while they were attempting to take up a grievance with the management. After two days of refusal to rehire the grievance committee, a mass meeting of 3,000 workers demanded action.

Later, 500 shop stewards and officers of Local 347 instructed the strike strategy committee to prepare the union for a walkout.

Shortly afterwards a delegation of PWOC leaders met with two Armour vice-presidents and the reinstatements followed.

MANY DEVELOPMENTS

Developments in the situation arising out of Armour's refusal to negotiate a contract with PWOC meanwhile remained at the boiling point.

Van A. Bittner, PWOC chairman, announced that the union's National Policy Committee will be called to Washington in the next few days to lay their case before government officials.

"No stone is being left unturned to focus public attention upon the vicious 'public-be-damned' attitude of Armour and the other packers," Don Harris, PWOC director, declared.

FILE CHARGES

The union's national officers revealed also that charges of unfair labor practices in Armour's Chicago, Oklahoma City

Continued on page eight

Success Story

Washington—The CIO and Labor's Non-Partisan League were the only major organizations in the nation that fought amendments to the Wagner Act. Combatting employers' propaganda, vicious newspaper attacks and the double-dealing of the AFL leadership, the CIO and the League were able to fight foes of the Act to a standstill, preserve Labor's Magna Charta intact.

For a review of that campaign, see Labor and the Law, Page Seven.

Packinghouse, Auto Workers Win Demands

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12. — Affiliates of the CIO won a string of victories throughout the nation this week, capped by the success of the United Automobile Workers in gaining its first company-wide agreement with General Motors and substantial wage increases for 7,600 skilled workers.

The victory, coming at the end of a month-long strike frequently marked by police violence against UAW members, was described by union officials as the most important since the first agreements with the big motor companies following the 1937 strikes.

Meanwhile, Armour & Co., giant meat packing firm, backed down in a show of strength with the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee.

Other recent victories:

1. The Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers won a National Labor Relations Board election victory in Alabama, polling a 5-1 majority over their AFL rivals.

2. CIO brick and clay workers rolled up a 13-1 majority at the Locke Insulator plant in Baltimore, as well as defeating AFL unions in two craft unit elections at the same factory.

3. The Textile Workers Union won sole bargaining rights at the Pequot Mills in Salem, Mass., in one of the largest elections yet held by the National Labor Relations Board in New England.

4. The Simmons Bed Co. signed its first CIO contract, covering several hundred workers in its San Francisco plant.

5. One thousand workers gained wage adjustments and a contract after negotiations with two big Philadelphia leather firms.

6. The Dominion Steel Co. in Sidney, Nova Scotia, announced it would agree to sign a Steel workers Organizing Committee contract for the first time.

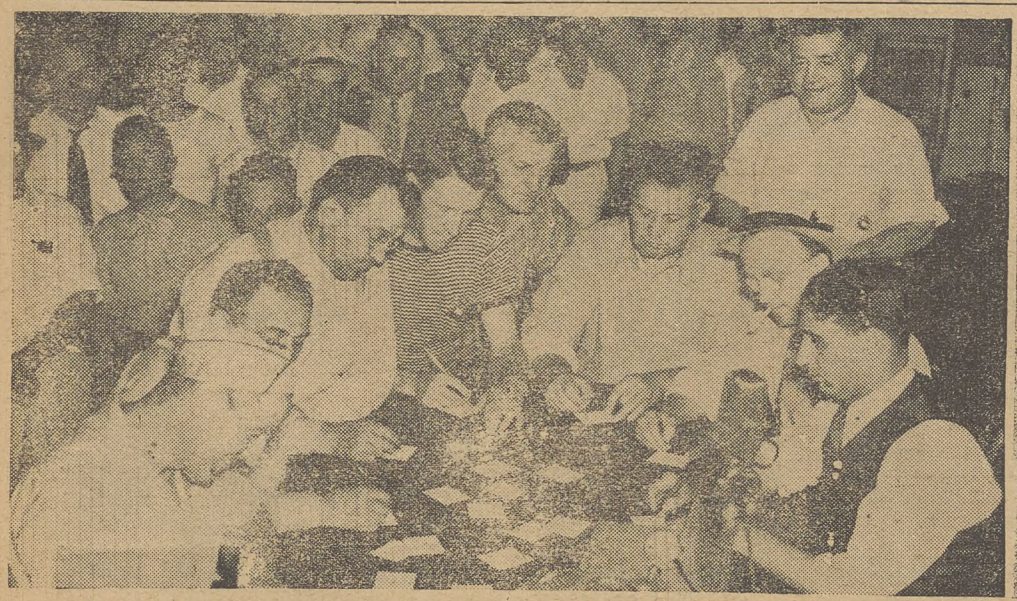
Shipyard Union Certified For 5,000 At Bethlehem Plant

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—The National Labor Relations Board today had widened the breach in the anti-union policy of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, when it certified Brooklyn Local 13 and Hoboken Local 15, of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, as the sole bargaining agencies in that company's three ship-repair yards in the Port of New York. Some 5,000 men are affected.

This militant CIO affiliate made the first opening in Bethlehem's die-hard anti-union policy last spring when the Labor Board ordered Bethlehem Steel's shipbuilding division to bargain with its East Boston Local 25 in the Atlantic and Simpson Drydocks, Boston. Enforcement of this order is at present being held up in the Circuit Court on an appeal against the order by the company.

The National Office of the IUMSWA pointed out that certification of its local unions in these ports, coupled with its successful organization campaigns in Bethlehem's huge Fore River and Sparrow's Point ship construction yards are bringing nearer the day when it will open negotiations with the leader of the "little steel" group for a nation-wide pact covering its some 20,000 employes in the shipbuilding division.

San Pedro Local 9 of the IUMSWA is its only affiliate which has an agreement with Bethlehem at present.



Striking tool and die makers, members of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, cast their votes to accept the sweeping victory settlement won by the union after a month-long struggle with General Motors.

AT RIGHT: Officers of the UAW-CIO — Pres. R. J. Thomas, Sec.-Treas. George Addes and Walter Reuther, strike chairman—look over the victory contract, which gave the UAW sole bargaining rights in 42 plants, forestalled AFL disruptionist plans, and lifted wages for skilled workers.

CIO Wins More Elections, Contracts

Ask Court Order Against Girdler

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 12.—The CIO joined with the National Labor Relations Board today in seeking a U. S. Circuit Court order to force Tom Girdler's Republic Steel Corp. to abide by an NLRB decision which accused it of unfair labor practices and granted some 5,000 workers reinstatement to their jobs with back pay.

The case, an aftermath of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee "Little Steel" strike, dates from the first Labor Board complaint against the company in August of 1937.

Filing a 60-page brief, Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, argued that Republic Steel had flouted the Wagner Act, and that whatever violence arose during the strike was a direct result of the company's effort to destroy the union.

RAPS REPUBLIC

The brief summarized Republic's labor policy as being filled with:

". . . threats, discharges and lockouts; with espionage, shadowing and beatings of organizers and union members; with a barrage of propaganda against unionism in general, SWOC in particular, and the leaders of SWOC and the CIO; with the proliferation of company union on company union; with the instigation of lawless Law and Order Leagues and back-to-work movements; with attempts to turn civil authorities, business and other interests against the union; and with announcements that under no circumstances would it ever sign any contract with the union."

TRACES STEEL HISTORY

Pressman traced the history of labor relations in the steel industry, and showed that the strikes of 1892, 1901, 1909, 1919, 1934 and 1937 all had a similar basis—the effort of the steel barons to destroy unionism, often while at the same time breathing lip service to collective bargaining.

PACT AS SYMBOL

He denied Republic claims that the strike was merely an "organizing" maneuver, and asserted that the demand for a written contract served as a symbol during the workers' struggle to maintain their right to self-organization under the Wagner Act.

Contrasting the era of industrial peace which U. S. Steel ushered into its vast domain by signing a SWOC contract, with the unrest in Little Steel, the CIO counsel charged that a similar amicable relationship will come to Republic when that firm is ready to deal openly with the SWOC.

NLRB attorneys, in their argument before the court, showed how the Girdler corporation has had the protection of "due process of law" and defended the Board's decision as justifiable and legal.

WIN CONTRACT

Jersey City, N. J.—District 50 of the United Mine Workers has signed a closed shop contract with the Dye Specialties Corporation here providing for an increase in minimum hourly rates from 45 to 75 cents.

These are the men appointed by Congress to investigate the National Labor Relations Board with $50,000 appropriated by foes of the NLRB in the House of Representatives. Seated, left to right: A. D. Healey, of Massachusetts, liberal Democrat; Chairman H. W. Smith of Virginia, sponsor of the probe and an outspoken tory; H. N. Routzohn, Republican from Ohio. Standing, Abe Murdock of Utah, liberal Democrat, and C. A. Halleck, Indiana Republican.

Labor Board Takes Jurisdiction Over Bank Employes

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—Bank employes are covered by the National Labor Relations Act, the Labor Board ruled this week in a decision on the case of the Bank of America, mammoth corporation with headquarters in San Francisco.

Declaring that the bank is an employer engaged in commerce within the meaning of the Wagner Act, the Board ordered the San Francisco bank to reinstate with back pay a trust department employe found to have been fired for activity in the United Office & Professionl Workers Union, CIO.

At a hearing before the Board the Bank of America had contended that national banks are agencies of the Federal government and not employers within the meaning of the Wagner Act.

In other types of cases, the banking institutions have argued that they are private firms, entirely independent of the government.

The Board ruled that the United States did not create the bank but "merely provided a permissive means" by which it could be organized and do business.

IN INTERSTATE COMMERCE

In answer to the bank's contention that it was not engaged in interstate commerce, the Board declared:

"It is a matter of common knowledge that the commercial bank, of which the respondent (bank) is an outstanding example, is the primary medium in the commercial system of the United States for the transfer of money credits from one portion of the country to another, without the actual transfer of cash, whereby payment is effected for goods or merchandise sold and transported from one part of the United States to another and between the Unit-

12 Furniture Shops Sign, Avert Strike

New York, Aug. 12.—Contracts with 12 out of 37 parlor frame furniture shops called out on strike recently by the United Furniture Workers were signed the first day of the strike, the CIO union announced this week.

Ten other firms signed up before the strike deadline, and were not involved in the walkout which affected 400 employes.

The union workers struck in protest against a threatened 25% wage cut and elimination of a number of paid holidays included in the expired agreement with the Furniture Frame Mfrs. Assn.

Order G-M To End Spy Practices

Washington, Aug. 12.—General Motors was ordered to stop spying upon the union activities of its employes at the Delco-Remy plant at Anderson, Ind., in a decision announced today by the National Labor Relations Board.

The company was also ordered to throw out the Delco-Remy Employes Association, Inc., found to be dominated by the employer, and to protect its employes from violence or threats aimed to discourage membership in the United Automobile Workers, CIO, or any other labor organization.

The Board found that the Association was established in 1933 at the suggestion and with the aid of supervisory officials of the corporation, and that many workers were threatened with the loss of their jobs if they refused to take part in the activities of the company union.

$185 MONTHLY FOR SPIES

It was also disclosed that the corporation paid out an average of $185 a month for espionage service by the National Metal Trades Association. Evidence before the Board showed that in the summer of 1936 when the CIO union began a campaign to organize the Delco-Remy and Guide Lamp plants of the company in Anderson, "back to work" movements were begun by employes of the corporation.

Seattle Paper Must Rehire Two

Washington, Aug. 12—Two employes in the classified advertising department of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Seattle, Wash., who were fired in 1936 for union activity in the Seattle Newspaper Guild, have been ordered reinstated with back pay by the National Labor Relations Board.

The Board also ordered Hearst Publications, Inc., owners of the paper, to stop discouraging membership or activity in the Guild or any other labor organization, and to notify the NLRB regional director of compliance within 10 days.

The strike out of which the case grew was called August 13, 1936, in protest against the firing of two Guild employes. John Boettiger, son-in-law of President Roosevelt, who was made publisher during the course of the strike, settled the dispute.

Biggest Poll In New England Won By CIO

Salem, Mass., Aug. 12—Polling 1,320 out of a total of 2,570 votes cast, the Textile Workers Union of America won collective bargaining rights for workers at plants of the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Co. here and in Peabody, Mass.

The CIO union defeated the Independent Sheeting Workers of America, which had previously been recognized as bargaining agency. The regional office of the Natl. Labor Relations Board which conducted the election said it was one of the largest polls ever held in New England.

5,000 Win 5% Pay Increase

Philadelphia, Aug. 12.—Five thousand workers at the Alexander Smith Carpet Company of Yonkers, New York, won a five per cent wage increase in a new agreement signed this week with the Textile Workers Union of America.

William Pollock, secretary-treasurer of the union here, said in announcing the agreement, that in addition to the general wage increase, which is on the basis of 50 weeks' employment a year, and amounts to a quarter of a million dollars a year, another 5 per cent increase was gained for workers on the third shift.

The contract also gives the TWUA sole bargaining rights, provides for a week's vacation with full pay, and sets up machinery for the adjustment of grievances. Emil Rieve, president of the TWUA, and Alex Riddett, president of Local 122, Yonkers, signed the contract. It was ratified at a mass meeting of the workers in Yonkers.

Leather Workers Get Pacts

Philadelphia, Aug. 12—Two contracts covering about 1,000 workers have been signed by the International Fur and Leather Workers Union, CIO, with the Surpass Leather Co. and H. Swoboda & Sons, Inc.

The agreements, which provide for a preferential shop and no wage reductions, run until August, 1940.

MUST REHIRE SEVEN

The National Labor Relations Board in Washington this week ordered the E. Hubschman & Sons, Inc., leather firm, to reinstate with back pay seven employes discharged for union activities, and to stop discouraging membership in the CIO union.

Evidence introduced at Board hearings disclosed that officers and supervisory employes of the company had taken a definitely anti-union attitude from the start of an organizing drive by the CIO leather local in April, 1937. The dismissed employes were all active members of the union and were highly skilled workers.

Simmons Bed Firm Signs CIO Contract

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 12.—The Simmons Company, one of the largest concerns in the bedding industry, has signed a closed shop contract with the United Furniture Workers covering workers in its San Francisco plant.

The company also has plants in Kenosha, Wis.; Seattle, Wash.; Elizabeth, N. J.; Atlanta, Ga.; Watertown, Mass.; Los Angeles, Cal. and other cities.

Won after prolonged negotiations, the agreement provides for minimum wage rates of 65 and 62½ cents for male workers, and 60 cents for female employes. Rolling mill employes are to receive 90 cents. In slack periods work is to be divided by operating on a 30-hour week. Under normal conditions the work week will be on a five-day 40-hour basis.

GM Agreement Major Gain For Union

DETROIT, Aug. 12.—Members of the United Automobile Workers today were back at work at General Motors, celebrating the biggest auto union victory since the first written agreements were signed in the winter of 1937.

Seventy-five hundred skilled tool and die makers, engineering and maintenance workers who had been on strike for more than a month, won most of the demands which they had submitted to the mammoth auto producer.

The agreement, signed after it had been ratified by the strikers, gave the UAW-CIO sole bargaining rights for the first time in 42 of GM's 59 plants, and increased wages by as much as 25c an hour in some cases. Most of the workers involved received 5c increases.

The agreement, which wipes out the remains of Homer Martin's disruptive influence in the GM system, provides for double time for Sunday and holiday work, and permits the use of the union label on tools and machinery purchased by the company from union suppliers.

Production workers, who were not called out on strike, will benefit from the pact when a new agreement is negotiated for them, UAW leaders predicted.

Though GM Pres. Knudsen endeavored to minimize the scope of the corporation's concessions, details of the agreement showed it to be an overwhelming union victory.

'ON FIRMEST BASE'

Walter Reuther, head of the UAW-CIO GM department, said that the union has been established "on the firmest base it has yet achieved among the 250,000 General Motors workers. . ."

Pointing out that the UAW-CIO will have sole bargaining committees in 42 General Motors plants, he predicted:

"The functioning of these committees can no longer be disturbed by the destructive efforts of the AFL or any other group as long as the present contract remains in effect.

"Until this agreement was signed, it was possible for the AFL to recruit three followers, send their names into the corporation, and claim the right to act as a plant committee. Automatically, that meant the end of bargaining for the workers in these plants, since the corporation refused to recognize either committee where dual committees appeared."

The agreement, he added, "re-establishes bargaining and griev-

Continued on Page Six

Packard Workers To Vote

Detroit, Aug. 12 — Nine thousand employes of the Packard Motor Co. will vote for a bargaining agency on August 17, the National Labor Relations Board announced today, thereby removing the possibility of a strike by the CIO United Automobile Workers.

The strike threat followed refusal of the management to discuss grievances with the CIO affiliate on the excuse that the AFL rump outfit has substantial representation among the employes.

Texans Say: 'Nix On Garner'

Amarillo, Tex., Aug. 12—Only 9 per cent of the Democratic voters in Vice President Garner's home state constituency in Amarillo favor him as a Presidential candidate, a poll taken by the New York Daily News-Chicago Tribune Press Service in this typical Texas city reveals.

Over 50 per cent of the members of the low-income group in Uvalde, Garner's home town, were found by the newsmen to oppose the leader of the anti-labor bloc in Congress.

'Explain Your Actions!' Congressmen Told

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—Workers, farmers, unemployed and other groups of progressive citizens today were preparing a nationwide "Information, Please" program with which to pepper reactionary Senators and Representatives returning to their homes after hatcheting almost every piece of liberal legislation considered at the Congressional session which adjourned last week.

A wave of protest—voiced by CIO Pres. John L. Lewis in his attack on Vice-Pres. Garner two weeks ago, and by New Deal Senator Claude Pepper of Florida on the Senate floor just before adjournment—swept the nation. CIO and Labor's Non-Partisan League affiliates were formulating a program of warning foes of New Deal legislation that defeat awaits them at the 1940 polls unless their policies are drastically changed.

THREE VICTORIES

When the Congressional smoke died away, the wage-hour bill remained unamended on its vital points, the Wagner Act was preserved—thanks to the CIO's year-old campaign and the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee had been given an additional $50,000 for its work.

Outside of these victories, the picture was a sorry one. Hoped-for amendments to the Woodrum-WPA bill were defeated by the conservative Democrat - Republican bloc. As a result, lay-offs of several thousand WPA workers who had been on the rolls for 18 months were ordered by Commissioner Harrington, who previously had held up his orded in the hope that the amendment introduced by Sen. Murray of Montana might be passed.

Other amendments, calling for prevailing hourly wage rates and retention of the monthly security wages, also were howled down.

TO PROBE NLRB

Investigation of the Labor Board, a move favored by the House Tories when their hopes for amendment of the Wagner Act were smashed, received a formal O.K. and $50,000 to boot. Speaker of the House Bankhead obliged the Administration foes by appointing a five-man committee deemed almost certain to smear the NLRB.

The Senate, responding to a plea by Senator Tydings, wealthy and conservative Marylander, passed a rider to the lend-spend bill which would have practically forbidden political activity by organized labor. Refusal of the House to consider the President's lend-spend bill wiped it off the books. The rider certainly would have been killed in conference committee sessions had the spending measure passed the House.

Possibility of an extended housing program, hailed both for its slum-clearing qualities, was postponed for another six months as the House repeated its lend-spend action and refused to give the proposal a place on its calendar.

PEOPLE AROUSED

The Congressional break with labor and the New Deal developed out of the progressives' reverses in the 1938 elections—which the reactionaries falsely estimated as a repudiation of the entire New Deal philosophy.

In months ahead the people will have their opportunity to show Congress that it made a bad guess. Evidence that the people have little sympathy for the Tory offensive is contained in the letters and wires that continue to pour into the CIO office as a re-

Continued on page five

Maritime Unions Plan Pact Conference

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—In preparation for renewal of union contracts with major steamship companies, representatives of eight CIO maritime unions will hold a conference in Washington, Aug. 18.

The meeting, called by Joseph Curran, president of the National Maritime Union and chairman of the CIO Maritime Committee, will discuss the basis for joint action in renewing present contracts, which expire September 30.

EIGHT UNIONS

Eight unions altogether will be represented, five of them West Coast organizations. Two national unions, the American Communications Association and the Marine Engineers Beneficial Association, are also in the group.

In announcing the meeting, Curran said: "In addition to laying the groundwork for action in relation to September 30, I have some very definite recommendations to make in regard to making the CIO Maritime Committee a functioning body to unite our activities on a national scale."

EXPIRE SEPTEMBER 30

Most of the marine labor contracts with the exception of the tanker agreements expire September 30, Curran explained. The CIO, he said, hopes eventually to unite all the marine unions into a National Industrial Maritime Federation.

There are three marine unions at the present time still in the American Federation of Labor, the Intl. Longshoremen's Association, the Sailors Union of the Pacific and the Masters, Mates and Pilots Association.

Garner

"Garner is the canny, hard-bitten, self-made, richest citizen of Uvalde, Tex., whose career and public service has been devoted to the cause of making richest citizens richer and poorer citizens take it. During the last six years he has been the spiritual head of the reactionary Roosevelt opposition and on occasions its conniver-in-chief.

". . . liberal politicians . . . just can't visualize a torch-light procession in which the marchers hold aloft a banner inscribed 'vote for the labor-baiting, poker-playing, whisky-drinking evil old man'. Since Harding, they reason, there has been no irresistible public demand for a whisky-drinking poker player in the White House." — *Kenneth Crawford, writing in the Aug. 5 issue of The Nation.*

LaFollette Committee, Given $50,000, To Push Associated Farmers Probe

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—The Senate Civil Liberties Committee today was rushing plans for a continued investigation of the Associated Farmers on the West Coast, following action of the Senate in providing an additional $50,000 for the probe.

By 36-17 vote, after a long and heated debate, the Senate granted the funds on the day before adjournment, though agreeing to allot it only half of the $100,000 requested by Senators Downey of California and Schwellenbach of Washington.

Friends of the committee, headed by Senators LaFollette of Wisconsin and Thomas of Utah, had despaired of winning new life for the investigation. The request for funds was tied up in the Senate Audit & Control Committee during most of the session, and a recommendation for action on the probe came to the Senate only a few days before adjournment.

Pres. Roosevelt spoke in favor of the appropriation at a number of press conferences, and Atty.-Gen. Frank Murphy, whose new civil liberties division at the Department of Justice was regarded by some as a successor to the LaFollette committee, took a similar stand.

As finally reported out by the Audit & Control Committee, the appropriation was cut to $50,000. Sen. LaFollette, during debate on the resolution, opined that the full $100,000 would be necessary to carry on the Associated Farmers investigation, pointing out the extra expense involved in travel to the west coast and the complexity of the AF set-up.

MAY GET MORE FUNDS

In supporting the $50,000 appropriation, however, a number of the Senators made it clear that the door will be open to further grants if the committee finds them necessary.

Sen. Hiram Johnson of California, Sen. "Cotton Ed" Smith of South Carolina and Sen. Burke of Nebraska were among those who led the opposition to the La-Follette-Thomas Committee.

"Cotton Ed," who managed to beat the purge a year ago, felt that the committee was a step to "state socialism" because it helped to centralize the federal government, and Burke, who sponsored the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers' amendments to the Wagner Act, objected to what he called the unity of the "philosophy" of Senators Thomas and LaFollette.

PRAISE WORK IN HARLAN

On the other hand, Sen. Alben Barkley of Kentucky, majority leader, praised the Committee's probe of Harlan County, asserting that it had helped the state to clear up a messy situation, and other Senators joined to laud the investigations.

The Associated Farmers, on which the LaFollette committee will concentrate during the next few months, is largely composed of big ranch owners and controlling interests in "farm factories" throughout California. It has been a consistent foe of unionism, and West Coast labor leaders have charged that it serves as a "front" for reactionary industrialists up and down the West Coast.

Largely responsible for much of the reactionary legislation in California's farm counties, the AF has expanded into neighboring states—Oregon, Washington, Arizona and Idaho—and has met sharp labor criticism in each new locality.

The CIO, the AFL and the National Grange all supported the resolution to give the LaFollette Committee funds to continue its investigation.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II August 14, 1939 No. 33

The General Motors Victory

The winning of the recent General Motors strike by the United Automobile Workers of the CIO was described by Pres. R. J. Thomas as "the greatest single victory for the union since the great strikes in 1937."

The CIO union won sole bargaining rights in 42 plants, a boosted wage schedule, overtime concessions and many other improvements in conditions.

The strike was a model of solidarity, militancy and union discipline. It demonstrated that the automobile workers have not lost their fighting spirit, despite the betrayals of the Homer Martin gang and the factional confusion which they created.

The strike established beyond question the loyalty of the auto workers to the CIO and sounded the death knell to the hopes of the AFL leadership to split their union ranks.

The early and dramatic successes of the UAW lent tremendous impetus to the organizing drives of the CIO in other industries. Now the General Motors victory, following successful strikes in Briggs and Allis-Chalmers plants and a long list of other organizational gains, has shown the stability of the UAW-CIO and demonstrated that it is coming out on top of all its recent difficulties.

This will be the best of news to the Packinghouse Workers, now approaching a showdown with the big corporations of their industry, and to all other CIO unions.

The CIO is on the march and not even the biggest corporations can stop it.

Don't Leave Them in Doubt

"You'd better talk to your representative when he gets home," is the advice given by one Washington agency to businessmen and employers. It advises them to tell members of Congress what they like and don't like about their voting records.

That's swell advice for labor too.

The tory majority in the past session of Congress went on the rampage on a dozen issues of vital concern to all labor unionists.

When they return home, your Congressmen and Senators will be wondering just what the voters are thinking about what they did or failed to do in Congress.

Don't leave them in agonizing doubt.

If they went down the line for labor in defense of the Wagner Act, of WPA, of the wage-hour law and in support of other progressive legislation, express your appreciation both individually and through your organizations.

If, on the other hand, they joined the tory bloc in voting to slash WPA, if they joined the conspiracy against labor's rights as embodied in the Wagner act, and if they voted against other measures of benefit to labor, be sure to let them know what you and your organizations think of their actions.

Most of the Congressmen with bad records will return home with pocketsful of excuses and alibis. But let them know that their votes speak louder than all their excuses, and that when next elections roll around, labor's votes can do a lot of talking too.

Success to the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers

The congratulations of the whole CIO go to the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers on the occasion of its 36th convention in Denver, Colo.

A long-established industrial union itself, this organization was a pioneer and founder of the CIO and has been one of the staunchest supporters of the whole program of industrial organization of the mass-production industries.

Although the past year has been one of poor production for the industry, Pres. Reid Robinson was able to report an impressive record of organizational gains.

Many elections and new contracts have been won in the north, east, south and west, throughout this far-flung industry.

Encouraged by the progress of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, all other CIO unions will wish them all success in the program of expanded organization planned by their convention.

Due For The Woodshed

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Revolt in Congress

THE revolt which occurred in the past session of Congress was a revolt directed against the interests of the great majority of the American people.

The revolt was directed against the unemployed. Slash after slash was made in appropriations for WPA and public works generally. WPA wages were cut and layoffs decreed for a million jobless.

The revolt was directed against labor unions. Every effort was made to amend and destroy the Wagner Act, and a so-called investigation was voted to smear the Labor Board and to hamper its usefulness to labor.

The revolt was directed against the lowest paid groups of American workers. A drive was started against the Wage-Hour Act, for the purpose of depriving two million sweated workers of its protection. Attempts were also made to prevent enforcement of the law by denying adequate appropriations.

The revolt was directed against farmers and little business as well as labor. The administration's lending-spending and housing bills were defeated. The House also voted to refuse an appropriation of $119,000,000 to the Commodity Credit Corporation for loans to farmers, but had to rescind its action at the last moment.

The revolt was directed against democratic liberties. Scores of anti-alien bills were introduced, and some of the most vicious of them were passed by the House.

Who Engineered This Revolt?

The American voters who reelected a New Deal administration and gave the Democratic party a huge majority in Congress, were under the impression that they could expect a progressive program of legislation in the interests of workers, farmers, and the common people generally.

Their will was defeated by the desertion of a bloc of tory Democrats who made common cause with the Republican minority, and who turned the control of Congress over to the new tory majority thus formed.

Hitler first raised his standard of revolt in a beer parlor. But the American tory conspiracy got off to a better start over the whisky glasses in Vice-President Garner's Senate office.

How Successful Was The Revolt?

The revolt of the Republican-Garnercrat alliance did not succeed in all it attempted.

Enough resistance was mobilized to prevent total destruction of the WPA program.

The Wagner Act was saved from the slaughter for which it was intended.

The wage-hour law was also saved at the last moment from destructive amendments.

The LaFollette-Thomas civil liberties committee was preserved through an appropriation of $50,000, despite all attempts to kill it.

But enough damage was done to WPA, to the housing program and to nearly all other progressive legislation to cause rejoicing in the reactionary camp.

Who Fought This Revolt?

The progressives in Senate and House put up a valiant fight but found themselves in a minority most of the time.

The lead in mobilizing popular resistance throughout the country to the tory revolt was taken by the CIO, by Labor's Non-Partisan League, and by other farm and progressive groups.

The role of the AFL leadership was a pitiful one. So far from rising to the defense of the Wagner Act, it actually led the attack by introducing amendments which embodied much of the program of the most anti-labor manufacturers.

The CIO fought every step of the way against the slashing of the WPA program. But the AFL top leadership did not raise a finger in defense of WPA until after the passage of the Woodrum bill, when it finally took alarm at the elimination of the prevailing wage.

Much of the rank and file of the AFL, however, joined with the CIO in defense of the Wagner Act, of WPA and of other progressive legislation.

The blast by John L. Lewis against Garner and the whole Republican-Garnercrat conspiracy aided in turning the tide somewhat in the closing days of Congress.

After this incident, the wage-hour amendments were shelved, the appropriation for the Lafollette-Thomas civil liberties committee was voted, and a few amends were made here and there for some of the worst excesses.

The Issue Is Clear

The issue is now clearly before the country. The tory bloc engineered by Garner has revealed its program of revolt against the interests of the majority of the American people.

Now it's up to labor, the farmers and all other progressives to let their representatives know what they think of this revolt, if they are to prevent even worse to follow in the next session, and if they are to prepare for the final stamping out of the revolt at the next elections.

Murray Asks Study of Unemployment

Steel Union Head Suggests F.D.R. Call Conference

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—A ringing challenge to government and industry to join with labor in working out a solution for the unemployment crisis, was issued today by Vice-President Philip Murray of the CIO in a nationwide radio broadcast.

Murray urged that a conference be called by the President of the United States, at which representatives of government, labor and industry would sit down together "in a spirit of patriotism" to pool their ideas on "America's No. 1 problem."

"This conference,' he said, "might solve the unemployment problem either through a collective agreement between these three groups to put people back to work, or by a coordinated legislative program worked out by government, industry and labor to be presented at the reconvened session of Congress this winter."

Speaking on a Dept. of Labor program over the NBC network, in which he was interviewed by Commissioner Isador Lubin, Murray told of the benefits brought to the steel industry by collective bargaining. A discussion of technological unemployment led up to his challenge.

A CHANCE FOR BUSINESS

"We have been belabored during the last few years with cries from business that it has not been given a chance to work its way out of its difficulties," Murray declared.

"We have been deafened by sure cures for economic ills from writers, statesmen and economists. We have furnished relief to the unemployed, and relief of course is necessary. But it is not the remedy.

"Now I'm going to issue a challenge! I challenge government, business and labor to send their best thinkers to meet in a spirit of patriotism around the conference table in Washington and to solve by processes of reasoning the grave problem of unemployment.

"Such a conference, I personally believe, should be held at the call of the President of the United States."

Describing unemployment as "America's No. 1 social, economic and political problem," Murray declared: "Failure to solve it constructively might very well rock the fundations of our government. The democratic method is the conference table."

Repeating his challenge, he concluded: "If the government accepts this challenge, I dare any group of Americans to resist or refuse to cooperate."

EXTENDS DEMOCRACY

Murray said that he had been pleased to see the "democratic way of life extended, through our collective bargaining agreements, into the steel mills of this nation and into the homes and communities of the steel workers — in fact into their very lives and the lives of their families.

"I've lived and worked in the Pittsburgh industrial district for more than a quarter century," he went on, "and I can tell you that until a few years ago Democracy —the democratic way of doing things — was something we were always after but never had."

The SWOC leader recalled that in pre-union days, many of the steel communities were virtual dictatorships. In 1933, when Sec. of Labor Frances Perkins was compelled to address Homestead, Pa., steel workers from the post-office steps, since all other meeting places were closed to her.

"If the Secretary of Labor should visit Homestead this summer," Murray said, "she'd find that one of the permanent town institutions is the steel workers' union office on Main Street, and all meeting places are wide open to Homestead's people. This is typical of how the collective bargaining agreements have brought new civil liberties to the workers, as well as new industrial rights."

In the mills themselves, dictatorships used to exist, he noted, with each department serving as a "little kingdom with foreman as judge, jury and executioner, too." Thanks to the union, "the foreman's kingdom has become a republic, and the workers have stopped being subjects and have become self-respecting citizens with rights and privileges in their departments," with each member having the right to take complaints before a "jury of his peers."

Job security and seniority are other union contributions to the peace of mind of the steel worker, the CIO vice-president told the radio audiences, while average hourly earnings have jumped from 72½c in 1936 to 91½c at present — a 26% increase.

Say Go-Between For AFL-NAM Has 'Smear Board' Job

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—Gilbert H. Montague, Wall St lawyer linked with the AFL's efforts to amend the Wagner Act, will be general counsel for the smear investigation of the National Labor Relations Board, informed observers predicted today.

Montague, it is recalled, was in secret communication with Joseph Padway, general counsel for the AFL, during the federation's convention last year, and helped the AFL leadership to draft crippling amendments for the Act.

Letters printed in the "Washington Merry-Go-Round" column last May revealed that Montague had written to Colby Chester, retired head of the National Assn. of Manufacturers, that . . . "Padway has now asked me confidentially to prepare for him draft amendments of the act . . ." During July, August and September of 1938, Montague had supplied the AFL lawyer "confidentially . . various legal memos and data he requested . . ."

If Montague becomes the committee's counsel, the smear drive against the Labor Board will continue at an even greater pitch than was first expected from the three-man majority of opponents to the Board who were appointed by the Speaker of the House.

TWO LIBERALS

The two men counted as sympathetic to the NLRB are A. D. Healey of Massachusetts and Abe Murdock of Utah, both Democrats.

Heading the group is Howard Smith of Virginia, sponsor of the investigation and a man never known during his many years in the House to have supported a labor measure. Two Republicans, C. A. Halleck of Indiana and H. N. Routzohn of Ohio, complete the quintet.

As announced by Smith, the committee will meet in Washington Sept. 7, to work out its plan, and hearings are expected to get under way around October.

Also joining the anti-New Deal smear drive will be the Dies Committee, whose hearings are expected to start very shortly. Rep. Healey, one of the small liberal minority on the Dies group, resigned from that post to accept the position on the Labor Board inquiry.

HEARINGS RECESSED

Hearings of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor have been recessed until Jan. 15, 1940, when CIO Pres. John L. Lewis and Vice-Pres. Philip Murray will be given an opportunity to wind up the CIO argument against Wagner Act amendments. During the summer, statements of a number of union officials will be filed in the Committee's record.

When the hearings came to their temporary end. Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, was reading into the record his 200-page argument against amendments, and citing widespread AFL membership displeasure with the Walsh-Green-NAM proposals as evidence that the AFL generals had no army to lead.

A supplementary statement filed by Pressman analyzed and criticized the amendments offered by Sen. Bruke, which have direct NAM support.

Strike Victory Nips Company's 'Plan' To Move

Philadelphia, Aug. 12 — The Brown Packing Co. has given up its widely-publicized intention of "moving south" and instead has recognized the United Agricultural, Cannery, Packing & Allied Workers, increased wages and granted holidays with pay.

Senator Pepper Accuses Tories Of Trifling With U. S. Interests

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12. — Taking up where CIO Pres. John L. Lewis left off, Sen. Claude Pepper of Florida accused Congressional reactionaries of pandering to the will of a small group of vested interests at the expense of the common people.

The Senator's speech, made on the Senate floor at the closing session, brought protests from the anti-New Deal, anti-labor clique, and Senator Burke of Nebraska, sponsor of the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers' Wagner Act amendments tried, though without success, to silence the Florida liberal.

Veteran observers here harked back to the days of "Old Bob" LaFollette for a similar type of attack on the representatives of reaction. Members of the Republican-Garnerite coalition were stunned by the southern New Dealer's criticism.

Pepper charged that tory Democrats, by forming an "unholy alliance" with the Republicans, had jeopardized world peace and attempted to "scuttle the American government and the American people."

PLACE GRUDGES OVER WELFARE

While Senators on the floor and visitors in the gallery listened in tense silence, Pepper continued:

"I accuse that wilful alliance of a designed attempt to withhold aid and meager succor from the unemployed of America in the hope that in their mad misery they might raise their hand against a President and an Administration who have tried to restore them to the dignity and opportunity of American citizens.

"I accuse that designing alliance of a deliberate attempt to sabotage the first real effort ever made in this nation to secure for the workers of America industrial democracy and economic emancipation."

"I accuse this pharisaical alliance of hypocritical lip-service to the cause of Constitutional government while they use the lives of the men, women and children of America as a pawn in a vicious game of petty, personal, partisan policies," the Senator continued.

"I accuse them of having prostituted their power to serve the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, the Manufacturers' Association and the beneficiaries of special privilege who hate in their hearts that man who has tried to lighten the burden of toil on the back of labor.

"I accuse that intriguing alliance of trying to strike down by emasculation and assassination the fair labor standards act, to preserve intact the unconscionable employers who would sweat their fortunes out of the nonresisting bodies of men, women and children, and wring their dirty dividends from the misery of their fellow citizens even in their own communities."

Pepper charged that this group has sought to widen and extend the breach in labor's ranks in order that employers may benefit, and has sacrificed the "best interests of their states, their regions, their businesses, their professions and their country in order to kill this Administration and carve up its corpse for personal, political aggrandizement."

ENCOURAGE FOES OF DEMOCRACY

Warning that the tory clique has encouraged the enemies of democratic government and has tried to "perpetuate the dictatorship of a privileged class," the Senator concluded:

"Men who sink into restless sleep with the muffled sobs of a disconsolate wife dinning their ears, and open their eyes to see the gaunt faces of emaciated and sick children, do not understand the chess game which the ambitious and designing make out of government and the cold heartlessness with which bitter men make the helpless suffer when they war for power and the Presidency of the United States.

"This great nation was never more distressed, more sorely pressed by her afflictions than now."

'Explain!' People Ask Congressmen

Continued from Page Three

sult of Lewis' speech against Garner.

The Waukesha, Wis., Trades and Labor Council, AFL, declared that Lewis "rendered a public service when he condemned the labor-baiting of the Garner Democrats and the reactionary Republicans."

From Texas, CIO officials expressed the belief that the "Garner boom is a deliberate attempt to defeat Pres. Roosevelt and the New Deal in whatever may be proposed for 1940." They pointed to the fact that practically every big business lobbyist in the Texas capital is whooping it up for the Uvalde squire.

Warn Foes Of New Deal

New York, Aug. 12—Acting upon the direct request of a number of locals, the American Communication Assn.'s general executive board today pledged full and continuing support for the New Deal while warning opponents of the President's program that labor will not stand for its destruction.

The resolution named the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers and the "Hoover-Dewey-Vandenberg Republican group" as leaders in the campaign to destroy the Wagner Act, the Wage-Hour Act and other progressive legislation.

WON'T REMAIN IDLE

Pres. Mervyn Rathborne, commenting on the board's action, warned that "the communications workers will not stand idly by while the 'evil old men', both reactionary Democrats of the Garner ilk and tory Republicans destroy the rights of the American people.

Mine, Mill Union Hails New Deal

Denver, Colo., Aug. 12. — "The membership of the CIO will not tolerate a Munich peace, whereby our affiliated unions will be stripped of their membership in order to satisfy the principles of craft unionism."

This was the message brought by Walter Smethurst, assistant to CIO President Lewis, to 150 delegates attending the 36th annual convention of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers, in session here today.

Declaring that many reactionary members of Congress rode into their present offices only by holding on to the "coat-tails of President Roosevelt's popularity," Smethurst warned that "if the administration in power today expects the workers' vote in 1940, it must rid its household of those who would destroy labor's rights."

LAUDS GAINS

President Reid Robinson, in an address of welcome to the delegates, outlined the tasks which lie before the convention, and congratulated the union on its recent gains in Canada and all parts of the United States and Alaska.

He read statistics to show that existence of the Wagner Act has reduced the number of strikes in the metal mining industry, at the same time shortening the duration of those which did take place. Defense of the act and of other New Deal legislation was outlined as a key task for American workers during the next few years. A resolution committing the union to supporting the New Deal and President Roosevelt in 1940 won a standing ovation from the delegates.

MISS LEWIS PRESENT

Present at the convention was Miss Kathryn Lewis, who brought greetings from her father, CIO President Lewis. Miss Lewis, a U. S. delegate to the Lima, Peru, conference of American nations and to the meeting of democratic groups in the Latin-American nations at Montevideo, Uruguay, led a round-table discussion on the problems of Latin-American workers in this country, a large number of whom belong to the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers Union.

Other convention speakers included President Michael Quill of the CIO Transport Workers Union, who answered red-baiting charges against unionism by pointing out that members of his own organization now have ample time for church, not to mention spare change to put in the collection box.

Describing the TWU's cooperative medical service, Quill declared: "It used to cost the worker about $25 to get his tonsils removed. Now we're ripping out the tonsils at $6.50 a clip, and the companies call it 'Communism'."

Harry Bridges, West Coast CIO director, and Tom Mooney were unable to make scheduled appearances before the convention. Bridges is attending deportation hearings against him in San Francisco and the veteran labor martyr is seriously ill.

PLAN PICNIC

Barberton, Ohio, Aug. 12—CIO Councils in Cleveland, Akron and Barberton, and their affiliated locals, will hold a joint picnic at Chippewa Lake Park, Sunday, Aug. 27. A Studebaker Champion and 50 other prizes will be given away. A number of well-known speakers will address the crowd, according to Glenn Street, secretary of the Barberton Council.

Auto Workers Union Wins Major Victory From General Motors

Continued from Page Three

ance machinery" in the other 11 plants.

Reuther recalled that the 1937 agreement had given the UAW-CIO sole bargaining rights in only 17 plants, and for a period of but six months.

RESPONSIBLE UNION

He said that the UAW pledge not to strike before grievance and bargaining procedure had been fully used, was given "voluntarily and without hesitation."

"We have not had a single 'wild cat' strike since the union rid itself of Homer Martin and his irresponsible lieutenants seven months ago," he said.

Adjustment of the wage rates, which strikers claimed had followed a crazy-quilt pattern through the GM corporate structure, will be based on a revised scale at Fisher Body Plant 23, and the wide differentials among plants which have existed in the past will be "ended or minimized."

SPLIT EFFORTS FAILED

The CIO victory gained added lustre through the failure of the AFL to split the strikers' ranks. Federation big-wigs journeyed to the motor city last week and talked eloquently about the projected campaign to organize the auto workers into the AFL, but the attempt to split the GM strike by officially-condoned scabbing proved a dud when local AFL unionists refused to follow their top leaders' advice.

AFL building tradesmen, metal tradesmen and teamsters observed the UAW-CIO picket lines.

The agreement, according to Reuther, "kills the AFL current local union campaign before it can get under way, and lays the basis for stable industrial relations in the future." It signalizes the "end of Homer Martin, because those few locals he has will swing over and in six weeks he will have lost his own local."

Construction Union Campaign Off To A Good Start

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—The new CIO union campaign in the construction industry is meeting with a most enthusiastic reception, Chairman A. D. Lewis of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee reported today.

Thousands of letters from workers of all categories in the industry have poured into the UCWOC office in the United Mine Workers Building here, Lewis said, nearly all indicating a desire to help build the new CIO union.

Although the Committee has barely begun its work, a number of locals have already been chartered and many more applications for charters are pending. Field representatives have been selected and placed in the field, and the organizing work is getting off to a good start.

All CIO affiliates have been asked to cooperate, and Pres. John L. Lewis has instructed all CIO regional directors and field representatives to give every possible assistance to the campaign.

"The CIO has set up an Organizing Committee in the construction industry, not as a gesture, but as a definite program which all CIO representatives should promote to the best of their ability," the CIO president said in a letter addressed to all CIO officials.

"I would request that you immediately canvass the situation in the construction industry in your locality and advise the Chairman of the Committee as to the possibilities of organizing and setting up a local union therein."

The letter of President Lewis noted that thousands of requests for this action have come to his attention, "because construction workers desire a modern form of organization modelled along industrial lines, which will bring to them the benefits of collective bargaining, eliminate jurisdictional disputes and improve their wages and working conditions."

News Guild Re-Elects Pres. Broun

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 12—Delegates to the American Newspaper Guild's sixth annual convention were homeward bound today after committing the newsmen's union to continued support of the New Deal and re-electing Pres. Heywood Broun to a sixth term.

Milton Kaufman of New York was elected executive vice-president to succeed Jonathan Eddy, who has held the office since formation of the ANG. Eddy was given an ovation when described as a "valiant man" and was thanked by Pres. Broun for his services to the organization. Kaufman has been executive secretary of the New York Guild.

Pres. Harry Wohl of the Chicago Guild, a leader of the Hearst strikers in that city, was added to the executive board as a regional vice-president.

TO FIGHT A.P.

Groundwork for a determined fight against the two-year stalling policy of the Associated Press was laid in a report by Vice-Pres. Morris Watson, former AP employe who heads the union's wire service committee. A resolution condemned AP's "reactionary labor policies" and instructed the Guild to inform the entire labor movement about the news service's anti-union labor relations policies.

The delegates also voted condemnation of Rev. Charles E. Coughlin, whom they branded "an enemy of progressive unionism, a harbinger of fascism, a would-be strike-breaker." The resolution was offered by Jack Morris, a Hearst striker from Chicago and a Catholic.

Independent political action again won ANG support, and the Guild executive board was directed to create a special committee to support the New Deal in 1940. Reactionary Congressmen were rebuked for crippling WPA, and the delegates demanded that WPA jobs be given to all unemployed workers willing to work.

BLAME AFL LEADERS

Discussing the split in labor's ranks, a resolution pointed out that there is "little actual division in the rank and file" and charged that responsibility for the present situation lies with "entrenched AFL leaders who do not lead, but rather are in actual reaction and retreat."

Lead Newspaper Guild

Officials of the American Newspaper Guild talk over prospects for the next 12 months as the union's annual convention ends in San Francisco. Left to right: Sec.-Treas. Victor Pasche, Pres. Heywood Broun and Milton Kaufman of New York, newly-elected executive vice-president who succeeds Jonathan Eddy.

Spies Squirm At Bridges Hearing

San Francisco, Aug. 12—Two of the West Coast's most prominent foes of organized labor took the witness stand at the Harry Bridges deportation hearing this week and jumped about like kittens on a hot stove.

Questioned by counsel for the CIO west coast leader were Harper Knowles, director of labor spies, stoolpigeon for the Associated Farmers and industrialist groups, red-baiter par excellence; and Capt. John J. Keegan of the Portland, Oreg., police department, friend of open shoppers and foe of labor unions.

Defense counsel caused a minor sensation when it read into the record a letter indicating that Keegan had no faith in Larry Doyle, general chief of labor spies in the Northwest and a strong supporter of the Bridges deportation movement.

Questioning of Knowles and Keegan was aimed at building up their connections with the Immigration Service their participation in offering illegal inducements and making threats in order to secure witnesses against the West Coast CIO director.

Just Right—

For Labor Day

•

For men:

CIO lapel buttons 25c
CIO tie clasps .. 35c

For Ladies:

CIO emblem pins .25c
—with safety clasp 35c

Advertise Your Union!

Send orders, accompanied by checks or money orders, to Comptroller, CIO, 1106 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Labor and the Law

By Lee Pressman

CIO General Counsel

Success Story

The Wagner Act was not amended at this session of Congress.

The reactionary officials of the AFL wanted amendments. The anti-labor employers making up the National Association of Manufacturers and the Chamber of Commerce wanted amendments. The so-called public press screamed in daily editorials that the "public" wanted amendments.

Against this tremendous pressure for the destruction of the Wagner Act, the CIO, with its four million members, stood firm for no amendments. It was supported by a considerable section of the AFL unions themselves, independent unions like the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, progressive organizations, and outstanding liberals like Senator Thomas of Utah, Senator Wagner and Msgr. Ryan.

It is worthwhile recounting the legislative record. A flood of amendments, touched off by the AFL Executive Council proposals, were introduced at the beginning of the year. Hearings began in April before the Senate and House Labor Committees and continued for four months to the end of the session. During the course of the hearings, AFL top officials, notorious anti-labor corporations and their lawyers appeared before the Committee and presented a mass of unsupported charges and absolute distortions of the facts, both as to particular cases and as to recent developments in industrial relations.

REACTIONARIES MADE THREATS

Throughout the hearings, threats were made by reactionary blocs in Congress that they would force amendments no matter what the hearings disclosed. In carrying out these threats, the Garner-dominated Rules Committee of the House of Representatives paved the way for passage by the reactionaries of the Smith resolution providing for an investigation of the Labor Board.

But the CIO will have an opportunity to meet the false charges which will undoubtedly be made in the Smith investigation. Both the Senate and House Labor Committees have completed hearing the testimony of witnesses sponsoring amendments. Both have adjourned to reopen at the beginning of the next session of Congress in January, 1940. At that time, in the House the CIO will have full opportunity to present all of its witnesses to show that these amendments would destroy the Wagner Act and that they do not represent the wishes of organized labor in the AFL and the CIO.

LEWIS, MURRAY TO APPEAR

In the Senate, John L. Lewis, President of the CIO, and Philip Murray, Vice President of the CIO, are scheduled to appear and present the views of progressive labor forces in this country.

A summary of the record is a source of gratification. The CIO succeeded in staving off the attack on the part of the reactionaries, including the officials of the AFL, to destroy the Wagner Act. In addition, the CIO succeeded in having both the House and Senate Labor Committees resume their hearings at the beginning of the next session of Congress. CIO leaders will then be in a position to open the attack against the enemies of labor.

PHILIP MURRAY

Honored by CIO steel workers

Steel Workers To Honor Murray

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 12—Steel workers from a hundred communities in western Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio today pay honor to their veteran leader, Chairman Philip Murray of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee.

The celebration—first of an annual affair to be known as "Phil Murray Day"—will be held in the future on June 17, and all steel workers in the nation will observe the day, which marks the anniversary of the formation of SWOC.

In the three years of SWOC existence, Murray has won the respect of steel worker and steel employer alike. Under his leadership, the CIO steel union won 595 signed contracts in an industry that previously had boasted of its open shop policy; gained the $5 minimum wage, the 40-hour week, vacations with pay, grievance and seniority systems.

Some 1,100 SWOC lodges, led by 11,000 officers, are now functioning throughout the nation, and 8,000 grievance committee men are helping to establish a new era in the steel industry's labor relations.

HIGHLY REGARDED

Under Murray's guidance, the SWOC has won a nation-wide reputation for its intelligent handling of problems, its responsibility, and its observance of contracts. The SWOC leader has described his philosophy of collective bargaining as this:

"Never try to fool the men you represent. Tell them what it is possible and what it is impossible to do. And look upon a signed contract as something sacred—a pact to be observed; an agreement which is your bond of good faith."

CAME TO U. S. IN 1902

Murray came to this country in 1902 from Scotland, where his father had been a leader of a coal union local. Arrived in the United States, "Phil" dug coal by day, studied correspondence courses at night. In 1912, when he was 24 years old, he became a member of the United Mine Workers international executive board, and four years later was elected president of District 5 of the UMW. He became international vice-president of that union in 1920 and has held the office ever since.

Murray has served on a number of government agencies, dating from participation in the National War Labor Board in 1917-1918 to more recent activity during the NRA period. He has helped to frame a number of pieces of important legislation, most of them dealing with the coal industry.

A Tale of 3 Union Men:

Brother Blunder Buys A Suit

(The first of a series of 3 stories. The next will appear in an early issue.)

Brother Ben Blunder, loyal member of Local 444, went downtown one day and bought a new suit. There was nothing extraordinary about the suit. It had buttons, sleeves, pockets, and creases just like any other suit. Ben bought it because he liked it, and as soon as it was altered he put it on and walked home.

Then strange things took place. Before Blunder had walked very far his vest began to get tighter, so tight that he could hardly breathe. Just as Ben began to unbutton it, it began to loosen, much to his relief. But before he had a chance to take a deep breath he was startled by all the money and keys in his trouser pockets falling in the street. After retrieving the money and keys he put his hands in his pockets but could find no holes. Instead he discovered his trouser cuffs around his knees.

TERRIBLE SPECTACLE

The cuffs returned to their normal position, and then began the most terrible spectacle put on by a man's suit. It stretched and it shrunk. It pulled Ben Blunder from one side of the street to the other. It made him lie down. It made him jump. It smothered him, tripped him, chafed him. In fact that brand new suit did everything possible to make Brother Blunder, loyal member of Local 444, the most uncomfortable man in the world.

Suddenly, without warning, the suit relaxed, returning to the shape and behavior it had when Ben first put it on. "What have I done to deserve such treatment?" Ben asked, talking to no one in particular.

"You're a fool," answered a small voice.

"Who are you?" Ben asked, almost startled out of his wits.

"I'm stitches," the small voice replied. "I'm what keeps your suit together, and you're still a fool. Imagine! A good union man and you buy a suit like this! Do you know that the women who put me here were paid less than eight dollars a week?"

A CONSUMER-SCAB

Then a deep voice spoke. It was the voice of Pockets: "You're not only a fool, you're a consumer-scab. I have a good notion to drop all your money again."

"What have I done that makes you abuse me so?" Ben asked. He decided that he had lost his mind and that he might as well continue the conversation.

"What have you done?" squealed Buttons. "You've bought this suit. That's what you've done!"

"Yes," said Lining, "you've bought a suit made in a sweatshop by non-union labor. You've put money in the pocket of a sweatshop boss, and you've encouraged his competition with union shops."

Then Trouser Cuffs spoke in a very low voice: "And you've encouraged him in his anti-union tactics. How can organized labor become stronger if union men don't buy union made products?"

ASHAMED

Brother Blunder was now feeling thoroughly ashamed. "But how could I tell that this suit wasn't union made?"

Ben was practically shaken out of his new suit by the answer. Every member of the suit spoke up in chorus, from the smallest button-hole to the cloth itself.

"LOOK FOR THE UNION LABEL," they all said. "LOOK FOR THE LABEL OF THE AMALGAMATED CLOTHING WORKERS OF AMERICA"!

Nova Scotia Steel Firm To Sign Pact

Sydney, Nova Scotia, Aug. 12—The Dominion Steel and Coal Corp. is willing to recognize the Sydney Steelworkers' Union, CIO affiliate, as sole bargaining agency for union employes of its Sydney plant, the corporation announced in an official statement.

Furthermore the statement said the corporation was agreeable to signing a two-year contract with the officers and the union.

Issuance of the statement followed shortly after a conference between company and labor officials concerning the plant, which employs 3,100 men. The conference was arranged on the occasion of the visit of President Arthur Cross of the company to Sydney.

Republicans Gloat

Pretty pleased over the defeat of progressive measures in Congress are these three Republican House leaders: C. E. Mapes of Michigan, J. W. Martin of Massachusetts and J. P. Wolcott of Michigan. Joining with conservative Democrats, the GOP killed the lend-spend and housing bills, authorized a smear probe of the Labor Board and tried to kill the wage-hour bill.

New Homes for Old

A department dealing with the need for better housing and how to obtain it, conducted by the CIO Committee on Housing.

By THOMAS HUMPHRIES

A Temporary Setback

The housing bill has been defeated.

During the last few days of Congress the unholy alliance of the Republicans and anti-New Deal Democrats in the House knifed legislation that would have enabled the construction of more than 220,000 new homes for families now living in the slums.

But did they fight the housing bill openly and honestly?

Not at all! They used every underhand method known to man.

UNDERHAND TACTICS

First of all, they misrepresented. They exaggerated the cost of the housing program. They deliberately misinterpreted statements that had been made by USHA Administrator Straus.

Second, by voting against consideration of the bill and thus keeping it off the House floor, they avoided a direct vote on the bill. In this way they were able to win the votes of many Representatives who never would have dared to vote openly against slum clearance and low-rent public housing.

Third, scores of Representatives went back on pledges they had made to their constituents. When the vote on considering the housing bill was taken, the floor of the House was strewn with broken promises.

Fourth, the Republicans reversed themselves and made housing a partisan issue. In the Senate many Republicans joined in passing the housing bill. In the House, however, the Republicans voted almost solidly against the bill.

At the next session of Congress the housing bill will come up again.

Since it has already been passed by the Senate and by the appropriate House committees, the fight will take place on the House floor. But it should not be confined to the House floor. It should be waged in the home district of every Representative who voted against considering the housing bill at the last session.

Moreover, there is no reason to wait until January. The fight should start right now. CIO unions should find out exactly what position their Representatives took on housing and take the necessary steps to insure favorable action at the next session. The CIO Housing Committee can answer any inquiries as to how individual Congressmen voted.

ENCOURAGING SIGNS

Despite the do-nothing attitude of Congress, certain minor victories were won on the housing front.

Perhaps the most important of these was the authorization of a National Housing Census. This housing census, which will cost about $8,000,000, will be taken in conjunction with the regular 1940 census and will bring together the best information ever gathered in America on the extent of bad housing and the housing problem in general.

Moreover, Congress voted to allow the Home Owners' Loan Corporation to increase the amount of time for the repayment of loans by home owners from 15 to 25 years. And on its own accord the HOLC decided to reduce interest rates from 5% to 4½%. In addition, the Federal Housing Authority reduced the maximum interest rate on FHA-insured mortgage loans from 5% to 4½%.

These reductions in interest rate by the HOLC and FHA were largely the result of the campaign waged by HOLC home owners and the Monopoly Committee's emphasis upon the importance of reducing interest rates. Nevertheless, they are only a beginning. FHA and HOLC interest rates should be reduced to at least 3% during the next two years or so.

8,000 Picket Celanese Co. Plant

Cumberland, Md., Aug. 12—The giant Celanese Corporation here closed down last week when 8,000 workers went on strike as the result of a breakdown of negotiations with Local 1274 of the CIO Textile Workers Union.

The work stoppage began with the three o'clock afternoon shift, and within five hours the mill was closed down tight with strong picket lines set up.

The CIO textile union has been trying to negotiate a contract for more than a year, but in spite of its high profits the Corporation has refused to make the wage adjustments demanded by the local.

TURN DOWN OFFER

At a conference last week, a company proposal for slight wage increases covering only one-third of the employes was turned down by 3,000 members of the local, and the executive board was authorized to call a strike if the company continued to refuse to meet their demands for union recognition, protectin for workers in meeting technological changes and larger wage increases for all employes.

The union maintained that with the corporation's profits exceeding $3,000,000 for the first six months of 1939, it could well afford to pay its workers more. From 1925 to date, Celanese profits have totalled about $40,000,000, the local stated.

Paging Mr. Garner!

BALTIMORE, Aug. 12.—"Horse and buggy" economics still prevail in this city, a survey made by CIO leaders has revealed.

Inquiries at a local stable brought the information that it costs $12 a week to hire a horse.

It costs only $11 a week to hire a man for 44 hours, under the minimum scale set by the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Tiff Miners, Starving On $4-a-Month Relief, Win U. S. Probe

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—Bringing tales of virtual starvation on $4 a month relief handouts, leaders of jobless tiff miners in Washington County, Mo., successfully appealed today to Pres. Roosevelt for an investigation of their plight.

Jack Sullivan and Atty. George Duemler, representing the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers Union, and T. P. Lacey, speaking for small landowners and shopkeepers, left a petition at the White House containing upwards of 3,000 names, and later conferred with WPA Commissioner Harrington, who promised to send investigators to the scene.

Machines, each one of which does the work of nearly a hundred men, have brought economic chaos into the county, which has always been notorious for its low living standards, the delegation told officials. Tiff—used in paint, rubbers tires and other commercial products—was formerly dug out of the ground by hand, but steam shovels now scoop it up in great quantities. Before introduction of the machinery, the miners used to average about $7 a week.

CHILDREN SUFFER

Children are suffering from lack of milk, and whole families are existing on meager rations of beans and bread, Duemler said. He pointed out that the people of Washington County are seeking a full investigation of the problem, knowing that temporary relief handouts will provide no permanent answer.

The petition presented at the White House noted that "normal functioning of relief and WPA cannot feed these victims of circumstances.

"The business men and farmers of the county are so tied up with this problem that the entire Washington County, Mo., faces complete chaos unless something is done immediately to remedy this situation."

Metal Miners Win Poll By 5-1 Margin Over AFL

Birmingham, Ala., Aug. 12 — An election held among the red ore miners of the Woodward Iron Company was won by the CIO over an AFL union by a vote of 454 to 81.

In announcing the results of the poll conducted by the Labor Board, Yelverton Cowherd, CIO regional director, said it was an outstanding victory "in the face of persistent company interest in behalf of the AFL."

Woodward is the same company that attempted to hold out against an agreement with the union in the recent mine contracts, but finally capitulated and signed the captive mine agreement.

A. H. Berg, president of the company, has been showing a deep interest in the affairs of Associated Industries, Inc., of Alabama, in an apparent program to destroy labor unions in this district, Cowherd declared.

Armour Heeds Tie-Up Threat

Continued from Page One

and Peoria, Ill., plants have been filed with the National Labor Relations Board. A scheduled Labor Board election at the Armour plant in Fort Worth, Tex., has been postponed, union officials said, due to the company's "campaign of terrorism."

The Chicago charges grew out of distribution by foremen and company union stooges of anti-PWOC poems during an NLRB poll at the 31st Street plant here. Supervisors of the election, which the PWOC won by a 642-146 margin, forced the company to cooperate in destroying the literature.

"Marked bias" in favor of an AFL company union by an Armour official at Peoria was responsible for the filing of Labor Board charges in that city.

In Oklahoma City, the PWOC lost its first election by 25 votes as a result of a desperate company campaign against the union.

STOOGES ENROLLED

Don Harris of the PWOC revealed that the management had enlisted the aid of stooges, supervisory and office workers, in a campaign to paint the issue as one of strike, rather than of collective bargaining agency. Workers were told that a PWOC victory would result in closing of the plant, and warnings were issued that men who voted for the union would lose their jobs.

Efforts to stir up race prejudice among Negro and white workers were also undertaken by the company, Harris charged.

CIO Sweeps Board Poll

Baltimore, Md., Aug. 12—The CIO continued its string of Labor Board election victories today as the United Clay and Brick Workers here trounced an AFL affiliate, 332 to 23.

In addition to winning among the production employes, the CIO union also captured two more victories in craft unit elections ordered by the NLRB. Machinists picked the CIO over the AFL 13 to 1, while all nine eligible engineers voted for the CIO.

Button Workers Call Strike

Muscatine, Ia., Aug. 12.—Failing to reach an agreement after seven weeks' negotiations with the Hawkeye Pearl Button Co. here, 400 workers walked out on a strike called by Local 289, Amalgamated Clothing Workers, CIO.

The union spokesmen say the strike is 100% effective in spite of an injunction restricting the number of pickets around the plant. A representative from the Labor Board has held conferences with both parties to the dispute.

Workers Force Action

Some 3,000 members of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee joined this Chicago mass meeting to protest the firing of 15 members of a local grievance committee by Armour & Co. Threat of a strike forced the company to rescind its action. PWOC's drive for a national Armour contract continues at full speed.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 34 20 AUGUST 21, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

ARMOUR STRIKE LOOMS AS STALLING CONTINUES

The News In Brief

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

NAM

Washington.— The National Association of Manufacturers is creating disregard for the government's laws, the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee charged in a report which criticized NAM's attitude toward the Wagner Act and revealed the source of its $1,400,000 yearly income.

Tories

New York. — Congressional Tories must be repudiated at the polls, the General Executive Board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers said in a statement issued at the close of its meeting here.

Bethlehem

Washington. — Bethlehem Steel Corporation's "employe representation plan", which dates from post-War days, is nothing but a company union which must be disestablished, the National Labor Relations Board ruled.

Farm-Labor

New York. — Striking New York dairy farmers have full support from the Empire State's Industrial Union Council in their campaign to lift prices by the milk trust.

Campaign

Denver.—The Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers will undertake an intensive organizing drive, as a result of action taken by delegates to the 36th annual convention held here last week.

Unions Back U. S. Probe In Louisiana

New Orleans, Aug. 19 — Efforts of the federal government to get to the bottom of Louisiana's current political scandal have the wholehearted support of the New Orleans Industrial Union Council, CIO.

The resolution called for full CIO support to Pres. Roosevelt and Atty. General Murphy in their campaign to "give our state a square New Deal" . . . and to "ferret out corrupt political officials and their satellites."

The CIO council called upon AFL unions in the state "to join with us in the assistance of these federal agencies for the fullest prosecution of every individual connected with any form of graft and corruption."

INFORM U. S. OF DEMANDS: Above, Chairman Van A. Bittner of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee meets with Sec. of Labor Frances Perkins, to whom leaders of the CIO union described Armour's stubborn refusal to sign a national agreement.

Below: PWOC's National Armour Policy Committee meets in Washington, orders a strike at Armour's before Labor Day if the company refuses to negotiate a union contract before that time. Shown in the front row are, left to right: James Stanton of District 6; Asst. National Director Henry Johnson; Chairman Van A. Bittner; Director Don Harris; and Oscar Wilson of Chicago.

Union Leaders Confer With Miss Perkins

(See Story on Page Three; Editorial Page Four)

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—Every major plant of Armour & Co., giant meat packing firm, will be closed by a strike before Labor Day unless the company quickly reverses its time-worn policy of stalling off union contract negotiations.

This was the warning issued here by Chairman Van A. Bittner of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, who led the union's National Policy Committee to Washington for conferences with Sec. of Labor Frances Perkins.

Miss Perkins was to confer today with H. S. Eldred of Armour over the union's demands, but PWOC leaders were frankly pessimistic about the ability of the meat packing corporation to understand any action less drastic than strike.

Bittner said that the union, which has been certified by the National Labor Relations Board in every key Armour property, would cripple the firm's operations until a contract was won. The other "Big Four" meat packers — Swift, Wilson and Cudahy—have also been asked to sign PWOC contracts, and union leaders predicted that all four would be faced with a concerted demand for action.

"We've used every peaceful method to persuade Armour to negotiate," Bittner informed Miss Perkins. "We have won elections and been certified by the NLRB in 17 of their 19 major plants. Yet still they refuse . . . If you and the Federal government cannot persuade Armour & Co. to obey the law, to bargain collectively in good faith, to negotiate a contract, we will use our economic strength in a nationwide strike."

Model Pact—40% Pay Raise

CHICAGO, Aug. 19 — Steel Workers Organizing Committee officials signed what they called a "model contract" today with the Intl. Rolling Mill Products Co. here.

Negotiated by Harry Harper, SWOC organizer, and a union committee, the agreement provides for a 40 per cent increase in wages, the union shop, check-off, seniority and vacations. One hundred workers are affected.

Shoe Workers Win Election

Worcester, Mass., Aug. 19.—Organizing activities of the United Shoe Workers, CIO, were speeded up in this city today following a Labor Board election victory by the employes of the H. H. Brown Shoe Co.

The poll, which found the USWA in a strong majority position, ended a short strike at the Brown plant. Negotiations for an agreement and recognition are now under way.

USWA leaders said that the victory in the city's largest shoe plant will pave the way for further organizing successes among Worcester's 10,000 shoe workers.

BIG MASS MEETING

Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 19. — What is believed will be the largest mass meeting of organized labor in Indiana will be held here September 7, James Robb, CIO regional director said this week. Philip Murray, CIO vice-president and chairman of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee will address the meeting at 8 P. M.

Sign CIO Pact Covering All Stores In Town

RHODELL, W. Va., Aug. 19. — Threats of a group of locals of the United Mine Workers near here to divert their trade to the 100% union town of Sophia, has resulted in the introduction of a novel experiment in collective bargaining.

Worried over the danger of losing a big chunk of their trade, business men of the city invited representatives of the UMW and the United Retail and Wholesale Employes to draw up a blanket agreement improving wages, hours and working conditions.

After a three-hour conference between the three parties led by John J. Schulter, representing the CIO, and Mayor G. W. Thomas, an agreement was concluded covering 17 stores, all those in town. It is effective for one year.

Lumbermen Win 5% Raise

Cleveland, Ohio, Aug. 19—Workers at the American Box Company here won a five per cent pay increase in a contract signed after months of negotiations.

The agreement signed with Local 182, International Woodworkers of America, will mean nearly $3,000 yearly wage raise for 52 employes. It was signed as the zero hour of a strike threat approached.

Similar pay raises were won by members of the union working at the Smead Box Company several weeks before.

Rubber Workers Nail 'Ghost Town' Lies

By ROBERT L. CRUDEN

AKRON, O., Aug. 19. — Dramatic refutation of the Akron "ghost town" story is featured in a four-page broadside just issued by the United Rubber Workers of America.

Entitled "Is It True What They Say About Akron?" the broadside displays recent newspaper headlines telling about a sharp pick-up in Akron business since the union defeated wage cut proposals which would have deflated Akron's purchasing power $10,000,000 a year.

The leaflet cites reports from the Akron Chamber of Commerce, the Akron Beacon-Journal, and investment brokers, showing that:

Quaker Oats has ordered construction of new elevators in addition to its present facilities, at a cost of $500,000.

Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. has embarked on a modernization program costing an indefinite amount.

Ohio Edison Co. is spending $1,000,000 to enlarge its capacity in Akron.

Akron Aircraft has started a new factory for production of medium priced airplanes.

Royal Body Co. has moved its operation into Akron to take advantage of Akron's position as center of America's long-distance trucking industry.

QUOTES BROKERAGE HOUSE

The leaflet quotes from a report from Merrill, Turben & Co., investment brokers of Cleveland, Ohio:

"A few significant facts disprove the widely accepted illusion that Akron has suffered irreparable damage and indicate that it is continuing to progress industrially and economically."

A recent study of Akron business by the Bureau of Business Statistics of the University of Akron is quoted, showing, in the words of the study, that:

"Business is substantially substantially above the 1938 mark, and while industry nation- above the 1938 mark, and while industry nationally in 1939 has been well above the 1938 level, Akron has fared much better than the country at large."

The leaflet points out how rubber companies have increased their profits since operating under union contracts and quotes Pres. Wm. O'Neil of the General Tire & Rubber Co. as saying, "The last two years have perhaps been the best in the last twenty."

The leaflet concludes with a brief summary of the work of the United Rubber Workers.

"Our single purpose is to improve the living and working conditions of the working people so that our children and our families may enjoy a standard of living which will give them security, health, and opportunities for education and self-improvement," it says.

"That is why we say that in fighting for a better standard of living for ourselves and our families we are fighting the battle for the American institutions which we all revere. Surely no good American could do less!"

Copies of the leaflet may be secured from the Publicity Department, United Rubber Workers of America, 503 United Building, Akron, Ohio, at $5.00 per 1,000, 60c per 100.

Front page of a new United Rubber Workers leaflet answering Tory propaganda.

Seamen May Establish Training School

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Aug. 19. — Sailors of the National Maritime Union here are talking of establishing a winter trade union school for men working on Great Lakes ships, open to union members.

A letter sent out from the NMU district office to unionists on ships under contract said the proposal was to have the school last 12 weeks, at a cost per student of $5 to $7 a week. "The instructors will be WPA teachers and we will try to draft professors from the nearby universities of Cleveland," the letter explained.

PLAN MANY COURSES

Courses in labor history, the maritime industry, the functioning of the NMU and other maritime unions and the duties of union functionaries are being planned. It was proposed to limit students to the first school to 50 men, the letter said. A suggestion was also made that some of the ships might provide scholarships by raising sufficient funds from among the members.

"The school will be open to any NMU member who wants to put up part of his summer earnings to pay his way through it, but the union's hope is to have the ships back the school with elected representatives, to take advantage of this opportunity to get familiar with seamen's organizations, their history, programs and policies, and their practical functioning."

The district office announced that the proposal for the NMU school is receiving much warm support from the members.

Toronto Labor Body Kills 'Split' Attempt

TORONTO, Ont., Aug. 19.—A move to oust CIO unions from the Toronto District Labor Council, largest central labor body in Canada, was ruled out of order by President W. G. Russell at council's semi-monthly meeting. Instead the delegates overwhelmingly voted for a resolution demanding that the 55th convention of the Trades and Labor Congress rescind the suspension order against the CIO unions.

John Conlin, delegate of the Machinists Union, submitted the motion for expulsion of the CIO unions from the council after a letter was read from AFL Pres. William Green in which he alleged the CIO was responsible for "disunity in the ranks of organized labor."

Conlin and his seconder, Arthur Dowell of the Musicians Union, were shouted down by the delegates who are pro-unity.

Green's letter was in reply to a council communication in which was included CIO Director John Brophy's charge that certain AFL leaders, among them Green, were responsible for the split.

NewShipyard Local In Nova Scotia

Halifax, N. S., Aug. 19 — Local shipyard workers have organized in a local and are now awaiting a charter from the Industrial Uniin of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, CIO.

James O'Connell who worked tirelessly for nearly two years to organize the Halifax shipyards was elected president of the new union. A policy committee of three was formed to direct the union's membership drive.

Forman Wayne, assistant regional director of the CIO in Canada and J. W. Brown of the Shipbuilding Workers addressed the meeting which set up the new local.

Striking Dairy Farmers Win CIO Co-operation

NEW YORK, Aug. 19. — Upstate New York dairy farmers struck today for higher milk prices, while state CIO leaders promised full support in the fight against "the milk trust and the rest of the reactionary elements in this state."

Leaders of the Dairy Farmers Union, with headquarters in Utica, instructed members to refuse selling their milk until wholesalers increase the price by at least 10c a hundred pounds. Provisions were made, however, to keep a milk supply flowing to New York City's hospitals and thousands of children consumers.

Picket lines will be established along upstate highways and around New York City processing plants to enforce the strikers' demands, Archie Wright, union president, declared.

FOLLOWED CONFAB

The CIO pledge of support, voiced by Pres. Allan S. Haywood of the New York State Industrial Union Council, followed a conference of farmers and workers' leaders here.

"The rotten and reactionary record of the 1939 State Legislature makes imperative an immediate and strong coalition of trade union and farmer organizations, particularly if we are to avoid further anti-labor or anti-farmer legislation in 1940," Haywood said.

The statement, contained in a letter sent to all Council affiliates, pointed out that "right now the dairy farmers are waging a campaign against the infamous New York milk trust and it is the duty of organized labor, as the best organized consumers group, to help them win. The bankers and manipulators that run New York's milk trust are the same who run other vital public services under private control, and also constitute the reactionary clique in control, through agents, of the state legislature."

WARNS OF DANGER

Haywood warned the unions that "unless we prepare now to head them off, they'll be back in 1940 for another wrecking expedition" even more serious than at the last legislative session, at which vital public services — including the schools—were slashed.

WPA Juggles Wage Rate Structure; Northerners Suffer

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—Forced by Congress into a policy of robbing Peter to pay Paul, WPA today announced a nationwide revision of wage rates through which southern workers will receive substantial increases—while skilled and unskilled WPA workers in other areas will have their incomes cut.

The new scale will lift the national WPA monthly average wage from $53 to $55.50. At the same time it will increase WPA costs $50,000,000 for the fiscal year, and will result in the firing of an estimated 80,000 or 100,000 people from the government work relief program.

CIO leaders had endorsed a move to lift the scandalously low income of the southern WPA employes—which ran as low as $26 a month—but insisted that this should not be done at the expense of workers in other areas.

Under the new scale, WPA workers in the South will benefit by $15 to $10 monthly raises. On the other hand, some unskilled workers in the northeast will be cut from $61.10 to $52, and those in most of the nation's industrial areas will be similarly affected.

The new rates, scheduled to go into operation on Sept. 1, were based on a section of the Woodrum WPA bill which specified that WPA bills could not vary in different sections in an amount greater than could be justified by differences in the cost of living. Instead of appropriating additional funds to lift the southern workers average, Congress allotted less than a billion and a half dollars for WPA.

Organizer Unhurt In Murder Attempt

Crescent City, Calif., Aug. 19. — An attempt to murder an organizer of the International Woodworkers of America, CIO, has been reported here.

William Gettings, who had just returned from a meeting of the Del Norte CIO Industrial Union Council was fired upon through a window as he turned the light on in his kitchen.

The bullet, fired from a high-powered gun by an assassin standing outside in the dark, crashed into the room a few inches above Gettings' head, smashed through the far wall and hit the ceiling of the next room.

Gettings said the attempt to kill him was the climax of a long series of threats against him and other union members for their organizing activities. He declared that he intended to remain in Crescent City and continue his work.

CIO and AFL unions in Del Norte county have a unified program and hold joint meetings regularly.

Seamen Propose Unity

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19—National unity for all unlicensed seamen, resistance to union-busting tactics of the U. S. Maritime Commission, and joint action on maritime contract renewals coming up Sept. 30 were outlined at the two-day session of the CIO Maritime Committee here.

The committee, headed by Joe Curran, president of the Natl. Maritime Union, elected Bjorne Halling of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific as executive secretary, and ordered offices set up in Washington. The committee consists of representatives of CIO maritime unions, and was set up last year to coordinate organizing, legislative and political activity.

Under the plans for a national seamens' union, a joint council with representatives from each of the seamens' unions would be set up, with the job of exploring possibilities and making recommendations to bring the four unions of unlicensed seagoing workers into one industrial group.

At present, there is one east coast and Gulf union, the NMU, and three on the west coast—the Sailors Union of the Pacific, the Marine Cooks and Stewards and the Marine Firemen, Oilers, Watertenders and Wipers.

PROPOSE FEDERATION

The committee also proposed the creation of a national federation of all maritime unions, taking dock workers, licensed officers, radio men, etc., into an industry-wide association such as already exists in the Maritime Federation of the Pacific.

On the unity plan for the seamen, Curran declared: "The seamen are for the plan. The shipowners, naturally, are against it. On the side of the shipowners are

Continued on page six

Shipowners Refuse Union Demands

San Francisco, Aug. 19.—A flat refusal by the Waterfront Employers Association to make any changes in the agreement with the International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union which expires September 30, resulted this week in the complete breakdown of negotiations.

The threat of the employers to end all relations with the union when the contract expires would mean a general tie-up of all west coast ports.

CHARGE 'INSINCERITY'

Roth is president of the San Francisco Employers Assn., and Foisie heads the Waterfront Employers Assn. In a letter signed by Foisie which was sent to all ILWU locals, the statement was made that September and October bookings were being cancelled in favor of other forms of transportation, due to the uncertainty over the contract renewal.

Bridges accused Roth of insincerity in bargaining negotiations, quoting him as having said: "We have tried to make a Christian out of Mr. Bridges, but from now on it is a fight to the finish." Bridges also referred to a statement made by Foisie in which he said: "I foresee a long drawn out struggle — we may as well take staggering losses at one blow. The only solution is to discredit the Bridges gang in the unions."

Issue Call For CIO Convention

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19. — Official call for the second annual convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, to be held at San Francisco starting October 10, was issued today by Pres. John L. Lewis and Sec. James B. Carey.

The CIO executive board will convene in the Golden Gate city five days earlier, on October 5.

Sessions of the convention will be held at Polk Hall in the Civic Auditorium. Convention headquarters will be in the Hotel Whitcomb.

Under provisions of the CIO constitution drawn up and accepted at last year's Pittsburgh convention, each CIO international and national union and organizing committee is entitled to the following number of delegates:

For the first 5,000 members, two delegates.
Over 5,000 members, three delegates.
Over 10,000 members, four delegates.
Over 25,000 members, five delegates.
Over 50,000 members, six delegates.
Over 75,000 members, seven delegates.
Over 100,000 members, eight delegates.
Over 150,000 members, nine delegates.
Over 200,000 members, ten delegates.

Each CIO Industrial Union Council and each local industrial union is entitled to one delegate.

CIO Director John Brophy is chairman of the Convention Arrangements Committee and Ralph Hetzel is secretary.

All resolutions, appeals and constitutional amendments offered for convention action must be in the hands of the Secretary at CIO headquarters, 1106 Connecticuit Ave., Washington, D. C., at least 10 days prior to the opening of the convention.

Packinghouse Union Ready For Strike

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—Fifteen Armour local delegates from all over the nation, headed by Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee Chairman Van A. Bittner, told the Federal government here that either Armour management would negotiate with the union for a national contract, or "we will shut down every Armour plant in the country, and keep them shut down until we get an agreement."

Chairman Bittner urged the government, through Secretary of Labor Perkins, to use all possible influence to bring Armour to the conference table, both through her office and if that failed, through President Roosevelt.

"There is only one way to prevent a strike," Bittner told the Secretary, "and that is by Armour and Co. consenting to negotiate. And if a strike is not prevented by this means, it will come before this Labor Day, September 4."

ARMOUR WILL TALK

In reply to this urging by Chairman Bittner, Secretary Perkins wired H. S. Eldred, general manager for Armour, asking him to come to Washington for a conference with government officials. Within three hours Ildred wired back, saying he would be here with a committee on August 18. Miss Perkins' wire said in part:

"A large committee from several plants of your company has come to Washington today and discussed with me the labor situation in those plants with special reference to the problem of collective bargaining.

"Since I have conferred with this committee I am anxious to discuss the matter with company representatives, and would like to invite you and any others you would care to have present to come to Washington and give me your information and suggestions."

NEGOTIATIONS THE ISSUE

Chairman Bittner told Secretary Perkins bluntly that the situation was an extremely serious one, that the workers were ready to strike every plant, and that the strike undoubtedly would spread to others of the Big Four packers.

"We've used every peaceful method to persuade Armour and Co. to negotiate," he told Miss Perkins. "We have won elections and been certified by the Natl. Labor Relations Board in 17 of their 19 major plants. Yet still they refuse. Our patience is wearing thin.

"If you and the Federal government cannot persuade Armour and Co. to obey the law, to bargain collectively in good faith, to negotiate a contract, we will use our economic strength in a nation-wide strike."

LONG STALL

Bittner pointed out that Armour has been stalling on this issue for months, that all the time they have carried on a ruthless campaign of firings, intimidation, violence, and evasion of the law in their frantic effort to break the union.

Packinghouse workers have been patient, he pointed out, and have held back from a national strike in the hope that Armour would come around to bargaining in good faith, as the law requires them to do. Now they see that they cannot wait any longer, he explained, since Armour's tactics put the existence of the union at stake.

DELEGATES CONFER

Following the meeting with Secretary Perkins, the delegates met with Bittner, Director Harris and Assistant Director Johnson, to plan further moves in case Armour continues to defy the law and the PWOC by refusing to negotiate.

First order of business was a unanimous rising vote of confidence in the present officers of the PWOC, coupled with a vote

Continued on Page Six

Plan CIO Maritime Drive

Leaders of CIO maritime unions met in Washington this week to consider plans for eventual unity of all the nation's marine workers. Seated around the conference table are, left to right: Bjarne Halling, Maritime Federation of the Pacific; William Standard, counsel for the National Maritime Union; Walter Fisher, Marine Firemen, Oilers, Watertenders and Wipers of the Pacific; N. Hedley Stone, NMU Great Lakes representative; John O'Donnell, Marine Cooks and Stewards of the Pacific; Pres. Samuel Hogan of the National Marine Engineers Beneficial Assn.; Roy Pile of the American Communications Assn.; Pres. Joseph Curran of the NMU, chairman of the CIO Maritime Committee; Pres. Mervyn Rathborne of ACA; and Stephen Harvey, NMU legislative representative.

'Repudiate Tories!' Clothing Union Board Advises

NEW YORK, Aug. 19.—A quarter million organized clothing workers were urged today by the general executive board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, CIO, to repudiate at the polls those Congressmen and Senators who "sabotaged" the labor and welfare program of the New Deal.

The board's decision was made public by Pres. Sidney Hillman. It aimed particular fire at the "coalition of reactionary Democrats and Republicans who have not hesitated to imperil the security and well-being of the American people in a reckless attempt to discredit the Roosevelt administration and return Hooverism to power in 1940."

The session just adjourned, the ACWA leaders declared, "sabotaged legislation vital to the economic health of the nation and enacted or advanced measures which undermine the meager livelihood of tens of thousands of American families and threaten the civil rights and liberties of all."

WOODRUM'S HYPOCRISY

That section of the Woodrum bill providing for "abolition" of regional wage differentials was described as "hypocritical" because of Congressional refusal to appropriate funds to increase southern WPA wage rates.

The coalition was charged with plotting emasculation of the Wagner Act and the wage-hour act — "efforts which were temporarily defeated only by the energetic action of the CIO and the liberal and progressive forces of the nation which rallied around it."

Anti-alien bills, which received favorable treatment in the House, "violate every tradition of American liberty and equality and threaten the freedom of citizens and aliens alike," the statement charged.

TransitUnion Convention September 20

New York, Aug. 19 — Delegates representing 90,000 subway, elevated, trolley, bus and taxicab workers throughout the country will attend the second biennial convention of the Transport Workers of America, one of the youngest of the CIO international unions, which opens September 20 in Atlantic City, N. J.

Michael J. Quill, president of the transport union and New York City councilman, will preside at the convention which is expected to last four days. It will be held in the Grand ballroom of the Hotel Chelsea.

PLAN BIG DRIVE

Inauguration of an extensive national organizing drive will be one of the major steps to be taken up at the sessions. In announcing the convention call, John Santo, international secretary-treasurer of the union, said that more than 300 delegates are expected to attend.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II August 21, 1939 No. 34

Armour & Co. Versus The United States

No union has ever made more consistent, conscientious and patient efforts to avoid a strike than has the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee of the CIO.

For two years now it has followed every available legal channel to secure its collective bargaining rights with Armour & Co. and the other meat packers.

In election after election the PWOC has been chosen by overwhelming majorities and certified as the workers' bargaining agent. In each case it has asked Armour & Co. to negotiate with it for an agreement. But it has been met again and again with only blank refusals from the company even to meet with it for this purpose.

The law requires that an employer must bargain collectively in good faith with the duly chosen representatives of his employes. This clearly means that he must meet with these representatives for the purpose of making a collective bargaining agreement.

Armour & Co. has seen fit to disobey the law. It has defied public opinion and threatened the public welfare by its refusal to date even to meet with the PWOC to iron out its differences with the union around the conference table.

Fully conscious of the seriousness of such a national stoppage in the meat packing industry as Armour & Co. seems to be trying to force, Chairman Van A. Bittner and the representatives of the PWOC Armour locals came to Washington last week. As a last resort, they appealed to Secretary of Labor Perkins and the President of the United States to use the influence of their high offices to prevail on Armour & Co. to prevent this crisis.

At this writing Armour & Co. has agreed to confer with Secretary Perkins. But it has not yet agreed to negotiate with the PWOC.

The showdown will come before Labor Day. And if Armour & Co. chooses to force a strike, rather than to obey the law and negotiate, it will have to fight a union which has been doubly fortified—by the organized strength and determination of the workers who have chosen it, and by their knowledge that they have done everything humanly and legally possible to avoid this struggle.

Armour & Co., in this event, will not only be taking on the PWOC and the CIO, but it will also be declaring war on the whole people of the United States, whose laws it has disobeyed and whose interests it has recklessly disregarded.

Workers Prefer The CIO

Given a fair chance to choose their union, American workers have demonstrated again and again that they vastly prefer the modern industrial unionism of the CIO to all other types of representation.

In the second quarter of 1939, from April 1 to June 30, almost 50% more workers voted for CIO unions than for those of the AFL.

The CIO participated in 79 elections in this period. It polled 17,466 votes and won 68% of these elections.

The AFL, on the other hand, participated in 96 elections, but polled only 11,893 votes and won only 56% of the elections.

In 31 elections in which CIO and AFL unions competed, the CIO won 17, while the AFL won only seven.

The latest figures, for July, show that in this month 64% more workers voted for CIO unions than for AFL unions.

The CIO participated in 34 elections, the AFL in 33, but the AFL polled only 5,036 votes, while 8,256 workers voted for CIO unions.

It is because the trend is all toward the CIO, when workers are free to vote without interference in fair elections, that AFL leaders have joined with anti-union manufacturers to amend the Wagner Act. They want to allow employers to stack the cards in favor of the organizations they prefer, and to destroy in many other ways the workers' present freedom to vote as they please.

Ouch!

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

A Strange Encounter

NOT since Snow White first found herself among the Seven Dwarfs has there been such a strange encounter as that between the movie stars and the 15 odd members of the AFL executive council.

When such an irresistible force from Hollywood met such an immovable object as the executive council, the impact must have been terrific.

It would have taken a Walt Disney to do justice to the reactions of the Sleepy, Grumpy, Sneezy, Dopey and possibly Bashful old duffers of the council when so much beauty, talent and personality suddenly appeared in their midst.

As for the reactions of the Snow White stars they encountered the mental cobwebs, the dirty linen and the rest of the slovenly disorder that has accumulated these many years in the AFL council, Disney would probably be too gentle to handle it adequately.

Anyhow Disney was not along with the delegation, and the rather matter-of-fact accounts which have appeared give only a few, albeit intriguing, hints as to the reactions of the stars to the 15 odd council members and vice versa.

William Green, it is related, described the situation as a "headache." And some of the stars reported that council members had called them "Communists"—which, incidentally and off the record, is exactly what Grumpy called Snow White when he first discovered the results of some of her nefarious activities with broom and scrubbing brush.

* * *

Your own correspondent was not invited to Atlantic City for the occasion. So, like a Chicago Tribune editorialist writing about the "collapse" of the CIO, he stayed as far away as possible and drew on his imagination—with the following results:

The scene opens on the Atlantic City boardwalk. A procession of heavily laden wheel-chairs moves constantly to the right. As the pushers groan, the 15 odd AFL council members stroke their tummies caressingly and, soothed by the motion of their chairs and the sound of the waves, break into their theme song:

"The CIO is after us, but we shall not move;
The CIO is after us, but we shall not move;
Like council members riding on the boardwalk,
We don't move, but we can be pushed."

Suddenly the procession is surrounded by movie stars, backed up by hundreds of autograph-hunters. Heckling starts. The council members call a special session and elect Doc Green as their spokesman (with all the 15 odd members dissenting but unable to agree on anyone else).

"So we're all a bunch of Communists, are we?" pipes up a childish voice. And there, sure enough, is Shirley Temple, looking very cute as she shakes her finger at the old codgers.

"Dear me, Shirley, that wasn't me . . . I mean I . . . that was Mr. Dey, er, Mr. Freys, rather . . ." and Doc Green begins to stutter and slip into the role of Bashful as he notices all the beautiful movie stars looking at him.

Woll, in a sly aside: "Act your age, Bill. Lucky for you that Our Gang didn't come along. Now there's a real bunch of Communits for you! My National Civic Federation, of blessed memory, used to consider their activities more subversive than a whole army of third termites."

* * *

"So, you won't talk!" several menacing voices rasp. The council members are startled enough to quit straightening their wing collars and frock coats and their other primping for the ladies' benefit. Several of the building trades officials look up hopefully but relapse into discomfort when they see the tough guys come from the world of make-believe.

"But gentlemen, please," Green pleads. "My dear Mr. Cagney and Mr. Raft, sir, I assure you I'll talk. In fact, that's all I've been doing for years.

"I'll say anything that Mr. Hutcheson and Mr. Woll and Mr. Frey and Mr. Browne tell me to say. I believe in democracy, you know, and when they've made up my mind, I'll mince no words—and to hell with the rank and f—, I mean the Communists and the CIO.

"If you like, I'll make you a speech right now," and he clears his throat. . . .

* * *

"Ladies and gentlemen, I believe in human progress. The AFL stands like the Rock of Gibralter. . . ."

"But we want a movement, not a still picture of a rock," one of the movie actors cracks wise.

"Ay tank I. . . ."

"All right, Miss Garbo, you go home and be alone," Green shoots back, astonished at his own gift of repartee.

"Confidentially, it . . ." begins Mischa Auer, with a leer.

But now Green's dander is up. "I know just what you're going to say, Mr. Auer, and I think it's in very bad odor. The trouble with you is that you're all Communists—and the same goes for the CIO, the Labor Board, the New Deal, and all the AFL unions that don't like what we and the NAM are trying to do to the Wagner Act. . . ."

The movie stars, however, have heard enough. "Oh, I see!" they begin to chant. The words are taken up by the whole crowd and repeated again and again until they sound more and more like "CIO," "CIO" . . .

The council members stuff their ears, as they are pushed off in their wheel chairs further and further to the right, until they are finally lost to sight.

LaFollette Report Scorches NAM; Criticizes 'Disrespect For Law'

Shows Control Rests in Hands Of Big Business

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19. — The National Association of Manufacturers, heavily financed by the top leaders of American big business, was sharply criticized today by the Senate Civil Liberties Committee for failure to adapt its policies "to changing times and to laws which the majority of the people deem wise and necessary." It charged the NAM with encouraging disrespect for law and undermining public authority.

In a 334-page report crammed with facts and figures, the Committee traced the history of the organization, took note of its 1937 budget of $1,440,000, its "biased propaganda directed against organizations of American workingmen" and cited its long-range warfare against the Wagner Act as typical of the attack it has directed at "social legislation adopted by Congress."

Signed by Sen. LaFollete of Wisconsin and Sen. Elbert Thomas of Utah, the report is the third in a series on Labor Practices of Employer Associations. The final document, covering Citizens' Committees, has not yet been published.

"The Natl. Association of Manufacturers," the Committee declared, "is to be condemned for cloaking its propaganda in anonymity and for failing clearly to disclose to the public whom it is trying to influence that this lavish propaganda campaign has as its source the National Association of Manufacturers."

LIMITLESS RESOURCES

The organization's propaganda campaign, the Committee continued, "stems from the almost limitless resources of corporate treasuries. Not individuals but corporations constitute the membership of the association and supply its funds. It is this fact that makes the political aspects of the association's campaign of propaganda a matter of serious concern."

Though the NAM claims to speak for a large segment of American industries, "it is largely financed by a small group of powerful corporations," the report found. In 1937, 10% of the Association's 3,000 members accounted for most of its funds, and about 60 companies provided the actual leadership.

BIG CONTRIBUTORS

Largest single contributor in the five-year period studied by the Senate Committee was E. I. DuPont, which handed over $119,600. General Motors, in which DuPont interests are heavily entrenched, contributed $66,520, while E. T. Weir's National Steel paid $41,450, Tom Girdler's Republic Steel $24,650 and Armour & Co. — now engaged in an anti-Union skirmish — $10,850.

Prior to 1933, the study showed, NAM affairs had been in the control of smaller industrial concerns, but in that depression year a group of big businessmen, describing themselves as the "Brass Hats" picked the NAM as the organization to conduct its campaign for "business salvation."

Results were soon forthcoming. In 1934, a public relations committee of the NAM was established, and a year later the National Industrial Information Committee was set up with the purpose of soliciting "funds for the propaganda campaign formulated by the public relations committee." In five years, the membership doubled and income increased 500%.

PROPAGANDA DRIVE

Thus established, the Association was ready to go to town against labor and liberal movements.

"Through newspapers, radio motion pictures, slide films, stockholders' letters, pay-roll stuffers, billboard advertisements, civic-progress meetings and local advertising, the NAM blanketed the country with a propaganda barrage which surpassed its 'Industrial Conservation Movement' of 1916-1920 in intensity, scope and variety of technique . . . .

"Its message was directed against 'labor agitators', against governmental measures to alleviate industrial distress, against labor unions, and for the advantages of the status quo in industrial relations, of which company-dominated unions were still a part."

The Senate Committee revealed that the NAM's president has estimated the value of free radio time given the Association as worth a million dollars a year.

$2,250,000 FREE SPACE

"The value of billboard space donated to it by outdoor advertisers equalled $1,250,000 for a 3-month period, and the free newspaper space would have cost $1,000,000 to buy," the report asserted.

"Statements by officials of the association as well as an analysis of the content of propaganda material indicates that the purposes of this prodigious effort is in part to forestall union organization, and in part to sway public opinion in favor of a legislative committee approved by the large corporations which control the association, and to influence the electorate in its choice of candidates for office."

That NAM member corporations are hostile to labor was shown in Committee statistics which revealed a large number of the largest contributors as steady customers of detective agencies and industrial munitions salesmen. Large NAM contributors purchased 61% of the munitions sold to industry in the 1933-37 period.

WAR ON WAGNER ACT

Typical of this activity was the war on the Wagner Act, which organized labor, led by the CIO, has been able to forestall. The report described the industrialists' early hostility to the Wagner Act, efforts to cripple enforcement of the Act, calls for its repeal and still later for its amendment.

The committee, in its conclusions, "condemned" the NAM efforts to "promote organized disregard for the National Labor Relations Act. Such action, by a powerful and responsible organization, encourages disrespect for the law and undermines the authority of government."

In filing their report, Senators LaFollette and Thomas said the committee is not yet prepared to offer remedial legislation, but asked that this not be construed to mean that legislative recommendations may not be forthcoming in the future.

'Angels' for the NAM

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—Here are some of the 262 corporations which contributed $2,000 or more to the National Association of Manufacturers during the period January 1, 1933, to October 31, 1937:

E. I. DuPont de Nemours	$118,600
General Motors	66,520
National Steel	42,050
U. S. Steel	41,450
Monsanto Chemical Co.	36,775
Westinghouse Electric	35,912
Chrysler	35,400
Bethlehem Steel	29,250
The Texas Corp.	27,500
Borg-Warner	27,141
Republic Steel	24,650
Socony-Vacuum Oil	22,000
Swift & Co.	21,150
International Shoe	18,200
Inland Steel	12,400
Anaconda Copper Mining	11,500
Armour & Co.	10,850
American Smelting & Refining	9,200
International Harvester	9,058
Kennecott Copper	8,550
National Lead	8,300
Wilson & Co.	7,600
Caterpillar Tractor	5,700
Scovill Manufacturing	4,550
John Morrell	4,300
United Shoe Machinery	4,200
Cudahy Packing	3,050
Selby Shoe	2,400
Brown Shoe	2,200

CIO News Edition For Michigan

Detroit, Aug. 19 — Michigan's powerful Industrial Union Council is sponsoring a special edition of The CIO NEWS, which it hopes eventually to send to every CIO member in this state.

First issue of the new paper will be timed for Labor Day, and will be an elaborate publication filled with articles reviewing the growth of the CIO movement in Michigan. Regular publication of the new edition will be started in early September, and will be sent to the membership of a large number of important unions.

Report OKs Wagner Health Bill

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19— Pressing need for enactment of federal legislation to increase the scope of medical service available to the nation's citizenry was stressed today in a preliminary report on the Wagner Health Bill filed by a Senate Labor sub-committee.

In a statement accompanying the report, Sen. Murray of Montana, chairman of the group which has been studying the bill, declared that the "mass of testimony and information available to the subcommittee showed convincingly that there are great opportunities to improve health conditions in this country, to reduce the toll of pain and suffering, to lessen disease and premature death, and to diminish public and private burdens created by preventable sickness and disability."

ANSWERS ATTACK

Federal legislation along the lines of the Wagner Bill is necessary to permit the people's health to improve, Murray said. Answering reactionary propaganda — much of which flowed from the offices of Frank Gannett, New York state newspaper publisher— Murray showed that the bill does not set up a federal medicine system, nor does it establish "health insurance" nor "socialized medicine."

Instead, he pointed out, the bill "undertakes only to encourage and aid the states in setting up their own programs." Should the bill be passed, five general programs will be undertaken by the government during the next ten years; maternal, infant and child health services; general public health services; construction of needed hospitals; general medical care; and compensation for disability wage loss.

Textile Union Publishes Songbook

Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 15 — Going on the basis that a "singing army is a winning army," the southern division of the Textile Workers Union of America has just published an attractive book of "Labor Songs."

Compiled and edited by Zilphia Horton of the Highlander Folk School in cooperation with R. R. Lawrence, TWU's southern regional director, the book contains more than 50 numbers which fit practically every labor situation.

"Most of the songs in this collection were written by people who work in the mines, mills, factories and on the farms," Miss Horton declares in the introduction to the volume.

CIO Pres. Lewis, Vice-Pres. Hillman and Pres. Rieve of the TWU have also written short introductory notes about the value of labor music.

Copies may be obtained from the Textile Workers Union of America, 421 Atlanta National Building, Atlanta, Ga. Single copies are priced at 25c each; in lots of 50 or more, they may be obtained for 12½c a copy.

AFL Leaders Under Fire As Typo Meet Opens

FORT WORTH, Tex., Aug. 19. — Delegtes to the 83-year-old Intl. Typographical Union, AFL affiliate, meet here today for the union's convention with the federation's war against the CIO a major item on the agenda.

A sharp challenge to the AFL's top leadership was contained in the report of Sec.-Treas. Woodruff Randolph, printed in the latest issue of the Typographical Journal, ITU official publication.

"It is quite apparent that there can be no peace in the labor movement until the executive council of the AFL abandons its present philosophy of dictatorship," the Randolph report declares.

"Many of our local unions and conferences have adopted resolutions urging peace in the labor movement. Such peace is apparently as far off as ever.

BLAMES AFL

"The latest maneuver of the peace negotiators between the AFL and the CIO demonstrates quite clearly that the fault still lies with the executive council of the American Federation of Labor."

Pres. C. M. Baker, in another convention report, described the membership as lacking "unanimity" on the problem of labor peace, and recommended no action "which would intensify the conflict."

A large bloc of the members have been aroused by the efforts of AFL Pres. Green to invade ITU jurisdiction and seek to dictate to ITU locals. The Detroit Mailers union, an ITU subsidiary, received a sharp letter some weeks ago from Green after it had opposed Wagner Act amendments. At the time Green charged that the local is a direct AFL affiliate — a charge strenuously denied by ITU Sec. Randolph.

Metal Miners Plan Organizing Drive

Convention Marked By Unity

By HAROLD ROSSMAN

DENVER, Aug. 19—Adoption of a broad organizing program and action to provide funds for expanded organization stood out today as the main accomplishments of the 36th Convention of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers just concluded here.

As the 150 delegates from all sections of the United States and Canada started for their homes they also had the satisfaction of knowing that the leadership of their union would repose for another year in the capable hands of President Reid Robinson, whose contributions to the union's progress were acclaimed when he was nominated without opposition to serve a fourth term.

UNITY OF SPIRIT

The six-day meeting, shortest in the union's recent history, was marked by the unity and progressive spirit of the delegates as well as by the galaxy of government and labor leaders, who spoke as guests of the conclave.

U. S. Wage-Hour Administrator Elmer F. Andrews addressed the nation over a CBS nationwide hook-up from the convention banquet. Other headliners to speak were Miss Kathryn Lewis, assistant to the chairman of the CIO; Walter Smethurst, executive assistant to John L. Lewis, and President Michael Quill of the Transport Workers Union.

PLAN EXPANSION

Plans for the expansion of the IUMM&SW and the continuance of its program of concentration on the strategic portions of the metals industry were continued in the report of Pres. Robinson, which was concurred in by the executive board and adopted by the convention. At the same time the convention formulated a constitutional amendment, to go to a national referendum of the membership, which will provide the per capita necessary to carry out the program.

A highlight of the meeting was Walter Smethurst's opening-day speech, in which he told the delegates, "The membership of the CIO will not tolerate a Munich peace, whereby our affiliated unions will be stripped of their membership in order to satisfy the principles of craft unionism."

DEFIES RED-BAITERS

President Quill of the Transport Workers Union was applauded wildly for his defense of progressive unionism and a blast against red-baiting in which he declared: "Sure, our members are better church members than ever before. When they used to work 84 hours a week there was no time for church, and no money for the collection plate, either.

"Now that the majority of our members have Sunday off, they have time to go to church. And higher wages makes money for the collection plate."

ROUND-TABLE TALKS

The round-table discussion on labor problems in Latin-America, led by Miss Lewis, was an outstanding feature of the meeting.

Among the actions taken by the convention was endorsement of a third term for President Roosevelt and adoption of one of the Chicago Hearst strikers. Denver was again selected as convention city.

Nomination of the officers to be voted on by referendum in October saw two board members unopposed—Tony McTeer of District 4 and Jess Gonzalez of District 6. All other officers will be contested.

FIGHTING HEARST, Pres. Heywood Broun of the American Newspaper Guild and Mrs. Broun take to the picket line in Chicago to aid the eight-month fight of Hearst employes for a job security contract with the American and Herald-Examiner. Mr. & Mrs. Broun were en route to the East after attending the ANG convention in San Francisco.

Seamen Propose Unity

Continued from page three

Mr. Ryan (czar of the AFL Longshoremen) and Harry Lundeberg, secretary of the Sailors Union of the Pacific." Lundeberg is also "president" of the AFL Seafarers Union, created by Wm. Green out of the discarded bones of the old AFL Intl. Seamens Union.

The committee sharply criticized the U. S. Maritime Commission for its consistent attempts to break down the maritime unions, describing it as "an agent and representative of the shipowners."

The report on the Commission prepared by Wm. Standard, NMU attorney cited its "insistence on compulsory arbitration for the seaman, its refusal to recognize collective bargaining rights for seamen employed on its ow nvessels even though operated in private industry, its establishment of government hiring halls, and its willingness to attack the rights of seamen" as evidence for the charge.

WRECK TORIES

Curran urged that labor and progressives get together to "wreck the Tories" in Congress and outside it who ganged up against the New Deal at the past session. Workers must "unite as effectively as the lobbies maintained by the Chamber of Commerce, the Natl. Association of Manufacturers, the shipowners' lobby, the patent medicine lobby, etc.," he said.

He also said the seamen and all maritime workers 100% back of Pres. Lewis' blistering attack on John N. Garner, the "evil old man" Lewis named as center of the reactionary drive in Congress.

Plans were outlined for joint action on forthcoming negotiations for renewal of wage agreements, and a proposal made for an investigation of shipowner-Maritime Commission collusion against the maritime workers and the public.

"The racketeering that was exposed by the Black Committee will seem like the smallest kind of petty thievery once the facts behind the coming scandal are exposed," the committee said.

THIRD RENEWAL

Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 19. — A contract with the Mayer Stamp Company here has been renewed for the third time, CIO Regional Director James Robb announced this week.

CIO Gains in West Hailed by Smethurst

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19. — "CIO unions in the Rocky Mountain States have done a marvelous job of co-ordinating their forces and spreading their influence."

This was the report given today by Walter Smethurst, assistant to CIO Pres. Lewis, on his return from a month's trip in the west. A native of Montana, Smethurst held conferences with leaders of the Industrial Union Council in that state and in Utah, Wyoming and Colorado.

"Throughout the entire area there is tremendous enthusiasm for the CIO—for its accomplishments and for its ideals and its goals," Smethurst said. Consolidation of union ranks has provided a basis for furthering organizational activity.

Labor Day celebrations in Montana, Wyoming and Denver, Colo., will be an indication of this new union enthusiasm, the CIO official predicted.

ANGERED BY TORIES

The west has been keeping a close eye on the activities of Congressional Tories, Smethurst reported, and there is "no disagreement" that this was the worst legislative session in many years.

"Representatives and Senators will hear plenty from their constituents in the west about the attack on the New Deal," he said. "Rep. Thorkelson of Montana, for instance, campaigned for office on a platform of friendliness to labor. During the campaign he promised to act in behalf of the unions in Butte and other Montana cities.

"Thorkelson turned out to be a Tory and an anti-Semite when he got to Washington. He'll have some tall explaining to do to the folks in Montana."

READY TO PROGRESS

Smethurst expressed pleasure at the confidence and unity of the delegates to the convention of the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers Union, which was held at Denver last week. Pointing out that this union, whose membership is large throughout the mountain area, is now prepared to launch a big organizing campaign, he said:

"The Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers are the backbone of unionism in half a dozen western states. With funds and personnel now available for a big drive, a lot of long-time open shop mining companies are going to learn that CIO unionism is the American way.

"I expect thousands of new CIO members in the mining communities during the next few months."

Packinghouse Union Ready For Strike

Continued from Page Three

of thanks for the benefits already won under their leadership.

Following that, the delegates conferred for several hours on strike strategy in the event a strike is forced by the Armour management. Detailed plans for handling the strike, for setting up strike committees, arranging for food were discussed.

Delegate after delegate rose to report that his local would unanimously back the strike to the fullest extent needed. Each of the fifteen declared that their workers were ready to walk out and to stay out until the contract is won.

Just Right—

For Labor Day

•

For men:

CIO lapel buttons 25c
CIO tie clasps .. 35c

For Ladies:

CIO emblem pins .25c
—with safety clasp 35c

Advertise Your Union!

Send orders, accompanied by checks or money orders, to Comptroller, CIO, 1106 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C.

WHOSE POCKETS —

ARE YOU FILLING? When you buy your clothes do you help pay the wage of a union worker, or do you help swell the profits of a sweatshop boss?

• **The Label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America** will give you the answer. When you don't see the label you know that the garment was probably made by an un-American sweatshop chiseler. When you see the Amalgamated label you know that your money will go into the pockets of union workers, earning union pay, working under union conditions.

• **Demand the union label in the clothes you buy and** insure yourself against sweatshop garments, against sweatshop conditions in industry.

You can find the Amalgamated label in union made suits, overcoats, uniforms, work clothes and overalls, workshirts, dress shirts, underwear, gloves, neckties, sheeplined, leather, and sport coats, children's clothing and wash suits.

ISSUED BY AMALGAMATED WORKERS OF AMERICA — UNION MADE — CA 000000 — COAT — AUTHORITY OF CLOTHING

ISSUED BY AMALGAMATED WORKERS OF AMERICA — UNION MADE — PA 000000 — PANTS — AUTHORITY OF CLOTHING

ISSUED BY AMALGAMATED WORKERS OF AMERICA — UNION MADE — VA 000000 — VEST — AUTHORITY OF CLOTHING

Adopted

Catalino Martin Juan, Spanish refugee orphan, who has been "adopted" by Miss Kathryn Lewis, daughter of the CIO President. Miss Lewis will pay a weekly amount for the boy's upkeep, under a system worked out by the Foster Parents Plan for Spanish Children.

Chiseller Deluxe!

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Aug. 19. — The Connecticut Labor Department has cracked down on Abraham Katz, proprietor of the Alpakatuft Manufacturing Co., as the first culprit in its new war on sweatshops.

Among other offenses, Katz was found to be using the labor of a 15-year-old girl without paying for her work. After an unsuccessful attempt to hide the girl in the women's washroom, Katz explained to a state inspector that he was "teaching the business" to the girl, who will enter sixth grade when her summer "vacation" is over.

Although state law provides for a minimum wage of 25c an hour, another girl, only 16, was discovered to be working long hours for 11c an hour. A 16-year-old boy was found to be working 75 to 76 hours a week for wages ranging from 11c to 15c an hour.

Katz was fined $350 in city court on 18 counts for violation of the state labor laws.

Bridges' Foes Put On Defensive At Coast Hearings

By MIRIAM ALLEN DEFORD

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 19. — The Bridges deportation hearings this week provided a study in contrasts.

Appearing on the witness stand were two scholarly professors from Stanford University, who discussed at considerable length the philosophy and theory of communism; and John L. Leech, ex-Communist and tool of labor-baiters, who appeared once before at the hearings as a witness for the government, which is seeking to oust Harry Bridges, west coast CIO director, from the country as an "undesirable alien".

Still another witness was Edgar O. Heinrich, handwriting expert, whose testimony was a severe blow to the prosecution.

Heinrich identified as genuine a signature written some time ago by Leech on an affidavit in which he said that Portland, Oreg. police had tried to get him to make a statement against Bridges, but that he had refused since he had no knowledge of the CIO official's political affiliation.

EXPOSE 'FORGERY' CHARGE

Leech later changed his mind, and attempted to pass off the affidavit as a "forgery". Heinrich's testimony nailed that attempt. Leech's efforts to undo the defense counsel's arguments was scarcely convincing, and Dean James Landis of Harvard's Law School, Department of Labor trial examiner who presides at the hearings, made little effort to conceal his suspicion of the credibility of the testimony.

Dies Committee agents, who have been hovering around the hearings, were much in evidence as Capt. Keegan of the Portland, Oreg. police force resumed his interrupted appearance on the stand. Defense attorney made life difficult for the anti-labor cop by producing letters signed by Keegan which indicate close cooperation among the Portland police, the Los Angeles police and the northwestern divisions of the Immigration & Naturalization Service in the attempt to deport Bridges.

The two professors, appearing as experts on Communism, left the impression that communists in advanced democratic nations such as the United States or Great Britain would not seek overthrow of the government by force.

EXPLAIN STRATEGY

Explaining the reason for calling these experts to the stand, the Harry Bridges Defense Committee issued the following statement:

"In presenting this testimony, we wish it clearly understood that the CIO and the Bridges Defense are not interested in explaining or defending communism. The CIO and the Defense Committee are, however, very much interested in defending Bridges, who happens to be charged with Communistic membership or affiliation.

"We believe that the charges are deliberately framed up against him.

"They are, specifically, that he is a member or affiliated to the Communist party; and that the Communist party believes in, teaches and advocates the overthrow of the American form of government by force and violence.

"The defense believes it to be necessary to fight against this 'blow below the belt' by having expert witnesses give the entire picture of this political party, its aims and how it hopes to win them."

Mechanics Press Nine-Week Strike

New York, Aug. 19 — The nine-week-old strike of the CIO United Mechanics of the Garment Industries against the Central Sewing Machine Co., was reinforced today by the decision of the entire membership of Local 150 to pay monthly $1.00 assessment, until the strike is won.

The membership of the CIO local, an affiliate of the International Fur and Leather Workers' Union, voted to continue the strike until its demands, which include elimination of unsanitary factory conditions, are granted.

The strike against the Central Sewing Machine Shop is a part of the city-wide organizational drive now being conducted by the United Mechanics Local among mechanics working in the needle, fur, glove, buttonhole, and similar lines.

District 50 Finds Camp Plan OK

By MARY GUION

Camp Raccoon, Pa., Aug. 19— A hearty cheer as one of the St. Louis boys makes an impossible soft-ball catch. The clean click of the pingpong balls on two busy tables. The banter of the New Jersey pinochle fans playing under the trees.

Then the eight o'clock bell rings insistently near the mess hall. Sixty-three summer campers troop into the Recreation Hall at Raccoon Creek Camp to become students of labor problems again. This was one evening at the summer camp sponsored by District Fifty of the United Mine Workers.

100% SUCCESS

District Fifty's first attempt at workers education was a 100% success in the opinion of those who attended the camp. Raccoon Creek provided a perfect setting for a serious vacation: 150 acres of beautiful mountain country, 24 modern log cabins, a cold mountain lake, baseball, volleyball and badminton courts.

The CIO Camp Committee has equipped the camp completely with sports facilities and the resident staff did everything to make the week pleasant and memorable.

63 DELEGATES

Sixty-three delegates attended the camp from Local Unions as remote as Pensacola, Fla., and Racine, Wis., Boston and St. Louis. They did not come merely to listen but to take an active part in all the discussions involving organizational and union problems in the District.

Indianapolis Ready For Best Labor Day

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Aug. 19. — The CIO will stage the biggest Labor Day celebration in the history of this city, James Robb, CIO director, predicted today on the basis of plans already worked out.

Sponsored by the Indianapolis Industrial Union Council, the day will start with a parade of 80 floats and close to 4,000 automobiles through downtown streets. Cash prizes will be awarded for the best exhibits.

Following the parade, the crowds will go to Columbus Park for a big picnic, which will be featured by softball games, various athletic events and dancing.

At midafternoon the speech of John L. Lewis, to be made over a nationwide radio hookup, will be tuned in on giant loudspeakers throughout the park.

Officials of the celebration committee, in addition to Robb, include William C. Robertson, secretary; Nelson Joseph, treasurer; Clarence Lyons, William Abel, John Carr, J. K. Shepard, Karl Baker and Orval Kincaid.

SHOWING PERFECT FORM, Andy Szwedko, a charter member of Lodge 1244 of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, emerged as champion at the National Public Links Tournament in Baltimore. The camera man caught him during a drive in the 36-hole final round, in which he defeated Phil Gordon, 22-year-old insurance clerk from Oakland, Calif.

Asks Labor Support For Pay Act

New York, Aug. 19. — Wage-Hour Administrator Elmer F. Andrews appealed to labor today for continued support of the Fair Labor Standards Act, which he declared is threatened by the machinations of the "dime-an-hour" bloc.

"I am not so naive as to believe that our opponents are by any means through," Andrews said. "On the contrary, they have only had their appetites whetted. Next January, the dime-an-hour bloc may be expected to come to Washington to renew its demands."

PUBLIC SUPPORTS ACT

Andrews asserted that "the public is behind this act. It is just as anxious to wipe out the slums of industry as it is to tear down the slums of housing. But the public is not organized.

"It looked to labor for leadership in putting this law on the statute books. It looks to you for leadership in the fight to keep it there."

The wage-hour administrator's speech was delivered at the annual convention of the New York State federation of labor in session here.

Andrews OKs Hosiery Wage Rates

Washington, Aug. 19 — in his first approval of minimum wage recommendations made by industry committees under the Wage-Hour Act, Administrator Elmer F. Andrews this week issued an order covering the hosiery industry which will mean wage increases for some 46,000 workers, effective September 18.

The recommendations approved call for a minimum wage of 40c an hour in the full-fashioned and 32½c in the seamless hose industry. It was estimated that the increase would affect 30,000 of the 80,000 seamless hose workers, and 16,000 of the 60,000 full-fashioned workers.

The basic minimum wage of 25c an hour covering all industries, for the first fiscal year, will be increased to 30c in October, under the provisions of the Wage-Hour Act, which also provides for the setting up of industry committees empowered to recommend higher minimum for specific industries. The general minimum is to be raised to 40c within seven years, the Act specifies.

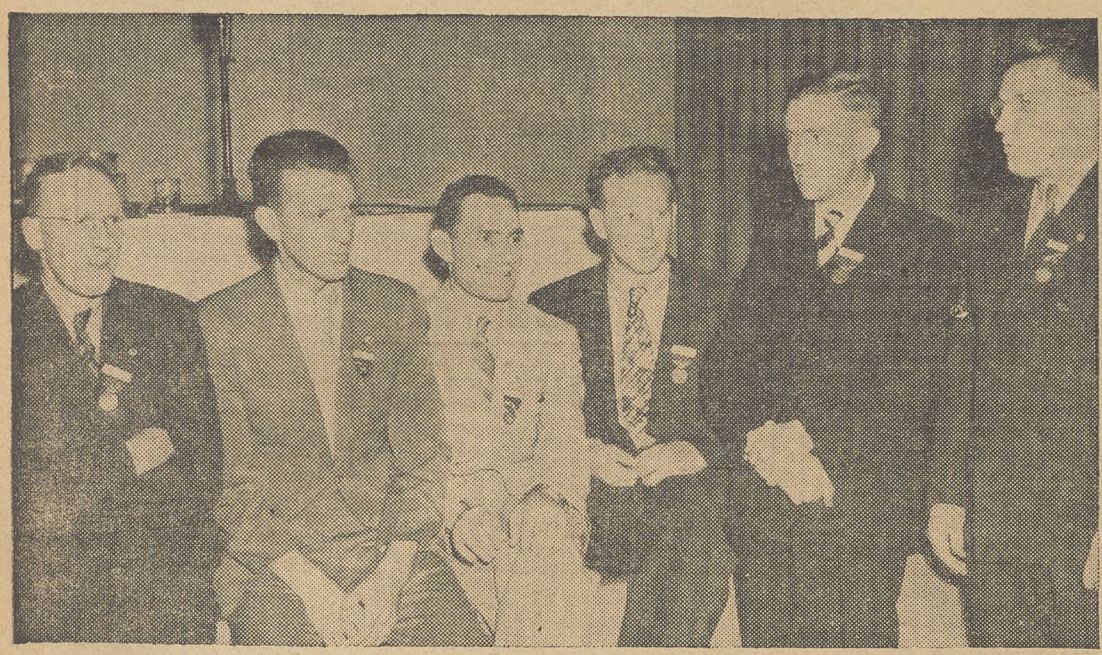
RIEVE HAILS RULING

In commenting on Administrator Andrew's order, Emil Rieve, president of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, CIO, said that although it took a long time for the recommendations to be approved, "they're good ones and will help the industry as a whole." Rieve was a member of the committee making the recommendation.

Cannery Union Gets New Pact

Elwood, Ind., Aug. 19. — CIO Cannery and Agricultural Workers here have just won a contract with a closed shop, seniority rights, checkoff, and grievance machinery, plus a 10 per cent raise now and another 10 per cent October 24.

Labor In Politics



PUBLIC OFFICE HOLDERS were numerous among delegates at the 36th annual convention of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers in Denver last week. Shown here with Pres. Reid Robinson (at extreme right) are: Robert Brown, Montana state legislator; Henry McCormack, Ansonia, Conn., city alderman; Thomas Murray, Montana state legislator; Tomye Church, Kirkland, Ontario, police commissioner; and Denis McCarthy, Montana state legislator.

Board Orders Bethlehem End Stooge Tie-up

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19. — The National Labor Relations Board today had handed down its fourth Little Steel decision —a sizzling order to the Bethlehem Steel Corp., to disestablish its hoary company union system embracing 10 of the company's most important plants.

Previous Labor Board orders have covered Republic Steel, Inland, and Youngstown Sheet & Tube, all of them involved in the Little Steel strike of 1937, conducted by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee.

Bethlehem, less than 24 hours later, had filed an appeal in the U. S. Circuit Court here asking that the NLRB decision be overturned. As a result, long-drawn-out litigation is expected to follow.

TEN PLANTS

The plants covered by the decision are located at Johnstown, Lebanon, Bethlehem, Rankin, Leetsdale and Steelton, Pa.; Lackawanna, N. Y., and Sparrows Point, Md.

Hearings, which extended over a period of several months, found Bethlehem arguing that its employe representation plan—instituted shortly after the World War—is an "independent union." The Board took the opposite view.

FOUND COMPANY AID

"We find that the company has dominated and interfered with the administration of the plans of employes' representation at its various plants and has contributed support to them," the decision stated.

In 1937, it noted, "certain amendments, suggested and phrased by the company, were put into effect.

"These amendments did not alter the basic structure and manner of operation of the plans, nor could they possibly erase from the minds of the employes of the long-continued and well-known company approval and encouragement of the plans."

The plans, which were formed with the assistance of McKenzie King, now Canada's conservative Prime Minister, were designed to prevent bona fide organization of the corporation's several score thousand employes, the NLRB found.

RAP CITIZENS' COMMITTEE

Company support for the notorious Johnstown Citizens' Committee during the 1937 strike also came in for condemnation from the Board.

In providing money to Mayor Daniel Shields of Johnstown and to the committee directly "the company was thus, in the most effective manner, interfering with the organization of its striking employes," the decision said.

CAT OUT OF BAG

It quoted H. G. Andrews, a prominent member of the committee, who wrote in a local paper shortly after the strike:

"The job on hand, from the citizens' committee standpoint, was the breaking of the strike and the resumption of work in the mills. The academic members of the committee did the talking about the constitutional right of men to work. However, that right didn't amount to two whoops in Hades unless the strike was broken."

The NLRB order was signed by Chairman J. Warren Madden and Edwin S. Smith. William Leiserson, third Board member, did not participate in the case, since proceedings had been concluded prior to his appointment to office.

Labor Board Slaps Ford Anti-Unionism

Washington, Aug. 19. — Another set-back in the Ford Motor Company's bitter fight against unionism was received last week when the National Labor Relations Board ordered it to stop its union smashing drive against the United Automobile Workers, CIO.

The company was also ordered to cease spreading propaganda criticising labor organizations or advising their employes not to join, and to reinstate 24 employes with back pay.

The Board's findings were based on testimony given at a public hearing in Detroit in July, 1937. On December 22, 1937, the Board issued its first decision in the case, and two weeks later petitioned the court for an enforcement of its order.

In May, 1938 the court granted the Board's motion to withdraw the case in order to set aside the decision of December and issue proposed findings upon a reconsideration of the entire case.

Order Hearing On Deere Co.

Chicago, Aug. 19—Labor Board hearings on a complaint against Deere & Co., big farm equipment manufacturer, will start here on August 21.

The corporation, employing about 8,000 workers in three plants in Iowa and Illinois, has been charged with unfair labor practices embodied in yellow dog contracts signed with its stooge unions.

Joseph Weber, assistant director of the Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee, predicted that the hearings would spur CIO organization at the plant and lead to the removal of one of the few remaining yellow dog agreements left in American industry.

Technicians To Have Day At Fair

New York, Aug. 19. — Members of the CIO Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists & Technicians are working out elaborate plans for Federation Day at the New York World's Fair on Sept. 16.

Plans for the day include guided tours to points of special interest to technical men and special motion pictures on scientific and technical subjects. A luncheon and symposium on "contributions of technical men to the World of Tomorrow" will be attended by authorities on architecture, engineering, chemistry, labor, education and public health.

Hail Lewis Attack On Garner

Bellaire, Ohio, Aug. 19. — The executive board of Belmont County's Labor's Non-Partisan League has voiced a unanimous "amen" to John L. Lewis' denunciation of the Garnerite reactionaries.

A letter sent to Lewis by Pres. Adolph Pacifico of the county League unit declared:

"It is our desire that your remarks will not stop with this one Tory, but will extend to all such back-stabbers of American labor. Your clear-cut expression stands as notice to all reactionary labor-baiters that the millions of men and women in the U. S. who toil for a living will not stand idly by while sorely-needed social legislation is sabotaged by obscure and nefarious methods.

"Labor's Non-Partisan League of Belmont County, Ohio, stands ready and willing to assist in every way possible in the eradication of these reactionaries from public office."

CIO, AFL Join Fight to Save News Jobs

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Aug. 19. — CIO and AFL unions operating in the city's three local newspaper plants have organized a "Free Press Committee" to fight a rumored proposed merger whereby the evening Times-Leader-News would be handled in the morning Record's plant, with accompanying loss of jobs.

Thousands of petitions are being circulated throughout this area asking subscribers to declare themselves opposed to "monopolistic" control of the local press. "One-clique-rule" would be injurious to "the best interests of the people," the petitions state. Both papers are already under the same board of governors, operating under the name of a single publishing company.

POSTPONE POLL

Inglewood, Calif. — A scheduled NLRB poll at the North American Aviation Co. here has been indefinitely postponed.

Labor and the Law

By Lee Pressman

CIO General Counsel

NLRB vs. Bethlehem

The decision of the Labor Relations Board against the Bethlehem Steel Company upholds the charges made by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee.

It represents a notable triumph for the union in its struggle to secure the rights of workers guaranteed by the federal government to choose their own representatives and bargain collectively free from any interference of any kind by the company. The decision represents the final result of hearings before the Labor Board which were commenced after charges were filed by the SWOC in July, 1937. The mills of the gods grind slowly but surely.

NO MORE COMPANY UNIONS

The most important thing about the Labor Board's decision is that it puts an end to the elaborate company union schemes which the Bethlehem Steel Company has foisted upon its employes since 1918. This means that the employe representatives no longer meet with the management and attempt to deal with it. It means that a true representative of the workers in their grievances will take the place of the employe representation plans.

NO MORE ADVICE FROM THE BOSS

Bethlehem has been notorious in the use of various means to attempt to tell the workers how they should run their own affairs. This has ranged from elaborate pamphlets issued by the heads of the company, including Pres. Eugene Grace himself, to bulletin notices explaining how wonderful the company-dominated plans are for the workers, and statements by foremen and supervisors as to what is good for the workers. These plain violations and outright interference with the free choice of representatives must now cease.

Bethlehem has in the past used the services of such notorious spy agencies as the Pinkerton service. Through these spies the company got inside information on the union activities of the workers and placed all the employes under the fear that their confidential conversations and private meetings would be known to the boss. Now these vicious practices can no longer take place.

NO MORE CITIZENS' COMMITTEES

During the strike in 1937 certain public officials, including the Mayor of Johnstown and "respectable" citizens, formed a citizens' committee for law and order. According to the findings of the federal agency the work of this committee was financed by the Bethlehem Steel Company. The committee was used in an attempt to swing public opinion against the strikers and against the SWOC and to get the workers to agree to stay in the embraces of the company's fake plans. This hypocritical and secret kind of interference with employes' rights to bargain collectively and choose their own representatives is now outlawed.

THE NEXT STEP

Bethlehem has already filed a petition to have the order of the Board reviewed by the courts. It will undoubtedly take the case to the Supreme Court of the United States. These court proceedings will mean delay but we confidentially expect that the final decision will uphold the charges of the SWOC and that industrial peace will prevail in the plants of the Bethlehem Steel Company.

Virginia CIO Wins Victories

Richmond, Va., Aug. 19. — The Virginia CIO has been chalking up a string of victories recently, according to a report from Ray Thomason, regional director here, including among other gains renewal of a contract with the Va. Chemical Corp., carrying a wage increase, and a renewal at the Tobacco Byproducts plant, with a general wage boost.

Raise Purchasing Power, Hillman Urges

SEE STORY PAGE FIVE

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 35 20 AUGUST 28, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

CIO WINS AUTO POLLS BY SWEEPING MAJORITIES

The News In Brief

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

Milk

New York. — Supported by the CIO, with its thousand of city consumers, the New York Dairy Farmers Union won a smashing victory over the milk trust, forcing the corporations to increase payments to the milk producers.

Cancelled

Pittsburgh.—In a unique action, the Steel Workers Organizing Committee cancelled its contract with the Intl. Nickel Co., charging the corporation with bad faith and evasiveness. Union will take the case to the National Labor Relations Board.

Labor Day

Washington. — CIO unions throughout the nation will celebrate a year of progress with parades, picnics and demonstrations on Labor Day, Sept. 4, reports here indicated.

'Slavery'

Muscatine, Iowa.—CIO contracts have helped to end conditions of virtual slavery existing in the pearl button factories of this city.

Heil

New York. — H. A. Prentis, vice-president of the National Association of Manufacturers told the Congress of Education here that this country needs less democracy, not more. He criticized Pres. Roosevelt for following to the will of the majority.

CIO Defeats AFL in 'Craft' Election

Chicago, Aug. 26 — An AFL "drive" against the CIO in Intl. Harvester Co. plants here was stopped in its tracks today by a CIO victory in a Labor Board craft unit election.

Die sinkers in the IHC Tractor Works voted by a 32-28 margin for the Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee. The election reversed the result of an NLRB poll a year ago in which skilled employes voted 34-18 for the AFL's Intl. Assn. of Machinists.

'Youngest Picket'

Youngest picket in Baltimore CIO history was 16-months-old Melvin Cadden, shown helping his mother, Mrs. Antonniette Cadden fight for a contract at the Standard Cap and Moulding Co. He's learning union tactics early!

Pay Law Violator Goes to Jail

Elkins, W. Va., Aug. 26. — A West Virginia pants manufacturer today felt the sharp enforcement teeth of the U. S. Wage-Hour Administration.

Sanford Lerner, vice-president of the Standard Trousers Co., was sentenced to a six-month jail term by Federal Judge William E. Baker. Lerner, according to government officials, is the first wage-hour law violator to receive a prison sentence.

Three-Day Strike Won In Texas

Fort Worth, Tex., Aug. 26—A three-day strike, in which every one of the 180 members of Local 59 of the Packinghouse Workers, CIO, walked out, brought a complete victory in a signed contract from the Fort Worth Stock Yards Co. here.

The company had been stalling on the issue for many weeks, but the 100 per cent walkout by the entire force brought the management into line—in spite of the usual pre-strike statements about never signing with the CIO.

LEAVE AFL, JOIN CIO

Clatskanie, Oreg. — Clatskanie culinary workers, tired of receiving no aid from AFL officials, have voted to apply for a CIO charter.

Packard, Motor Products Votes Show CIO Favor

(See Story Page Three)

DETROIT, Aug. 26.—By 4-1 and 20-1 pluralities, the CIO United Automobile Workers swept to victory in National Labor Relations Board balloting at the Packard and Motor Products Co. plants here, thereby ending all threat of AFL disruptionist raids in the industry.

The two victories, UAW - CIO leaders predicted, would be duplicated early next month when Briggs and Chrysler workers —80,000 in all—will be given a chance to name their sole bargaining agency in NLRB polls.

AFL - Homer Martin claims of dominance at Packard were badly dented by the results of the election, which also belied newspaper reports that the auto workers are turning away from unionism. Only a few of the 8,000 Packard employes voted for no union.

Inland Boatmen Vote to Join CIO

CAIRO, Ill., Aug. 26.—Delegates representing 4,000 organized boatmen on the Mississippi, Ohio, Missouri, Illinois and Warrior rivers voted 100% affiliation with the National Maritime Union at a conference of the Inland Boatmen's Union held here.

Subject to ratification of the membership, the conference recommended that the rivermen adopt the NMU constitution as revised at the second annual convention held last month in New Orleans.

The conference adopted a program for a drive to complete the organization of the 17,000 unorganized river workers, and planned to send organizers soon into the Illinois and Ohio River areas.

43 DELEGATES

There were 43 delegates representing 28 boats and seven river ports at the conference, and seven fraternal delegates from the Intl. Longshoremen's Assn., AFL. The Ohio River Pilots' Assn. also sent a fraternal delegate.

Board Orders Show PWOC Strength

Washington, Aug. 26 — One Labor Board certification and three election orders issued this week testified to the growing strength of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, CIO, in the meat packing industry.

In Chicago, the Board certified Local 347 as sole collective bargaining agency at the Armour Co. Auxiliary plants, after an election won by the local by a three to one majority.

In Omaha the Board set the date for an Armour election at 15 days from the issuance of the order, which was sent down Aug. 23. Local 8 will be on the ballot there.

In Fort Worth, Tex., the Board ordered an election Sept. 23 among Armour employes, where Local 54 will be on the ballot.

In Albert Lea, Minn., the Board postponed a scheduled election at the Wilson and Co. plant "because the company had not yet posted the proper orders as required" by the Board. These orders directed the company to cease opposing the CIO and to observe the Wagner Act. Local 6 is represented in this plant.

U. S. Program To Laud Labor

Washington, Aug. 26 — The story of the federal government's relation to labor will be told in a special Labor Day weekend broadcast sponsored by the U. S. Office of Education.

The program, part of the "Democracy in Action' series, will be heard over the Columbia Broadcasting System on Sunday, Sept. 3, at 1 P. M., EST.

Many Union Conventions Next Month

Councils, Unions Plan Sessions

WASHINGTON, Aug. 26.—Important CIO affiliates will be meeting throughout the month of September. Information on hand at the national office showed ten groups planning conventions during that period.

The schedule:

- **Sept. 4.** United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, Springfield, Mass.
- **Sept. 8.** Industrial Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers, Jersey City, N. J.
- **Sept. 11.** Intl. Oil Workers Union, Hammond, Ind.
- **Sept. 11.** United Rubber Workers, LaCrosse, Wisc.
- **Sept. 16.** Washington State Industrial Union Council, Tacoma, Wash.
- **Sept. 16.** Missouri Industrial Union Council, Jefferson City, Mo.
- **Sept. 18.** American Federation of Hosiery Workers, New York City.
- **Sept. 20.** Transport Workers Union, Atlantic City, N. J.
- **Sept. 27.** State, County & Municipal Workers, New York City.
- **Sept. 29.** Ohio State Industrial Union Council, Columbus, Ohio.

The Iowa-Nebraska Industrial Union Council opened its sessions on Friday, Aug. 25 at the Rome Hotel, in Omaha, while the West Virginia Industrial Union Council convention will be called to order on Monday, Aug. 28.

West Virginia CIO To Hear U. S. Officials, Labor Leaders

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Aug. 26.—A number of notable speakers are scheduled to address the convention of the West Virginia Industrial Union Council which opens Monday in Huntington. Credentials which have been pouring in indicate that it will be the largest convention ever held in the state.

John B. Easton, president of the council, said that among the speakers who will address the delegates are: John Brophy, CIO director; Van A. Bittner, district president of the United Mine Workers and head of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee; John Owens, president of the Ohio CIO Council, and E. L. Oliver, executive vice-president of Labor's Non-Partisan League.

State Senator M. M. Neely will deliver a speech the second day of the convention. Dr. John R. Steelman, director of the Conciliation Service of the U. S. Department of Labor is also scheduled for a speech.

One of the highlights of the sessions will be the biennial election of officers. President Easton and Secretary Harry Norrington have no opposition so far and are expected to be re-elected.

Missouri CIO Plans Council

St. Louis, Aug. 26. — CIO affiliates throughout the State of Missouri were preparing today for the formation of an Industrial Union Council which will embrace hundreds of locals with membership running in the thousands.

A call for a convention to form the council was sent out by John Doherty, CIO director here, and by Luther Slinkard, secretary of the St. Louis Industrial Union Council.

The convention will be held on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 16 and 17 at Selinger Center Auditorium in Jefferson City.

LARGE MEMBERSHIP

CIO membership runs into the thousands throughout this state. Large numbers of packinghouse workers live in St. Louis, St. Joseph and Kansas City; clothing workers in St. Louis; electrical manufacturing workers in St. Louis; shoe workers both in St. Louis and surrounding small towns; coal and metal miners, and workers in steel fabricating plants which are centered in St. Louis.

Local CIO officials predict that the state council will rapidly become one of the most powerful in the country.

Construction Campaign Progressing

Washington, Aug. 26 — Continued progress in CIO organizing among construction workers was reported by A. D. Lewis, chairman, United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, with headquarters here.

Mr. Lewis disclosed that a steady stream of letters and applications from construction workers all over the country is coming into his office, asking for information and indicating a desire to join the newly formed CIO affiliate.

"The construction workers are ready and anxious for the CIO," Lewis said. "We are ready to give them the benefits of CIO organization, and to bring to the construction industry the same benefits and stability that the CIO has brought to so many other basic industries in our country."

CONVENTION OCT. 28

Waterbury, Conn., Aug. 26. — The Connecticut CIO Industrial Union Council announced this week that its state convention would be held here October 28-29.

Social Security Board Will Supply Pay Record

THE Social Security Board announces that it is ready to furnish you a statement of the wages credited to your old-age insurance account up to January 1, 1939. The statement will show the amount of your wages as reported to the Government by your employers.

If there is any mistake in these figures, this is your chance to ask for the necessary correction.

The Social Security Board provides postcards for you to use when you ask for the statement. YOU CAN GET ONE OF THESE CARDS or YOUR UNION CAN GET THEM FOR ALL ITS MEMBERS at any Social Security Board office. The card is addressed to the Social Security Board, and calls for certain information necessary to identify your account.

After filling in the blanks, you can mail the card under a one-cent stamp, or in a sealed envelope under a three-cent stamp. It will be returned to you with the amount of your wages up to 1939 written into the blanks at the bottom of the card.

A sample of the card is shown below:

Form OAR-7004
6-39

ACCOUNT NO. [ ] [ ] [ ]

SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD,
BUREAU OF OLD-AGE INSURANCE,
Baltimore, Md.

DATE OF BIRTH [ ] [ ] [ ]
(Month) (Day) (Year)

Please send me a statement of the wages credited to my Old-Age Insurance Account for the year or years which I have checked: 1937 ☐ 1938 ☐.

Name.....
Street and number.....
City and State.....
(Print or Type Name and Address Use Ink)

Signature (Do not print).....

(This space below to be filled in by Social Security Board)

Statement of Old-Age Insurance Account, as per request:

1937 $	1938 $

SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD, *Baltimore, Md.*

Complete statement of wages earned in 1939 will be available after July 1, 1940

16-8289

Woodworkers Win Poll by 5-1 Margin

TACOMA, Wash., Aug. 26.—The CIO piled up a commanding lead in a Labor Board election here today as Local 2-9 of the Intl. Woodworkers of America defeated an AFL affiliate 738-163. Only five workers voted for no union.

The poll was conducted among the employes of the St. Paul & Tacoma Lumber Co.

James E. McDonald, president of the local, hailed the election results as a justification of CIO policies.

"Let this be a warning to all employers and other forces who attempt to disrupt and destroy bona fide unions which are militantly putting forward the program and policies of the CIO in the progressive labor movement.

"I feel our action and the result of the election will be the 'green light' for all CIO unions on the West Coast to go ahead and build their organizations."

Lumbermen Send Out Call For Conclave

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 26 — A call to the third national convention of the International Woodworkers of America which opens in Klamath Falls, Oregon, October 18, was sent out this week from the national IWA office here.

Set previously for October 11, the date was postponed a week, after the CIO executive board had decided on October 10 as the best date for the national CIO convention in San Francisco.

100,000 MEMBERS

The union has a membership of more than 100,000 in the lumber and wood working industry throughout the country.

Although formed less than three years ago, the official call states, the union "points with pride" to its achievements. "Never before in the lumber industry has a labor organization waged such a successful fight against unscrupulous employers and company domination of workers.

Shipyard Meeting Sept. 8

Jersey City, N. J., Aug. 26—As host to the fifth national convention of the Industrial Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers which opens here September 8, Jersey City Local 16 is planning to spare no trouble or expense to make the convention a success, John F. Dempsey, local president, said this week. Lou Jones is chairman of the committee in charge of arrangements.

Delegates will come from shipyards and plants in California, Maine, Louisiana, Masachusetts and other parts of the United States and Canada. Local 16, made up of employes of the Federal Shipyards at Kearny, N. J., will entertain the delegates at a banquet in Celtic Hall, to be followed by a grand ball at the Ukranian Center, 181 Fleet St.

The convention which will be held at Celtic Hall, Clinton and Jackson avenue, Jersey City, will open Friday morning, September 8 at 10 o'clock.

Radio Union Convention Labor Day

Springfield, Mass., Aug. 26—The convention of one of the CIO's largest and youngest unions, the United Electrical Radio & Machine Workers, opens here at the Kimball Hotel on Labor Day.

Formed in 1936, the union's membership has jumped from 25,000 to 158,000 in three years. It has won contracts from General Electric, Westinghouse and other giant corporations formerly non-union.

ACA to Meet Next April

NEW YORK, Aug. 26—The international executive board of the American Communications Association announced this week that the next national convention of the union would be held in Chicago, beginning April 8, 1940. The 1938 convention chose Chicago as the convention city.

CIO Leaders Denounce Coughlin Parade Plan

New York, Aug. 26 — CIO unionists here are taking part of the credit for preventing an anti-Semitic, anti-labor parade by the "Christian Mobilizers," Father Coughlin storm-troop outfit, that was scheduled for this week.

The parade was denounced by 50 top-ranking officials of New York CIO unions, who protested to Mayor LaGuardia and urged him not to issue a city permit for the march. The parade was later cancelled by the Christian Mobilizers, as CIO and other protests poured in.

NOT 'FREE SPEECH' ISSUE

"We know that you stand, as you have said, for the principle that inciting to riot and the stirring up of religious and racial hatred cannot be considered under the heading of free speech," they wired.

"Just as the Nazis now wage war on German Catholics, Jews and Protestants, so do these lawless and un-American groups now seek to turn America into the same shambles of hatred and bigotry."

Christian Mobilizers and Christian Front hoodlums have been making New York streets unsafe for decent citizens with their unprovoked attacks on Jews, Negroes, and labor union members.

Auto Union Sweeps Board Polls

Packard Motor Co. employes line up before the Labor Board's ballot box in Detroit. Their 4-1 vote for the CIO United Automobile Workers in what had been considered a Martin stronghold spelled doom for AFL disruptionist efforts and gave the lie to charges that the nation's auto workers are tiring of unionism.

Packard, Motor Products Vote CIO By Big Margins

DETROIT, Aug. 26. — Two overwhelming Labor Board election victories — at Packard and at Motor Products Co. — today had placed the United Automobile Workers, CIO, in an unchallengeable position as the dominating union in the nation's automotive industry.

As a result of the rank-and-file expression of choice, the UAW-CIO gained sole bargaining rights in the plants of the two big corporations.

Coming shortly after the General Motors agreement, which brought major gains to the UAW-CIO, the elections ended threats of disruption by Homer Martin and his disgruntled group of AFL strikebreakers.

The Packard vote:

UAW-CIO	**6,090**
AFL	**1,547**
Neither	**637**

An additional 60 of the 8,897 votes were challenged, void or blank.

The Motor Products vote:

UAW-CIO	**2,033**
AFL	**188**
Neither	**80**

THOMAS HAILS RESULTS

"It is a renewed demonstration of our strength," said Pres. R. J. Thomas of the CIO auto workers. "We will use it to full advantage in further organization."

"The overwhelming victory for the CIO in the Packard election sounds the clarion call for the Labor Board elections that follow in Bundy Tubing, Briggs and Chrysler," declared Richard Frankensteen, director of the UAW-CIO's District One. "The CIO is on the march!

"By the same token, what is the clarion call for the CIO was the death knell for dual unionism.

"The auto workers can now say, 'Alas', poor Homer, we knew him well."

OTHER POLLS SCHEDULED

Elections at Briggs and Chrysler are expected shortly after Labor Day, having been postponed by the National Labor Relations Board because of the immense amount of technical work necessary for the conducting of elections among close to 50,000 workers in about 15 plants. These polls, like the two that went before, are also expected to show huge CIO majorities.

The small AFL vote at Packard, which was long considered a Martin stronghold, came as a stunning setback for the disruptionists, who had confidentially boasted of victory.

"We were sure we'd run the CIO out of Packard" was the way one of the 30 AFL organ-

Continued on page five

Pleased

Pleased with CIO-United Automobile Workers victories at Packard and Motors Products NLRB election, Pres. R. J. Thomas of the auto union predicts similar push-over successes in coming polls at Chrysler and Briggs.

New York Dairy Farmers Win; Backed by CIO

UTICA, N. Y., Aug. 26. — Organized dairy farmers scored their first great victory with the culmination August 23 of a seven-day strike against New York's infamous milk trust.

The strike, directed by the Dairy Farmers Union and supported by the CIO, brought, in addition to many minor improvements to the much-exploited farmer, the following cardinal accomplishments:

1. An increase in the return to dairy farmers from an average of three cents per quart to four-and-a-half cents per quart for milk, an increase of 50 per cent.

2. Establishment of the first collective bargaining agreement in the dairy farming industry.

3. Creation of a definite and working farmer-labor alliance in New York state.

Meeting in Utica to ratify the strike settlement, negotiated in New York City by their president, Archie Wright, 300 county chairmen representing the union's 15,000 farmer-members, lustily cheered the appearance at their convention of Allan S. Haywood, president of the state CIO Industrial Union Council.

By acclamation, the farmer leaders adopted a resolution expressing their gratitude for CIO support of the strike and pledged reciprocal aid in the future to organized labor on both legislative and economic fronts.

Farm Leader

Archie Wright, chairman of the Dairy Farmers Union of New York, which, with strong CIO consumers' support, won a strike with the milk trust. Milk trust was forced to lift its pay to the milk producers.

Armour Meets Union

Chicago, Aug. 26—Armour & Co., up to this week stubbornly refusing to negotiate with the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, CIO, has taken its place at the table and is talking business with the representatives of its organized workers.

The opening of negotiations came after a long and patient process by the CIO union, Local 347 of the PWOC, which, together with other Armour locals, went through every step of trade union and legal procedure to bring the management to agree to discuss outstanding problems.

Finally a delegation from all Armour locals throughout the nation went to Washington, D. C., last week to put their demand for negotiations before the Federal government. At the same time, they served notice that this was the last resort—failing negotiations, they told the Secretary of Labor that they would strike every Armour plant in the nation, and that the strike would spread to other packing centers.

COMMITTEE FORMED

The negotiating committee now meeting with Armour officials here is headed by Van A. Bittner, PWOC chairman; Henry Johnson, assistant national director, and composed of local members Jeff Beckley, Sophie Kosciolowski, Oscar Wilson, Ed Miller, George Kovachavick, Joe Bezenhofer, Paddy McNicholas and David MacKenzie.

Demands presented by the committee include the union shop, the end of the 60-day layoff procedure, adjustment of wage differentials, liberalization of vacations plans, health and safety measures and reduction of speed-up.

AFL Typos Defy Green 'War' Order

Fort Worth, Tex., Aug. 26. —The 83-year-old AFL Intl. Typographical Union, meeting in Convention here, refused Federation Executive Council demands for payment of anti-CIO "war" funds.

An unanimous resolution told the council that if future ITU affiliation with the AFL depends on payment of the assessment—which the typo union has consistently refused to pay — the council will have to make up its collective mind to get along without the ITU.

The council has threatened suspension of the union, founded long before the AFL was created, if it refuses to pay the assessment.

The federation's 1c-a-month-a-member assessment to fight the CIO was first voted by the council in May, 1937, but the ITU has refused to pay it. As a result, the federation now claims the typographers should pay out $22,000.

Sentiment of an important part of the ITU's membership on the AFL demand was voiced by Pres. Elmer Brown of Local 6, New York City.

"We will never pay a tax to fight another union," he said. "Nor will be contribute one cent to destroy any organization which is working in the interests of labor."

Following his recommendations, the local passed a resolution urging the ITU convention to "take no action that might compromise the traditional and long-established independence of the ITU."

Lewis Congratulates Dairy Farmers Union

WASHINGTON, Aug. 26.—CIO Pres. John L. Lewis today sent the following wire of congratulations to the Dairy Farmers Union of New York, which with CIO support emerged victorious from a strike for higher milk payments:

"On behalf of the CIO, I wish to convey to you warmest congratulations on the notable victory of the Dairy Farmers Union. Through the courage and cooperation of your members, the union has taken a great step forward in the long struggle of the farmers to get a just payment for their product.

"The CIO has and always will stand back of efforts of the working farmer to get a fair price for their product.

"My compliments to you."

CIO Pickets Insurance Office

Newark, N. J., Aug. 26 — New Jersey saw its first insurance company picket line here when members of Local 15, United Office and Professional Workers, CIO, marched in front of the Metropoltan Life Insurance Co. branch in the heart of the city.

The line was called out when the company, following a consistent union busting policy, fired Charles Simon, local charter member, for a trifling infraction of company rules.

"The members of our local are aroused because they realize that the dismissal of Brother Simon is a direct threat to the security of their own jobs," the local president said.

"We intend to carry on this protest as long as necessary, to show the company that our jobs can't be taken away at the whim of someone who does not like the victim personally or because we exercise our rights under the Wagner Act."

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II August 28, 1939 No. 35

Farmers and Workers Join Forces

Farmers are supposed to be a pretty patient lot of men. They don't lead too easy a life. They work hard, long hours and they get too often a pretty small cash return for their labor.

Their compensations are supposed to be elsewhere—in the fine open air life they lead, in their contact with nature, and the like. They're not supposed to worry about cash income to buy sordid things like decent clothing or a few of the comforts that make life more tolerable for an American working family.

Certainly they're not supposed to go out on strike when Wall Street can't see its way to giving them a minimum of the things every American family ought to have. Above all, they're not supposed to get together with organized industrial labor in the struggle to secure those benefits.

This is the picture the bankers and the mortgage holders try to peddle to the farmers and to the public generally. It is a pretty picture — for the bankers. It is anything but a pretty picture for the millions of families who get their living by wresting it from the land.

And just now it's a picture that has been drastically upset by dairy farmers and CIO workers of the New York state. Tired of being squeezed by the milk trust—which is one of America's biggest monopolies—the farmers struck for a price for their milk that would enable them and their families to live like human beings.

This was bad enough, but the dairy farmers have committed an even greater sin. They were offered—and they accepted gratefully—the full cooperation of the CIO in New York state in winning their just and reasonable demands.

So the working farmers and the organized industrial workers of New York state got together, and made effective the right of a large section of our population to earn a living by their toil.

Naturally the milk trust and the newspapers that speak for it are worried and outraged. This is something new, something ominous. If working farmers and industrial workers can get together on a fair price for milk, what is there to prevent them from getting together to ensure decent living standards for everybody, whether they work on the land or in factories?

The answer is that nothing can prevent them—if they stay together against their common enemies, the chiselling milk trust and the chiselling employer.

The CIO and the working farmers are showing the way. The CIO has long stood for close cooperation between the two. Now it has worked out in New York state, and it will work out elsewhere.

It will work out in the packing industry, for example, if the attitude of the meat packers—another big monopoly in their field—remains as stubborn against genuine collective bargaining as it has been previously.

Dog Days and the AFL

The summer doldrums are with us again. All over the United States the hot, muggy weather hits everybody, falling on the just and the unjust alike.

But the effects aren't the same everywhere, nor do all people react alike. The AFL Executive Council and President Green, for example—they take it one way.

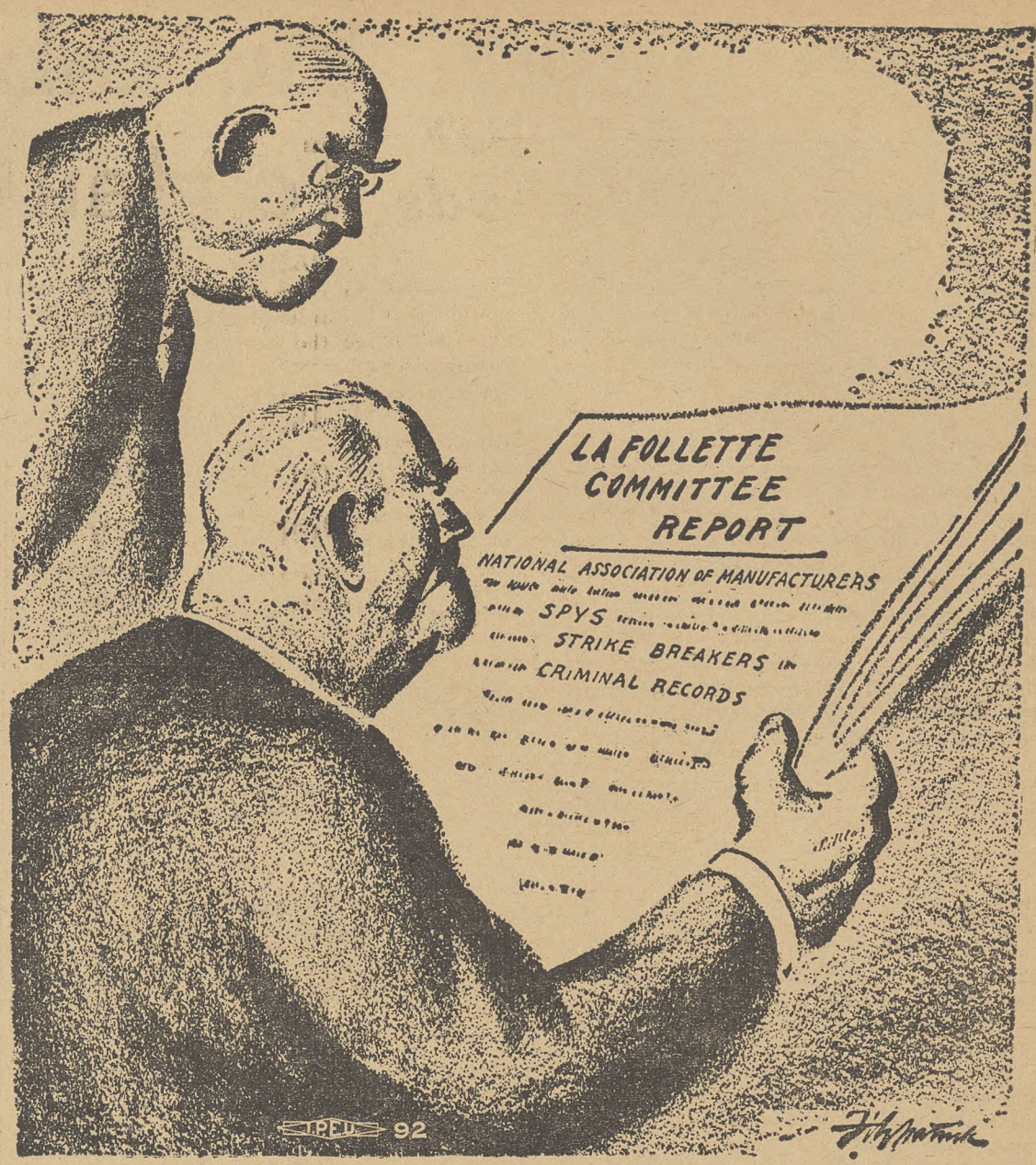
The CIO takes it another way.

The AFL Executive Council, and President Green, have been doing some peculiar things during the current dog days. They have been trying their level best, apparently, to injure their own organizations in their zeal of hatred for the CIO.

The CIO is renewing contracts, extending its organization, chartering new locals in every field, meeting in lively, progressive conventions in a score of industries and industrial communities.

The CIO is going ahead. The AFL Executive Council is determinedly striving to push the labor movement back.

Maybe it's the weather, but the same humidity falls on the CIO and on the AFL Executive Council alike. It's just the reaction that's different.



Indicted!

Fitzpatrick in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

CIO Brings End to 'Slavery' In Iowa Button Factories

MUSCATINE, Ia., Aug. 26. — One more slave sector in American industry has fallen with the signing of a CIO contract by the Hawkeye Pearl Button Co., of this city.

Men and women who had been drudging at machines in their shacks, for years, cutting buttons for three or four dollars a week, voted with tears in their eyes to ratify the settlement arranged by Joseph Kaminsky, Amalgamated Clothing Workers leader, after a strike which had paralyzed operations of the company since June 19th.

The contract provides for a preferential union shop, for revision of wages in the lower brackets, machinery to negotiate a general wage revision, and for a 40-hour week.

●

Until the coming of the CIO, the buttonmakers of Muscatine worked under conditions as hopeless as that of the English weavers who drudged over their looms from daylight to dark 200 years ago. "We are going to reclaim Muscatine from the jungle of American industry and make it a 100 per cent union town," declared Vernon Dale, Amalgamated organizer, following the signing of the contract.

Ill-Housed, Ill-Fed

From the plant of the Hawkeye Pearl Button Co., the ghetto of the buttonmakers is only a few blocks away.

In street after street of shacks with tin walls and tarpaper roofs, pale men and women who have hardly eaten a square meal since the beginning of the depression bend over their machines, cutting blank buttons from clam shells.

In one shack, with a large family of anaemic children, father and mother work at machines which drain water into the kitchen sinks and into whatever food the family can buy from peon wages.

"Before 1939, any first-class button maker could make from $30 to $35 per week," said the father. "But one week this year, I got a check for 46 cents after paying for my shell and having my culls thrown out. A buddy of mine got a check for two cents one week.

"Hawkeye has been the hardest nut to crack in the business, and we still have a long, hard fight to bring back wage scales to what they were before 1930. But we've got a man in the White House who's for us, and a union which isn't going to sell us down the river."

Down another street, 14 cutters work in a shack which has only one window and where the hot sun makes the place seethe like a cauldron. One of these men is designated as a "contractor" on the company's books because the other workers pay him $1.50 per week each for space in the shack. But there is little difference between his living standards and those of the men who are supposedly his "employes."

Like the others, he worked in the Hawkeye plant until it was closed in July, 1937, as a maneuver of the company to prevent union organization. Like the others, he has done piece work in a shack for the company since that time, and like the others, he is an enthusiastic CIO member.

The heads and chests of the 14 men are always wet from the moisture of the machines. Clam shells—the raw material of the industry—soak in an open tank whose water is as green and scummy as that of a stagnant pool.

Cutting and Coughing

Many a man has coughed away his lungs cutting buttons for Hawkeye—spent his life cutting and coughing until claimed by the potters' field. The dampness seeps into the undernourished systems of the button makers so that tuberculosis, bronchitis, and yellow jaundice are common occupational diseases.

Until forced to do so by the strike, Fred Vetter, company president had been too "patriotic" to deal with the CIO, although his employes have in many cases, been kept alive only by the supplementary aid of local relief authorities.

Every week the workers took their blank buttons to the Hawkeye plant to be weighed. The buttonmakers waited anxiously while the scales determined whether they would have bacon with their beans that week. The company paid only for the number of blanks accepted, but kept the culls and disposed of them although the workers had to pay the charge of four cents for every pound of shell taken out.

But there is a new will to fight manifest in this little city—the will of American citizens to live like human beings.

Echoes Hitler:

NAM Official Flays Democratic Methods

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON, Aug. 26 — The trouble with the United States is too much democracy. The welfare of the nation is in danger because the government is run simply by the will of "the current majority". The mind of the masses is corrupted by democracy, and as a result our republic is being undermined and its constitution swept away.

This, stated with considerably more rhetoric, is the real low-down on what's wrong with America, according to H. W. Prentis, Jr., president of Armstrong Cork, vice-president of the Natl. Association of Manufacturers, director of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, and one of the orators who spoke for business at the Congress on Education for Democracy held at Columbia University, New York.

And in case you didn't think it was so, Pres., Vice-Pres. and Director Prentis listed some contemporary evils resulting from democracy for his audience at the final meeting in Carnegie Hall. These are, to put it briefly, primary elections, the initiative, referendum and recall, government agencies, and of course and specifically the Natl. Labor Relations Board and the Wagner Act it administers.

THAT MINORITY AGAIN

Further, says Pres. and Vice-Pres. Prentis, the New Deal and the reds who now run the country have taken advantage of the "masses" ' ignorant devotion to democracy to crush helpless minorities whenever they show their heads. For instance, the Wagner Act:

"Under its provisions," says Mr. Prentis, "51 per cent of the employes of any concern are empowered to speak for all—thus disregarding certain individual rights of the minority, which in this case has no specially prescribed constitutional protection."

This is bad enough, because after all the sacred right of a minority to hold up progress, particularly in labor relations, should be maintained. But worse than this, the President of the United States himself has fallen into this trap of democracy.

"In recent years the President himself has frankly advocated far-reaching national policies embracing radical departures from heretofore accepted theories of republican government on the simple ground that such measures are the will of the current majority," Prentis said.

THERE'S A DIFFERENCE

What the American people have to learn, Prentis pointed out, is that there's a difference between a republic and a democracy, and that the U. S. emphatically ought to be the former and not the latter. This is how he put it:

"Hence, at all hazards, the difference between a republic and a democracy must be made clear to the American people. For the advocates of Communism, Socialism, Fascism, Nazism and New Liberalism are constantly obscuring vital issues by juggling with the favorable connotation that the word democracy possesses in the mind of the masses."

Once this difference is learned, the solution to America's problems becomes clear. Not more democracy but less—and a regrowth of individual faith. Only this way, said Mr. Prentis, speaking for business, for Armstrong Cork, for the Natl. Association of Manufacturers and the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, can we "keep the republic our fathers died to found and save."

Big Labor Day Fetes To Hail CIO's Progress

WASHINGTON, Aug. 26.—Steady, major gains by CIO unions throughout the nation will be celebrated in scores of parades, picnics and demonstrations on this Labor Day.

In large cities and small, holiday festivities will be combined with a review of the progress of the last 12 months and surveys of the big organizing jobs that lie ahead.

Largest Labor Day audience will be that of CIO Pres. John L. Lewis, who is scheduled to address the nation over a coast-to-coast hookup of the National Broadcasting Co.'s blue network. His speech, certain to be of timely interest, will be heard from 4 to 4:30 P. M. eastern standard time.

Arrangements have already been made for loudspeaker amplification of his address at most of the CIO celebrations.

Phillip Murray, CIO vice-president, will cross the border into Canada to deliver his Labor Day message. Thousands of Ontario steel workers will converge on the city of Hamilton, where the steel union leader will speak under the auspices of the city's Trade and Labor Council.

BROPHY IN DES MOINES

John Brophy, national CIO director, will travel to Des Moines, Ia., to address the demonstration in that city. Walter Smethurst, executive assistant to Pres. Lewis, will appear in Flint, Michigan. Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, is scheduled to speak at Duluth, Minn.

Brophy's speech will be broadcast over a three-state network in the midwest.

In addition to these representatives of the CIO national headquarters, leading officials of practically all the CIO's affiliates will be heard in various sections of the nation.

Toledo, Ohio, will see a giant CIO parade and picnic. Indianapolis will have its greatest Labor Day celebration in history with 3,000 autos and 50 floats participating in the CIO parade. Washington, D. C.'s Industrial Union Council expects several thousand at its first Labor Day gathering.

A number of CIO groups throughout New York state scheduled special events for the day. Cleveland is expecting a big turnout for its program, and Detroit, scene of recent major gains by the United Automobile Workers, will be in holiday mood.

LOS ANGELES PARADE

Los Angeles CIO unionists will march for the first time on Labor Day, with thousands taking part in a maritime parade at San Pedro, harbor for Los Angeles. San Francisco and Seattle, as well as a number of other West Coast industrial centers, will also participate in holiday events.

In the deep South, Birmingham and Jasper, Ala., CIO councils will join forces for the day, with two ball games and other entertainment planned.

At Warren, Ohio, AFL and CIO locals will combine their memberships for an all-day picnic which is expected to draw 10,000 people to Waddell Park in Niles.

CIO Calls For Greater Democracy

New York, Aug. 26. — While big business spokesmen told the Congress on Education for Democracy that what America needed was not more democracy but less, organized labor through a number of CIO representatives took an opposite and somewhat more American point of view.

They took part in a number of seminars and discussion groups that made up the Congress, arranged by Columbia University.

Labor's opinion of the Congress and of the tasks the nation faces in educating for democracy was expressed by Thomas Kennedy, secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers, who said:

LABOR'S STAKE

"This Congress is a recognition of labor's deep concern for education for democracy, of labor's real stake in the direction of that education, and of the vital part that organized labor can and does play in the maintenance and strengthening of our democratic institutions."

In addition to Kennedy, Ralph Hetzel, Jr., national CIO unemployment director; Lucy Randolph Mason, Emil Rieve, executive vice-president of the Textile Workers Union; Thomas Burns, vice-president of the United Rubber Workers, and James B. Carey, CIO secretary, attended the sessions.

Alabama Unions Rap Tory Law

Birmingham, Ala., Aug. 26. — Alabama's organized labor made plans today for a finish fight against the Hildreth bill, which is aimed at outlawing the closed shop, and at all other anti-labor legislation.

CIO and AFL unions are participating in the campaign, which gained added impetus through formation of the Alabama State Labor Legislation Council, formed by leaders of both labor groups. The Birmingham Typographical Union, the United Mine Workers, the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, railway brotherhoods and other AFL locals are affiliated to the council.

The new group will seek to "promote all those measures calculated to assist the worker in this state," a spokesman said.

ASK CO-OPERATION

Support for labor's fight against the Hildreth bill from the Birmingham News, powerful newspaper here, won praise from Yelverton Cowherd, CIO regional director.

Urging all unions to cooperate in a determined fight against the bill, the Council suggests that each local appoint as large a delegation as possible to attend the committee hearings in Montgomery, and to rally the support of all pro-labor groups in opposition.

Auto Union Sweeps Polls

Continued from Page Three

izers rushed into Detroit by Green and Woll expressed it.

FOLLOWED STRIKE THREAT

Packard's election followed a threat of strike by the UAW-CIO as the management continued its policy of playing the AFL local off against the CIO union. The company had refused to bargain with either group alone, insisting that representatives of both locals be present.

In addition to laying the ghost of AFL claims to substantial membership in the auto industry, the Packard election tore holes in recent newspaper stories which have sought to give the impression that the auto workers have tired of unionism.

ANSWER FOES

The polls gave answers also to Rev. Charles Coughlin and Rev. Gerald L. K. Smith. The anti-union priest from Royal Oak and the rabble-rousing crusader who was trained by Huey Long, both took to the airwaves before the Packard election and counselled the workers against voting for the CIO.

As a result of these two votes and the coming polls at Briggs and Chrysler, the turmoil created in the auto industry by Homer Martin will be completely repaired.

The split in the UAW took place after Martin, repudiating a call for CIO intervention in the unions troubled affairs, illegally suspended a majority of the executive board and started on a mad rule or ruin campaign.

Prosperity, Purchasing Power Linked By Hillman

Washington, Aug. 26.—The main obstacle to America's progress is in our failue to provide enough purchasing power to all the people, Sidney Hillman, vice-president of the CIO and president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, told the nation last night over a coast-to-coast radio network.

Hillman, speaking on the U. S. Labor Dept.'s "America Unlimited" series, was interviewed over the air by John Steelman, head of the Conciliation Service. His talk took the form of answers to questions put to him by Steelman.

"The primary obstacle lies in the failure of our economy to distribute to the American people purchasing power sufficient to enable them to buy the products which our farms and factories are geared to produce.

VAST DEMAND

"There is today among our people a vast unsatisfied demand for food, clothing and shelter. Yet, factories lie idle, farm surpluses pile up and 12,000,000 unemployed tramp the streets in search of jobs because a majority of the people lack the means to purchase even the bare bones of a decent living."

Asked to suggest remedies for this contradictory situation, Pres. Hillman replied:

"Collective bargaining between responsible management and labor organized into strong, independent and responsible unions provides the best guarantee that the income of industry will be fairly apportioned between labor and management, and that the processes of production will continue with the greatest efficiency and the least interruption."

U. S. MUST HELP

In addition to collective bargaining, Hillman pointed out that the federal government must provide direct employment opportunities where private industry has failed.

"I believe that it is and must be the continuing obligation of our national government to provide useful work and decent wages for those whom private industry has been unable to absorb," he said.

HITS TORY CONGRESSMEN

In this connection, he criticized sharply those Congressmen and Senators who voted to cut down WPA and other federal works expenditures at the last session of Congress.

SIDNEY HILLMAN

"Those of our representatives who voted to reduce work project standards, and to deny the President's request for funds for government housing and public works did a distinct dis-service not only to those who have been forced off the relief rolls, but to each and everyone of us, workers, farmers, businessmen and professional people alike, whose welfare depends upon the ability of our people to buy back the goods and services which we have to sell."

Hillman was heard on a national hookup of the Natl. Broadcasting Co. On Sept. 1 Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, will be interviewed on the same program by Marshall Dimock, assistant secretary of labor.

Steel Union Cancels Intl. Nickel Pact; Charges Bad Faith

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 26.—Taking action almost unprecedented in American union history, the Steel Workers Organizing Committee today cancelled its contract with the Intl. Nickel Co. of Huntington, W. Va., asserting the action became necessary because of the "irresponsibility and evasive nature of the company's dealings" with the union.

Chairman Philip Murray of SWOC, in announcing the union's decision, said an immediate complaint of Wagner Act violation would be filed against the corporation.

"Although SWOC has had a contract with Intl. Nickel since 1937, and has demonstrated a majority in the plant through a National Labor Relations Board election, the attitude of the company, as repeatedly shown through hostile actions, is that the contract is binding on the SWOC only, while the company is free to ignore or violate its provisions as suits its convenience," Murray asserted.

PREVENTED STRIKES

"We have repeatedly prevented our men from going on strike because the SWOC does not strike in violation of a contract. This responsibility on our part will end when the contract has been cancelled. We guarantee peaceful relations only where we have contracts."

The SWOC leader added, however, that the pact cancellation is not to be interpreted as a strike call. The union, he said, will resort to the Labor Board "on charges that the company is maintaining a company union and through layoffs and discharges is discriminating against our members."

The company, he continued, "has never shown a responsible attitude" towards collective bargaining. Recalling that the SWOC agreement was gained only after difficult negotiations, Murray said the company then concluded a secret, and more favorable contract with what remained of its company union.

FAITH UNJUSTIFIED

"We prevented a strike at that time only by insisting that our members abide by the contract, and by assuring our members we felt the company would live up to the contract," Murray stated. "We were wrong."

A Labor Board election in March 1938 to determine the majority representative was sabatoged by the company's action in firing "scores" of SWOC members, a move which failed to prevent the CIO affiliate from obtaining a plurality — though it did not receive a majority of the votes.

"Due to the discharge of the men, another strike threatened. Again we kept our men at work, believing that the company fired scores of our men, voting," Murray declared. "In believing that under the grievance machinery of the contract these cases could be settled. Again we were wrong."

WON MAJORITY

A second NLRB election was held last spring, and this time the SWOC received a clear majority, winning the poll 374-273.

"When we asked for sole bargaining rights, to which we were entitled under the law, the company informed us that they would not accept the results of this government-supervised election, but would fight the decision to the Supreme Court," Murray concluded. "The purpose of this legal maneuver, obviously, is to delay and discourage our members in hopes of destroying the union.

"Therefore we are cancelling the contract and will file charges with the Labor Board."

Frame-Up Victims Refused Offers To Frame Bridges

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 26.—Sensational testimony charging the U. S. Immigration Service had approached a brother of Earl King, West Coast labor martyr now serving a frame-up term at San Quentin with a request that he obtain from King an affidavit calling Harry Bridges a "communist" was placed into the record at deportation hearings today.

Mrs. E. G. Ramsay, wife of another of the Modesto frame-up victims testified that she was approached by Stanley Doyle, northwest labor spy chief, with a similar proposal. He failed.

Her husband was sent to San Quentin on a frame-up, she related, and she would do nothing to "frame" anyone else.

The other witness was Garfield A. King of Vancouver, British Columbia, for 25 years a lawyer in that city.

He testified that on February 10, 1938, a Mr. Shearer of the Immigration Service asked him for a conference. At the subsequent meeting, Shearer hinted that if Earl King—a victim of the Modesto frame-up a few years ago—would sign an affidavit against Bridges, Ray Bonham, Immigration official in the northwest, would use his influence to help secure King's freedom.

NOT INTERESTED

The witness said he told Shearer that he was certain his brother would have no desire to be involved in any such proceedings.

Deportation hearings were scheduled to be moved to San Francisco where other charges of inducements to sign affidavits against the West Coast CIO leader will be investigated.

Meanwhile, the Harry Bridges Defense Committee accused two former Pacific Coast governors, William Randolph Hearst and Commander Stephen Chadwick of the American Legion, with being parties to a conspiracy to "accomplish the first objective of Italian Fascism and Nazism—destruction of collective bargaining and a return to the slave market."

LABOR SPY ON STAND

The committee made is charges after Capt. Charles G. Bakcsy, Hungarian labor spy, had testified in the hearing that Pacific Coast shipping interests had hired him to get evidence that Bridges was a Communist.

As Bakcsy's admissions exposed more sinister aspects of the West Coast labor espionage network revealed previously by Legionnaire Harper Knowles, Bridges told the Waterfront Employers Assn. that longshoremen were "ready to prove that your association has collaborated with labor spy, strikebreaking agencies and police agencies on the Pacific Coast to undermine and wreck our unions."

Bakcsy claimed that Larry Doyle, Oregon labor spy boss, had offered him a bribe to sign a false affidavit against Bridges, and linked ex-Governor Martin of Oregon with Doyle in anti-labor activities. Previously Knowles, under defense counsel cross-examination, had admitted that ex-Governor Merriam of California played very closely with industrialists in their efforts to fight the union and "get" Bridges.

'Our Leading Citizen' Leads to No Good, Movie Czars Told

HOLLYWOOD, Cal., Aug. 26—Protests from labor and liberal organizations against Paramount's anti-union movie "Our Leading Citizen," are mounting all over the country, now that Paramount has defied earlier protests and released the film.

Associated Film Audiences here, a group formed to promote progressive flickers and attack reactionary ones, has recomended a boycott to all branches. Film Audiences for Democracy, similar group in New York and other eastern cities, has done the same.

The CIO Council in New York has discussed consumer action by its members, and numbers of CIO bodies and other labor units elsewhere are planning similar steps.

A PHONEY

The movie has been thoroughly denounced by the Hollywood Tribune, progressive weekly here, as "Our Leading Anti-Patriot," and its script analyzed for its anti-labor content. Chief point of the plot is that strikes are always caused by "outside agitators," that all union leaders are bomb-throwers, and that workers who organize and demand better conditions are poor silly misled sheep.

"We cannot emphasize too strongly the need of immediate nation-wide action," Film Audiences for Democracy warns. "This anti-labor movie will mean that more will be made. Film audiences must speak out in no uncertain terms against films that will weaken in any measure any part of our democracy."

Anti-Labor Film Flops in Madison

Madison, Wisc., Aug. 26—"Our Leading Citizen," Paramount's new fink film, was pulled out of a local movie house here after CIO action and a total audience of 45 persons, caused the management to admit the picture "lacked box office appeal."

The Madison Industrial Union Council passed a resolution three days before the picture opened here charging it with "vicious anti-labor bias." A letter to the theatre manager urged cancellation of the booking.

Protest Rubber Price War

Washington, Aug. 26—Officials of the United Rubber Workers today appealed to the Federal government for aid in halting a tire price war which President Sherman Dalrymple predicted "will bring ruin to the smaller tire manufacturers" if allowed to continue.

Price cuts of 25 per cent have been announced for all lines of tires.

"There is absolutely no justification for this cut," Dalrymple said. "The very size of the cut indicates that it is not done for any sound economic reason, but is dictated by the desire of the Big Three to cut the ground out from under the small companies.

LABOR'S WARNING

"We are serving notice here and now that labor will not permit these cuts to be taken out of its hides. We are not going to allow our wage standards to be undermined by cut-throat business methods.

"If the rubber companies will not put their house in order, our government must do it for them."

Fail To Break Milk Strike

New York state cops failed to break the dairy farmers strike in northern milk producing areas. Picture shows the troopers dispersing a farmers' picket line—but the union, backed by CIO support, won a smashing victory.

Colorado Priest Lauds Industrial Unionism

Pueblo, Colo., Aug. 26 — Pueblo steel workers today were warned by Rev. Father Joseph Higgins of St. Patrick's Church against "misleading and vicious propaganda" directed at industrial unions and urged to take an active part in the labor union movement.

Rev. Higgins spoke at a local meeting of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee attended by 250 men and women. In speaking of the advantages of industrial unionism, Rev. Higgins asserted that craft unions are now outmoded and that complete industrial unionization is not far off.

He said the worker is entitled to the following rights: job security, income for "reasonable comfort," collective bargaining, "a share in the profits after just wages and a return to capital have been paid," strike and picket peacefully for just cause, just price for the goods he buys, decent hours and working conditions.

Your WPA Job

By RALPH HETZEL
CIO Unemployment Director

New Wage Rates

The WPA has just announced a new series of monthly wage rates for all WPA workers in the country. The WPA was forced to establish these wage rates under the law passed by Congress on WPA this last session.

Substantially speaking, the announced rates are better than was expected at the time the law was passed. The law said that the difference in the Northern and Southern rates must not be greater than the difference in the cost of living between various sections of the country, and that the all-over average must be the same as last year. Since the WPA, two years ago, had established extensive differences in the wage rates between the North and South, this meant that it would be necessary to bring down the Northern wage rates in order to bring up the Southern wage rates.

The WPA, however, has succeeded in working out a formula which prevents serious cuts in the Northern rates and still makes a substantial improvement in the Southern rates.

FEWER WORKERS

The general effect of this change is going to be that the WPA will be forced to employ somewhat fewer workers as a whole than they would have been able to employ throughout the country under the old rates. This new wage schedule will raise the average monthly wage payment throughout the country.

The CIO is issuing a letter giving the details on these wage rates. It should be pointed out that this most recent order does not change the requirement that every WPA worker must work 130 hours a month nor does it change the order abolishing the prevailing hourly rate.

It becomes more and more clear due to this most recent wage order and to reports from all over the country about conditions among the WPA workers that more money must be appropriated for WPA as soon as Congress meets in January. The amount appropriated at this last Congress, as the CIO vigorously pointed out, is not enough. Private industry can, by no stretch of the imagination, be expected to employ as many people as have been fired by the WPA since the beginning of the year.

CIO DRIVE UNDER WAY

The CIO is already beginning a fight to establish this necessity in the minds of those who are responsible for legislation.

Already reports are pouring in from everywhere indicating that the Congressmen who voted to slash WPA are now coming face to face with the facts. They are beginning to realize that when they were here in Washington they got the wrong impression as to the need throughout the country. They are beginning to realize that their action is the cause of extensive human suffering and that they must move as rapidly as possible to correct the mistakes that were made at the last Congress.

Pact Lifts Pay 10c An Hour

Chicago, Ill., Aug. 26—A second contract negotiated by the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America with the Serviciced Products Corporation of Chicago has resulted in subtantial improvements for the workers.

Wages have been increased from five to ten cents an hour under the new agreement. The seniority regulations are vastly improved and vacations established.

"Working conditions are 1,000% better under the union," say members of the UCAPAWA Local.

Recent National Poll Showed WPA Policy Endorsed

Concerning the work done by the WPA, everybody has his own opinion. Until recently, there was no official gauge. Each person has had to judge the program only by the small part he himself has seen or heard about.

There is only one way to get a true perspective of a program of this size and character; through a poll of the opinions of those closest to the work—the officials who planned the work, and the people using the improvements WPA workers have created or the services their labor provided.

Until recently nobody—not even Mr. Gallup—thought to poll these groups on a nation-wide scale. Such a poll was made a few months ago.

This first national appraisal of the work program was conducted by ten national organizations interested in social and civic work—representative bodies like the American Engineering Council, the American Association of Planning Officials, the American Municipal Association, and the United States Conference of Mayors.

But as to the wisdom of operating a work program rather than a dole, there is no divergence of opinion. The forty-two state committees who compiled state-wide reports based on the local surveys were unanimously affirmative on this point.

Typical of the opinions expressed are those from Maryland and Wyoming. Maryland's state committee reports: "Without exception, every community is in favor of work relief in preference to the dole for those who are employable."

From Wyoming comes the word that "There is unanimity of opinion that work relief is more American and more constructive to men and communities than a dole."

In a word, this community-by-community appraisal indicates that the people of America endorse not only the principles of work relief but the practical results of the WPA program to date.

What About Work?

Los Angeles jobless took the statements of Tory business leaders seriously — with WPA rolls slashed, they formed a picket line around the Sunshine City's Chamber of Commerce building. "Where are those jobs in private industry?" they asked the industrialists who have promised Utopia from decreased government expenditures.

Big Bakery Signs Contract

NEWARK, N. J., Aug. 26—A closed shop contract has been signed with the Dugan Baking Co., W. J. Carney, CIO regional director, announced this week.

The agreement, covering 400 employes; provides for two weeks paid vacations, wage increases and check-off of union dues. It was negotiated by Henry Miller, representative of the United Bakery Service Employes, CIO, Local 282.

CIO Wins Cleveland Board Poll

Cleveland, Ohio, Aug. 29 — An outstanding victory was won by Local 702 of the United Electrical Radio & Machine Workers in an election at the Edgewater plant of the National Carbon Co., subsidiary of the giant Union Carbon & Carbide Corp.

The election, the largest ever held by the Labor Board in Cleveland, was won by the CIO union by a vote of 683 to 251 for a company union, with 195 voting for no union representation. It was the first poll ever held in a plant of the National Carbide Co.

President Joseph Vejlupek of Local 702, said that the union would enter into negotiations for a contract as soon as official certification is received from the National Labor Relations Board.

Union Official Named To Board

Garfield, N. J., Aug. 26—Simon Saller, CIO field representative, was elected today to the Assistance Relief Board of Garfield. He is the first labor representative to be elected to that group.

Wisconsin AFL Rebuffs Padway

Madison, Wis., Aug. 26 — The AFL's drive against the New Deal sputtered and stalled here today, as Wisconsin AFL members repudiated a speech by AFL General Counsel Joseph Padway, himself a native of Wisconsin.

Appearing before the state federation of labor convention last week, Padway accused the administration of "fostering more attacks on labor than the reactionary administrations of Coolidge, Harding and Hoover."

State federation officials responded by denouncing the Republicans' anti-labor policies, with which they have had no opportunity to become familiar under the administrations of Gov. Julius Heil, GOP leader in this state.

Gordon Hey, president of the progressive Waukesha Trades & Labor Council, told delegates that he had great difficulty in trying to explain Padway's accusations.

"I say that no one here can offer a single word of justification or defense of Padway's statements," he declared.

A Tale Of 3 Union Men:

Brother Bungle Has A Dream

(This is the second of a series of three stories. The final one will appear in an early issue.)

Bud Bungle joined Local 666 and received a raise in pay. With more money in his pocket than he ever had on a Friday afternoon he went downtown and bought himself a suit. It was a gray suit; he bought it because his wife liked gray suits.

That night Brother Bungle had a dream. In his dream appeared a clothing worker, a member of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

He said, "Bud, you bought a new suit today. I didn't make that suit. The suits I make may not be any better; they're certainly no worse, and they don't cost any more. The boss made a lot of money on your suit, but not the worker. I'm a union worker, just like you. By buying that suit you didn't help the union workers. You didn't help yourself, either."

Then the union clothing worker disappeared and another clothing worker stood before Bud. This clothing worker looked weak and hungry.

He said, "Bud, I made that suit. For making that suit and others like it I didn't get paid enough to feed my family. If you hadn't bought that suit maybe my boss would have to sign a contract with the union. Here he is now; I'll have to go."

When the worker left the sweatshop boss came to Bud. "Bungle," he said, "I like you. You may belong to a union but you don't act like a union man. I made a lot of money on the suit you bought today. Thanks."

No sooner did the sweatshop boss disappear than a picket line formed. It was a tremendous picket line with a quarter of a million workers marching in successive lines. They were all members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America and from the banners they were carrying Bud could see that this great army included workers who made everything from overcoats to underwear.

Suddenly, in his dream, Bud saw himself walk through the picket line. He shuddered at the thought that he could be doing such a thing. But he kept on until he heard a piercing shout from the workers in the picket line.

Bud turned around and saw the clothing workers staring at him. Their faces showed anger. Above them they lifted a long banner. It read, "BUY AMALGAMATED UNION LABEL CLOTHES."

With that Brother Bungle woke up. He jumped out of bed and pulled his new suit off the hanger. He looked in the inside pocket. No, there was no union label. Now he understood. It was his union conscience that plagued him.

Brother Bungle was a good union man, even though he made mistakes. The next day, as soon as the doors of the store were opened, Bungle was exchanging his suit for another which bore an Amalgamated label.

Green Forces Out Official Who Hit Amendments

Omaha, Neb., Aug. 26 — AFL President William Green has forced Mace Brown to resign from the presidency of the Omaha Central Trades & Labor Council because he testified against amending the Wagner Act at hearings before the Senate labor subcommittee.

Brown's testimony was given after the Omaha Council had voted unanimously to oppose all amendments to the Act. In handing in his resignation Brown said, "I am just a poor man who can't afford to antagonize the powerful president of the AFL."

Edward E. Spencer, who succeeded Brown as president of the Council, declared: "We'll carry on as nearly as possible in Brown's footsteps until this trouble is straightened out."

Ask LaFollette Probe Of Oregon Tories

Gotham Trolleymen Demand Security; Union Helps Fight

NEW YORK, Aug. 26.—Job security of all workers affected by a plan now under consideration for motorizing all existing trolley lines in Manhattan and the Bronx must be protected, the Transport Workers Union, CIO, warned this week. Some 3,000 workers are employed by the trolley lines concerned.

"Whatever agreement is finally consummated between the Third Avenue Railways System and the City of New York, it must provide for the transfer of present employes, both in the transportation and mechanical divisions, to the motorized system," declared Austin Hogan, president of the TWU's New York local, which has 50,000 members.

"The men now employed as trolley operators and the mechanics in the Third Avenue repair and construction shops have put in the best years of their lives in the service of the company and the people," Hogan said.

"They guard their job security zealously and the report of motorization makes them fearful of their jobs, and justly so.

"The callousnes with which veteran employes of the Sixth Avenue elevated were treated when that structure was demolished less than a year ago and the suffering from loss of jobs which followed motorization of the New York Railways System in 1935, is still fresh in the mind of every transit worker in this city.

Weigh Libel Suits Against Red-Baiters

Denver, Colo., Aug. 26—Authorization to press libel suits against Liberty Magazine and the Miami Okla., Daily News Record for slanderous statements in a series of red-baiting articles was voted by the recent convention of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers.

The articles, written by an anonymous "Comrade X" for Liberty and later reprinted in the local paper, claimed that communists instigated the strike of Tri-State zinc workers in 1935 for the sole purpose of helping to defeat presidential aspirations of Gov. Alf Landon. Leaders

'Silk Hat Farmers' Hit by CIO

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 26—The Portland CIO Industrial Union Council has asked the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee to extend its investigation of the vigilante Associated Farmers to Oregon.

In a resolution passed at a recent meeting, the Council pledged the Committee its continued and enthusiastic support if they refuse to appease the pro-fascist elements in this country by pulling their punches in their future investigations of violations of civil liberties."

Referring to reports circulated to the effect "the members of this committee plan to soft pedal their investigation because of fear of their political futures," the resolution declared:

"This fear is unnecessary and unrealistic, as shown in state elections where the program of the Associated Farmers' was overwhelmingly defeated."

A report submitted to the Council by Lee Coe, editor of the Labor Newdealer of Portland, said that he had forwarded to the LaFollette committee evidence showing how the silk-hat "farmers" had fooled Oregon voters into adopting the anti-union law.

He said that the evidence also showed that the Associated Farmers here were financed almost entirely by Oregon big business to crush labor.

Frame-Up Attempt Against Unionists Flops In Montreal

MONTREAL, Que., Aug. 26.—Efforts of Montreal police to convict C. S. Jackson, international vice-president of the CIO United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, and I. Burman, local field organizer, failed when Recorder M. A. Leblanc dismissed charges of "loitering" laid against them.

The two union officials were arrested while engaged in conversation with employes of the RCA Victor Company in front of the firm's plant.

"This is an obvious attempt on the part of the Duplessis government to intimidate members and officers of CIO unions in the style of Mayor Hague of Jersey City," Jackson protested. "The quashing of this charge must be considered a victory for the right of organization in this province."

USE 'PADLOCK' LAW

Under Quebec's padlock law unions have been prosecuted and obstructed for distributing literature to employes in the plants. Homes of union officers have been raided and attempts made to disrupt unionism.

Premier Maurice Duplessis is the twin of the Hepburn-Duplessis axis which is trying to block unionism in Quebec and Ontario. Both are notorious for their hatred of industrial unions.

The UERMWA has a local in the RCA plant here. The arrests were termed a part of a campaign of intimidation being carried on by the company in a move to prevent the union from completing 100% organization in the plant.

When the union officers were being taken away from the plant entrance the 400 or 500 employes who gathered there acorded them an ovation and booed the police.

Clothing Union Gives Stand in Dispute

NEW YORK, Aug. 26. — Efforts of the independent Intl. Ladies' Garment Workers Union to pressure the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, CIO, into relinquishing jurisdiction over men's bathrobe shops will result in failure, the ACW declared today in an editorial appearing in its official monthly organ, Advance.

The ACW, the editorial said, "has no quarrel with the ILGWU in the men's bathrobe industry. The Amalgamated has the membership. It has the collective agreements. It has the jurisdiction. It is enforcing strictly the terms of the agreements without interruption of work."

The ILGWU has placed pickets around the CIO union's headquarters, and has demanded that the bath-robe workers be turned over to it. The garment workers union has jurisdiction in the women's clothing union, the ACW over producers of men's clothing.

"The Amalgamated is in the men's bathrobe industry because it properly belongs there," the editorial said. "The bathrobe shops, which Children's Dress Local 91 ILGWU presumes to claim for its own, make men's shirts during the early part of the year, augmented by men's polo shirts and later by men's bathrobes. It will be seen at once that all these articles of attire properly belong within the sphere of men's clothing."

To Organize Tuna Fleet

San Diego, Calif., Aug 26 — Plans for organizing the tuna fleet operating out of this port were drawn up by a meeting of the Southern California Council of the Maritime Federation meeting here.

The meeting was attended by about 25 delegates from CIO unions, including the United Fishermen, American Communications Assn., Cannery, Agricultural and Packing Workers, the Longshoremen and Warehousemen, and officers of the San Diego and state Industrial Union Councils.

Furniture Union Signs 21 Contracts

New York, Aug. 26. — Contracts covering 400 workers employed by 21 independent bedding manufacturers have been renewed. Local 140, United Furniture Workers, announced this week. Wage increases and other benefits were included in the agreements.

Som 400 other workers employed by 25 additional independent firms are also expected to win improvements in a settlement now being asked by the employers. The union is now negotiating with the Bedding Manufacturers Association, a group made up of 20 firms employing about 600 workers. It is asking for a flat 15 per cent pay increase.

MUSTER HELPS

Morris Muster, international president of the UFW has been aiding the local negotiators who include Manager Alex Sirota, Secretary-Treasurer Joseph Magliacano and Organizer Sol Kitain.

A strike against four independent employers employing 200 workers, who refused to negotiate has been declared by the union. The largest of the 21 firms which settled, is the Greenpoint Metallic Bed Co., which signed up after a half-day work stoppage. The company employs 175 workers.

Wage increases of more than $8,000 a year were won in the pact signed by Greenpoint. A clause in the contract forbids the firm from moving out of town.

Rank and File Campaign

The girls are taking their hand at making the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee's big campaign a 100% success. Here are some of the weaker sex members of PWOC Local 25 in Chicago discussing calls on prospective members of the big CIO union.

Labor Day Issue

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 36 20 SEPTEMBER 4, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

CIO LEADERS HAIL GAINS IN LABOR DAY MESSAGES

Highlights Of Labor's Big Year

The twelve-month period between Labor Day, 1938, and Labor Day, 1939, witnessed mammoth CIO organizing gains, sterling defense of labor's basic rights, and extension of union strength through improved agreements.

Shown here are three high spots from labor's year:

UMW PACT

AT TOP: Pres. John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers signs the history-making bituminous coal contract, which served final warning on Tory-minded industrialists that the CIO and its affiliated unions are here to stay. The mine contract's union shop provision, later written into the anthracite contract, ended the possibility of AFL raids on the UMW, and paved the way for further union progress.

CIO CONVENTION

MIDDLE: Delegates to the CIO's first constitutional convention at Pittsburgh in November of last year show their enthusiasm for CIO organizing plans.

GM AGREEMENT

AT BOTTOM: One result of the UMW agreement was the smashing strike victory won by the United Automobile Workers at General Motors. Tool and die makers, engineering and maintenance workers, are shown casting their votes to accept the agreement, which gave the CIO-UAW sole bargaining rights in 42 GM plants, paved the way for major Labor Board election victories at Packard and Motor Products in weeks following.

On this Labor Day, the nation's millions of workers look with constantly increasing faith to the CIO for leadership in protecting their interests.

Furniture Local Quits AFL for CIO

Philadelphia, Aug. 30 — Bedding Local 65, a union with some 800 members, has voted to leave the AFL and reaffiliate with the United Furniture Workers, CIO.

One of the original locals which helped form the UFW at a national conference held in Washington in 1937, the union later was pressured into going back on its agreement to join the CIO.

The recent vote to reaffiliate was unanimous in all departments of the local and was taken after three membership meetings held this month, two of which were addressed by Morris Muster, UFW president, and George Bucher of the general executive board.

Promise Continued Progress

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30—CIO leaders, encouraged by recent gains of American workers under the banner of industrial unionism during the past 12 months, looked forward in Labor Day messages released today, to continued progress and greater prosperity for the nation's working population.

Pres. John L. Lewis, pointing out that the "CIO is moving forward," declared that the "need for security, for equal opportunity, for more even distribution of the products of our vast industry join the great majority of our people in one common cause.

Vice-Pres. Philip Murray, in his annual message, noted that the "CIO has become the united, progressive labor force in this nation."

WAR DANGER

Vice-Pres. Sidney Hillman noted that American labor is not free of anxiety on the "momentous issue of war and peace."

"The age-old battle for democracy must be won. American labor can do its share in the efforts of staving off the tragedy which at this moment is imminent but not unavoidable."

"The CIO has fought off as vicious a series of attacks as any yet launched against the welfare of the American people, both by selfish employers trying to destroy labor's previous gains and by their agents in Congress and state governments," said Sec. James B. Carey.

"Increased prestige" and "organizational strength" were gained by the nation's industrial union movement during the last 12 months, Director John Brophy declared.

Win Strike In Northwest

Holden, Wash., Aug. 30 — By a 5-1 vote, members of Local 379, CIO Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers agreed to a victory settlement of their week - old strike against the Howe-Sound Mining Co.

Increases amounting to 50 cents a day on the base rate were won for all production workers, while poorly-paid employes in the cook house will receive an additional 25 cents increase.

Union officials said the "contract is a model agreement in many respects."

Criticize Labor Board For Pandering To AFL In Recent Decisions

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30.—The National Board was charged today with attempting "to placate the AFL at the expense of the interests of CIO unions and its members and at the risk of encouraging industrial chaos in industry."

The criticism was contained in the CIO Legal Bulletin, distributed to CIO counsel throughout the country.

"The CIO and its affiliated organizations for some time have been viewing with increasing alarm the Labor Board decisions against the CIO wherever the issue has arisen between the AFL and the CIO in regard to the appropriate bargaining unit," the statement declared.

"In other words, wherever AFL organizations have insisted upon craft units, the Labor Board has only too willingly granted such requests in the face of opposition of CIO industrial unions.

"The AFL position has been accepted by the Labor Board in cases where CIO industrial unions have successfully organized workers on an industrial basis."

CITE THREE CASES

Three recent NLRB decisions were cited by the CIO legal department to indicate the new trend — the Sloss Sheffield Steel & Iron Co. case, the American Can Co. case and the Chrysler Motor Co. case.

This "extremely serious problem" of permitting industrial unionism to be threatened by craft unit decisions deserves consideration by all CIO affiliates, the statement said.

UAW ANGERED

Further criticism of recent Board decisions came from Pres. R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers, as a result of the NLRB's refusal to consider the Briggs and Chrysler Corp. as collective bargaining units, but to split the units on a plant-wide basis.

Describing the decision as "monstrous," and running counter "to both reason and precedent," Thomas said "the NLRB has struck at the root of collective bargaining, not only in the auto industry but in every industry over which it has jurisdiction in labor disputes."

Despite the adverse decision, Thomas continued, "we shall sweep every one of the seven Briggs plant units in the Sept. 14 election and every one of the 14 Chrysler plants in the election to follow. After our victory we shall consider petitioning the Board to certify the UAW-CIO as the sole bargaining agent with the employer as a unit."

Fountain Pen Plant Hit By Strike

Newark, N. J., Aug. 30 — A strike by the United Rubber Workers today had tied up the plant of the Waterman Fountain Pen Co. here, where union officials charged the management with undertaking a vicious anti-labor campaign.

In many cases, the local said, workers with 20 or more years of service had been laid off out of turn, and officers and active union members have been discriminated against in a number of ways.

Selfishness Of Industry Scored in Talk

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1.—Shortsightedness and selfishness by industrial leaders, plus propaganda efforts to create an artificial split between workers and farmers, were described by Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, as obstacles in the way of American progress in a coast-to-coast radio talk here last night.

Pressman spoke on the Labor Dept. program "America Unlimited," following a talk last week by Sidney Hillman, vice-president of the CIO and president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

"The only things that can keep us from the attainment of an 'America Unlimited' are the shortsightedness and selfishness of industry," Pressman said. If the various groups in our country can adjust their own interests to the public interest, we can go ahead to a greater prosperity than three-quarters of the American people know now, or ever have known."

COOPERATION

Propaganda of these selfish interests, Pressman pointed out, tries to keep workers and farmers apart, "instead of encouraging them to mutual cooperation and goodwill, which alone can settle the heavy problems of the present economic crisis. Unity between industrial workers and farmers is essential if we are to progress."

Pressman cited U. S. Government figures to show that farmers' prosperity went together with workers' prosperity, pointing out that the incomes of both suffered equally in hard times and rose equally in good.

"The farmer faces two combines—the monopoly power of the food processors and distributors, who can force him to take low prices for his products, and the big industries, who can force him to pay high prices for the goods he needs. Only in combination with labor can these holds be broken. No single group can stand up against trusts and combines. Organized labor, which seeks higher wages for work, lower prices for goods and increased industrial output is working for the farmer and consumer as well as its own members."

Honor Founder of Labor Day

Relatives of Peter J. McGuire, "the father of Labor Day," pay homage at his tomb in Arlington Cemetery, near Camden, N. J. McGuire, a union man all his life, long campaigned for the setting aside of a special day in tribute to the nation's workers.

West'house Poll Won By CIO Union

Lima, Ohio, Aug. 30 — Defeated by a company union two years ago, Local 724, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, staged a triumphant comeback on August 17, when it won a poll held among employes of the Westinghouse plant here by a vote of 574 to 510 for the Westinghouse Employes Association.

Woodworkers File First Case Under Canada's 'Wagner Ac

VANCOUVER, B. C., Aug. 30.—The International Woodworkers of America, CIO, has the distinction of being the first union in Canada to take action against an employer under the Dominion's newly-passed Canadian "Wagner Act". The IWA is charging the British Columbia Plywoods Ltd., with "intimidation and threat of loss of employment".

The charges were laid by Nigel Morgan, vice-president of the IWA district council, and John Stanton, union attorney, under section 502 A of the criminal code. The law, which went into effect August 1, guarantees employes the right of associating in unions. It provides a penalty of $1,000 on conviction.

Alleged offenses were committed three days after the act became law.

Events which led to the court action was the replacement of 51 old employes by youths at lower pay. The remaining employes circulated a petition demanding that the company's cooperative committee of employes seek reinstatement of the men.

When the committee refused to take action the employes demanded its resignation. In reply the company threatened to close the mill for two months and the management began intimidating employes to endorse the committee.

The employes met and decided to affiliate with the IWA. Plans are being made to have International President Harold Pritchett install the local at a meeting at the end of this month.

Labor Songs On Records

New York, Aug. 30. — Labor songs are available now on victrola records that can be played in the home and at meetings. Put out by the Theatre Arts Committee of New York, they include "Abraham Lincoln," with "Joe Hill" on the other side, and "Swing TAC" and a hot little number about a picket line on the reverse.

Both records can be obtained from the Theatre Arts Committee, 132 West 43rd St., New York, N. Y. Price, 75 cents each.

Charge Cops Help Ford In St. Louis

St. Louis, Aug. 30 — Charges of collusion between local police and the Ford Motor Co. during the 1937 United Automobile Workers strike here were renewed in an open letter from Delmond Garst, UAW regional director.

According to Garst, who renewed the charges in an open letter to the St. Louis Police Commissioner, cops on strikebreaking duty at the plant were fed in nearby restaurants at Ford's expense. These charges were virtuously denied by Commissioner Lambert at the time, but recent court testimony by a restaurant owner named Gesso reopened them.

"Gesso testified," Garst wrote, "that the bills for meals eaten by these policemen on strike duty at the Ford plant were paid for by the Ford Co.

"I am calling the attention of your board to the testimony of Gesso so that if you care to do so, you can reopen your investigation of the charges outlined in my previous letter. I should appreciate your informing me of the results of such investigation."

TEACHERS MEET

Buffalo, N. Y.—The AFL American Federation of Teachers, in convention here, pledged support of New Deal activities, including the Wagner Act and the Wage-Hour Act. Prof. George Counts succeeeds Prof. Jerome Davis as president.

Half-Million U. S. Workers Suffer From Silicosis

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30. — A half million American workers are exposed to the danger of contracting silicosis, says a pamphlet recently issued by U. S. Dept. of Labor.

"Although the industrial disease, silicosis, cannot be cured, it can be prevented by engineering means and proper operating methods", states the foreword to the pamphlet which is called, "Silicosis Prevention". It deals only with dust control in foundries.

The silica hazard exists in all industries, however, "wherever silica-bearing material is worked or handled in a manner that produces dust". In foundries, sand blasting is the worst hazard.

DESCRIBE PRECAUTIONS

Hoods, suction pipes, dust arrestors and other devices for eliminating dust are described in the pamphlet, as well as general precautionary measures.

Workers employed on jobs where silica dust is present will find much valuable information in the booklet. Unions whose members are employed in foundries will also find it worth while to get a copy of the pamphlet, for although it is written to appeal mostly to employers, it will be of help in negotiating demands for improved working conditions.

Copies of the pamphlet may be obtained by writing to the Bureau of Labor Standards, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Washington, D.C.

Plan Great Labor Day Celebrations

CIO Leaders See Big Gains Ahead During Next Year

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30. — Leaders of the CIO cast an optimistic eye over the labor horizon in their annual Labor Day messages released today.

All praised the nation's workers for standing firm against employer attacks during the past year, and predicted that the CIO would be responsible for great new gains during the next 12 months.

All agreed, too, that in the nation's organized labor movement lies the defense of democracy against those forces which would supplant it with reactionary dictatorships.

Pres. John L. Lewis, whose message is printed at the bottom of this page, keynoted the thoughts of American workers with this declaration:

"The program of the CIO is a challenge to men and women of good will. It offers to them the hand of progressive labor ready to join in solving the nation's problems, ready to join in the defense of democracy."

Excerpts from the statements of other CIO officials follow:

Will Continue on Road To Success — Murray

"Labor Day this year finds millions of American workers, who never before belonged to a trade union, now active members of large, powerful labor organizations. They are trade union members now simply because the Congress of Industrial Organizations offered them the opportunity, and they were quick to take advantage of that opportunity.

'FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT'

". . . The future looks bright for the scores of other national and local industrial unions affiliated with the CIO. Labor Day this year, however, finds the workers of America facing a wide attack by anti-labor forces on their civil rights and on their political mouthpieces are trying to break down the gains labor has won by organization.

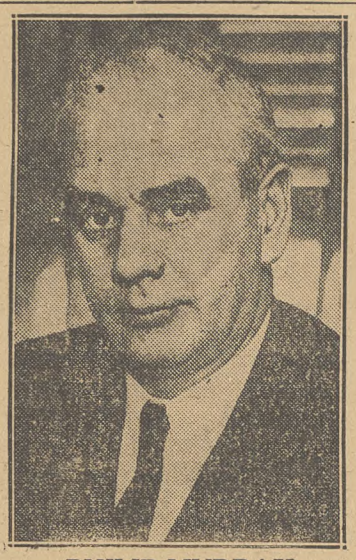
"The CIO, representing over 4,000,000 organized working men and women, has held back the anti-labor drive. Wage cuts have been prevented, job conditions maintained. This has become possible only because labor today has a strong, united organization to speak for it.

"What are the objectives of the CIO between now and next Labor Day? They are the same as they have always been. Through the CIO, American working men and women will maintain and extend the gains they have already won.

"They will organize the unorganized. They will win more decent living and working conditions. They will press for social legislation to benefit the people who make the wealth of this country. They will demand decent housing and a national health program, security for old age and sickness and unemployment, the right to work at living wages.

"They will protect the right to organize and bargain collectively, and extend it where it is not already enjoyed. They will

Continued on page five



PHILIP MURRAY

Hundreds of Meetings Scheduled; Lewis To Broadcast

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30.—Final plans were being rushed today for great Labor Day celebrations to mark CIO gains during the past 12 months.

Leaders of CIO unions looked forward to busy programs for the day. Pres. Lewis speaks over NBC's blue network at 4 p.m. Monday. Vice-Pres. Philip Murray addresses Canadian steel workers in Hamilton, Ontario, at what is expected to be one of the Dominion's great labor demonstrations.

John Brophy, CIO, director, will be in Des Moines, Ia., where his speech will be broadcast on a three-state network. Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, will appear at Duluth, Minn., while Walter Smethurst, executive assistant to Pres. Lewis, is scheduled to address a big Flint, Mich., mass meeting.

Three national CIO figures will be present at the combined CIO and Labor's Non-Partisan League picnic near Cleveland and Akron — Sec. James Carey, Pres. R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers, and Pres. Sherman Dabymple of the United Rubber Workers.

Thomas will do double duty, for his plans call for attendance at Detroit's big parade and celebration. Pres. Lewis' speech will be broadcast through loudspeakers set up in Cadillac Square, in the heart of the motor city.

Fort Wayne, Ind., plans an all-day picnic, with entertainment, dancing and Pres. Lewis' speech as features.

STEEL TOWNS

Big labor demonstrations will mark the holiday in scores of steel towns where previous to CIO organizing drives, unionism was almost unkonwn.

At McKeesport, Pa., typical of the steel towns, coal miners, utility workers and bakers will join with the Steel Workers Organizing Committee to celebrate the day, and other unionists from surrounding communities will help swell the crowds, expected to number around 30,000.

"Since the signing of the Big Steel-SWOC agreement," a union official said, "Labor Day has become a real holiday for the tens of thousands of steel workers."

Bethlehem Drive Spurts; 48 Leaders Affiliate With CIO

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 30.—Organizing campaigns at Bethlehem Steel Corp. plants scattered throughout the nation spurted ahead today, following announcement that 48 employe representatives from nine mills have affiliated with the CIO Steel Workers Organizing Committee.

Attending an SWOC conference here, the men formulated a program to push the union drive into all Bethlehem mills, with the object of securing a signed contract which will provide an increase in wages to the $5-a-day minimum and proportionate increases for higher-paid employes.

FROM MANY PLANTS

The conference followed National Labor Relations Board action in ordering dis-established the long-functioning Employe Representation Plans set up by Bethlehem and carefully nurtured as a company-dominated rival to SWOC. The men who attended the two-day sessions with SWOC Chairman Philip Murray came from plants at Lackawanna, N. Y., Sparrows Point, Md., Bethlehem, Johnstown, Rankin, Leetsdale, Steelton, Lebanon and Pottstown, Pa.

All of these mills, as well as others located on the Pacific Coast, were affected by the NLRB decision. Most of the employe

Continued on page six

'Little Six' Packers Sign New Pacts

Chicago, Sept. 2 — Renewal of contracts between the CIO Packinghouse Workers and the "Little Six" packers here showed the way for similar agreements by Armour and Co., currently negotiating with the CIO union, according to an announcement from PWOC headquarters.

Herb March, district PWOC director, commented; "One large employer of packinghouse workers, that is, Armour and Co., seems a little slow to learn. We are confident, however, that as time goes on Armour will learn the American way of negotiating disputes and give up its Nazi tactic of suppression and coercion."

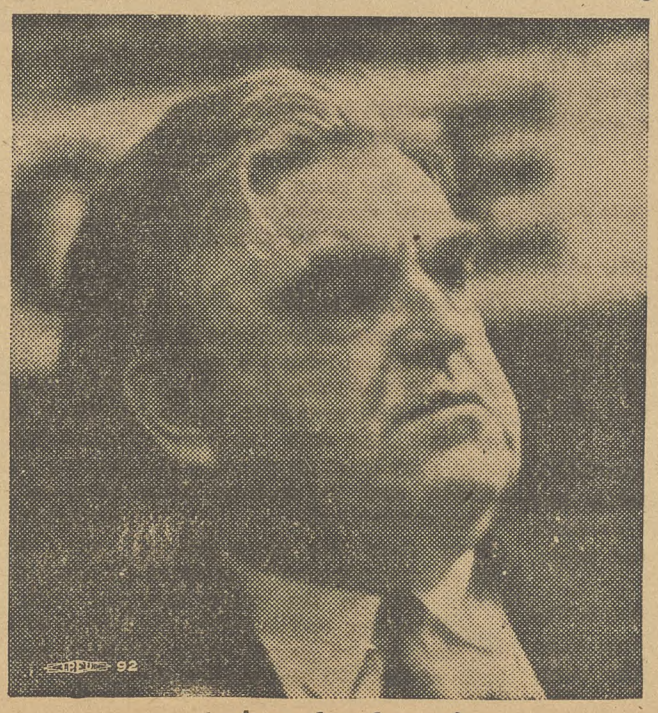
CIO Program Aids Security, Democracy, Lewis Declares In Labor Day Message

Following is the Labor Day Message of President John L. Lewis of the Congress of Industrial Organizations:

"With the passing of each year the significance of Labor Day grows greater. Each year it becomes clearer, for this nation and for other nations, that organized labor is the most important bulwark of democracy. Organized labor's program and aspirations embody the faith that the people in a democracy such as ours can gain security and well-being without resort to dictatorship.

"When labor seeks through collective bargaining to raise wages, shorten hours and to better working conditions, it strengthens at the roots the whole orderly democratic process. By this procedure there is established, plant by plant and company by company, throughout the nation's economic life, a practice of peaceful, honest and democratic settlement of differences between men.

"The day is growing closer when the hopes not only of wage earners but of all progressive men and women everywhere center more and more in the forward-looking labor movement as exemplified by the CIO. There is a growing realization that the CIO by its very nature seeks only the welfare of the people as a whole; that laboring people, professional people, farmers have broad common interests that transcend any differences. The need for security, for equal opportunity, for more even distribution of the products of our vast industry join the great majority of our people in one common cause.



John L. Lewis

"The CIO is moving forward. The inherent rightness of its structure and of its program has carried the CIO through unprecedented attacks. It has weathered a terrific depression, maintaining as never before the wage rates of American workers.

"It has embraced the cause of unemployed workers, giving them leadership and challenging the nation to solve their problems.

"The CIO is moving into new fields, offering to more and more workers in the nation's industries the benefits of industrial unionism.

"The program of the CIO is a challenge to men and women of good will. It offers to them the hand of progressive labor ready to join in the solving of the nation's problems, ready to join in the defense of democracy."

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II September 4, 1939 No. 36

Progressive Labor Advances

Reviewing the record of the past year on this Labor Day, the CIO finds solid grounds for confidence.

It was only last November that the first constitutional convention was held, establishing the CIO on a permanent basis.

Since that time, an unholy alliance of AFL leaders, anti-union manufacturers and tory politicians has spared no effort in an attempt to destroy the new labor movement.

Driven desperate by the growing success of the CIO, the AFL leaders opened venomous attacks on every one of the CIO unions. They chartered every kind of dual and company outfit, and every kind of splinter and breakaway movement they could create, for no other purpose than to pirateer.

These union-busting attempts were actively assisted by anti-union employers, whose virtual agents the AFL leaders became. Out of this collusion was spawned a new type of company unionism bearing the AFL label.

Finally, the tory politicians joined the Green-NAM axis, and at the last session of Congress an aggressive joint legislative drive was launched to destroy the CIO by distorting and crippling the Wagner Act.

* * *

Millions of American workers will rejoice this Labor Day that every one of these attacks on progressive unionism have been beaten off by the CIO.

Not only have shady splinter outfits of the AFL been soundly squelched by the workers each time they attempted to disrupt the solid ranks of CIO unionism, but in the process the CIO has been able to register some of its most notable advances.

The great victory of the United Mine Workers in establishing the union shop throughout the coal industry is a case in point. Besides putting the kibosh on AFL dual unionism, this victory placed the UMW in the strongest position in history.

Similarly the attempt of the AFL to disrupt the United Automobile Workers Union of the CIO has proved a most pitiful failure. The CIO union has increased its strength in a series of successful strikes, and now it is burying the remains of the Martin clique in an avalanche of votes at every Labor Board election.

* * *

The CIO has done much more than weather the storm of attacks launched against it in the past year. Every one of its unions has an imposing list of advances to report, in new contracts and elections won, in old contracts renewed and improved, and in many improvements in conditions.

In the previously unorganized meat packing industry, the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee has established itself as the chosen union of the great majority of the workers, and is now on the point of winning collective bargaining with the Big Four packers.

Space will not permit the listing of the achievements of the scores of other CIO unions in the past year. But any survey will reveal that they have proved again and again their stability and permanence and their ability to advance.

* * *

While the CIO is thus advancing, the AFL leaders are reaping some of the fruits of their reactionary policies.

Labor Board election results in the past four months show that from 50% to 64% more workers have voted for the CIO than for the AFL.

Increasing disintegration within the AFL is shown by the widespread revolt against the leaders' plot to destroy the Wagner Act, and by the growing number of internal disputes which the executive council is unable to solve.

The refusal of the Typographical Union to pay the anti-CIO assessment, the resistance of the Actors to dictatorship and corruption, and the new courage which the healthier elements in the AFL show in asserting their rights, indicate that major breakaways are in prospect.

The prospect of the newly launched United Construction Workers Organizing Committee of the CIO, at the same time, has added to the growing confusion and dismay in the camp of the AFL leaders.

On this Labor Day that progressive unionism is on the march and all the forces of reaction cannot prevail against it.

Bearing Fruit

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

AFL Headaches

WILLIAM GREEN and his associates in the AFL executive council have had reason to complain of many "headaches" of late.

The refusal of the International Typographical Union to pay the anti-CIO assessment, even under threat of suspension from the AFL, is one of them.

The revolt of the actors' unions against corruption and dictatorship in the theatrical labor world, is another.

But there are also a dozen other less publicized internal situations which create an increasing demand for aspirins whenever the council meets.

The widespread rebellion throughout the AFL against amendment of the Wagner act has revealed the weakening grip of the Federation's national leadership.

The council is showing less and less capacity to suppress or to solve the many disputes which arise, as the more healthy and progressive elements assert their rights and resist the council's reactionary policies.

The Advancing CIO

But the biggest headache of all for the AFL leadership is the fact that, while the Federation disintegrates and is torn with internal dissension, the CIO has conclusively established its strength and stability and is making many sweeping advances.

Ever since the epoch-making victory of the United Mine Workers in winning the union shop throughout the coal industry, the tide has turned emphatically in favor of the CIO and against the AFL.

Labor Board election results in recent months have shown the CIO running far ahead of the AFL.

At the same time, every attempt of the AFL leaders to disrupt and destroy the CIO unions has failed miserably.

The automobile workers, for instance, with the huge majorities they are giving to the CIO in election after election, are fast making Homer Martin and his little AFL clique no more than a malodorous memory.

Meanwhile, in the meat packing and many other previously unorganized industries, the CIO advances from victory to victory in establishing collective bargaining.

And now, unkindest cut of all for the AFL leaders, the progress of the lusty young CIO construction workers' organization is cutting the ground from under their feet in the one remaining industry in which they imagined they had unchallenged control.

The Power of Inertia

When the CIO was first formed, far-sighted labor men realized that the days of the Old Men of the Sea who had ridden so long on labor's back were numbered.

They did not know how long the process would take. But they did know that eventually the newer and more vigorous labor movement would put an end to the misrule of the Old Men of the AFL executive council.

That the AFL leaders have maintained some following as long as they have, despite the constant advances of the CIO, is due to several factors:

(1) When they found labor support slipping from under them, the AFL leaders offered themselves to the employers to act as their agents in combatting the CIO.

As a result, many anti-union companies made a gift of their employes to the AFL, to forestall CIO organization. And the AFL won the support of all the forces of reaction in press and politics.

(2) CIO principles and methods of organization were imitated by a number of AFL unions which, proclaiming their friendliness for the CIO, set out to profit from the wave of unionism started by the CIO.

(3) What is known in physics as the vis inertiae, the power of inertia, has aided in preserving the shell of the AFL structure and leadership although this shell has become little more than a hindrance and obstruction to the growing labor movement.

Disintegration Sets In

But now it is becoming increasingly clear that none of such factors can continue indefinitely to prevent the AFL from disintegrating before the advancing CIO.

In the first place, the history of company unionism shows that it tends to give workers a taste for real unionism rather than to forestall it. And this is also true of the type of company unionism which the AFL has attempted to foster in recent years.

Secondly, the newly organized workers in AFL unions which have claimed to be friendly or just as good as the CIO, are elements which find themselves in much closer sympathy with the CIO than with the reactionary leaders and policies of the AFL. They do not enjoy seeing their per capita used to fight the progressive unionism of the CIO.

And finally, as the recent internal disputes indicate, all elements in the AFL which are healthy and progressive are bound to come into conflict with the dead-hand leadership of the AFL, and it will take more than inertia to prevent these conflicts from resulting in definite breakaways.

CIO Leaders Predict Great Gains

Continued from Page Three

secure an increasing share in the democratic processes of our government.

"The working men an women of America will know how to achieve these aims, through the same democratic, American methods they have employed in the short years of existence of the CIO."

Must Halt Autocratic War Makers – Hillman

"Labor Day this year finds the world and the working people everywhere anxious and worried over the momentous issue of war and peace. American labor is not free of this anxiety.

"No real peace is possible anywhere as long as autocratic and irresponsible powers can violate the rules of international traffic. The age-old battle for democracy must be won. American labor can do its share in the efforts of staving off the tragedy which at this moment is imminent but is not unavoidable. The strengthening of democracy in our nation is the great contribution we can make toward international peace.

"Our own political and economic life must be geared up to a point where security for all will set an example for others to follow and will make war incentives seem cruel, stupid and ineffectual.

"The program of the CIO is an adequate instrumentality through which the forces of democracy in this country can work effectively, and if animated by a common goal and a common understanding—will work successfully."

CIO Follows Correct Policies – Carey

"The working men and women of America have reason to be proud and confident this Labor Day, proud of their achievements and confident for their future and the future of their nation.

"The past year has been one of continued achievement and new victories for the industrial workers organized in the CIO. The CIO has fought off as vicious a series of attacks as any yet launched against the welfare of the American people, both by selfish employers trying to destroy labor's previous gains and by their agents in Congress and state governments.

"At the same time it has consolidated its organization in already established areas of collective bargaining, the CIO has extended its efforts successfully into new fields. Its legislative and social program has been both defended and advanced appreciably, in spite of the violent efforts of a reactionary conspiracy in Congress and outside it.

"This has been possible because the CIO is a strong, united movement, because it pursues correct policies effectively, and because it represents the will for progress of the men and women who create the wealth and power of America."

Enemies of CIO Have Failed – Brophy

"Labor Day this year finds the organized labor movement, and with it the democratic institutions of our country, stronger and in better condition to cope with the common opponents than ever before.

"Labor as represented by the CIO suffered no setbacks during the year since last Labor Day. On the contrary, it gained greater strength in a number of critical contests, and has increased both its prestige in the nation and its organizational strength.

"The great victory of the United Mine Workers has set a high mark in CIO achievement, an achievement whose beneficial effect was felt throughout our entire economy. Continuing renewal of CIO collective bargaining agreements, winning of new standards, and the maintenance and improvement of wage standards in industry are directly traceable to this and other CIO accomplishments.

"The attack on the Wagner Act was turned back, because organized labor was strong enough to make its voice heard in Congress. The attempt to destroy the Wages and Hours Act was similarly halted. Those representatives in Congress who voted with the reactionary coalition have an aroused and indignant public to face at home—a public that was aroused to the issues by the organized labor movement.

"Our enemies continue to cry down our merits and deprecate our achievements. Their aim is to discredit us with our members and with the working public. They have failed.

"The reputation of the CIO was never higher than it is this Labor Day."

AFL Entertainers Union Supports Wagner Act

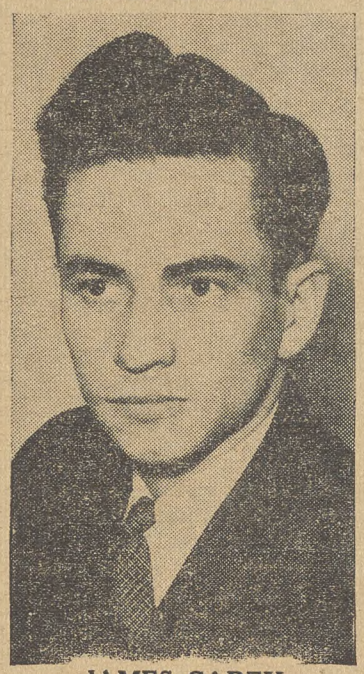
CHICAGO, Aug. 30—The American Federation of Radio Artists, AFL, today was on record at its annual convention to oppose any changes in the Wagner Labor Relations Act.

The AFL union, affiliated with the Four A's which has been in conflict with the Federation's executive council, is headed by Eddie Cantor. Lawrence Tibbett, concert singer, is vice-president.

Other resolutions passed by the annual convention of the union called for support of the federal wage-hour law, urged restoration of the WPA theatre projects killed by the Woodrum bill, and backed the Four A's in the battle to protect its jurisdiction from raids by the AFL's Intl. Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes.

Issue Statements

SIDNEY HILLMAN



JAMES CAREY

JOHN BROPHY

Prepared for '40, League Declares

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30.—Labor is in politics to stay—this is the message of Labor's Non-Partisan League for Labor Day of 1939, a day which marks the fourth year in which the League has been a prominent factor in the American political scene.

"The League, now established in all industrial and many farm areas, is recognized as the permanent organization fighting the political battles of labor in season and out," the statement declares.

"Biggest fact about the League in its four-year demonstration that labor set up in the League no more campaign organization, but a solid force to parallel in the political field the immense advances of labor in the economic field.

"Many bitter experiences have taught labor the vital import of political action.

LOOKS AHEAD TO '40

Looking ahead into 1940, the League has this to say:

"Alignments for 1940's presidential campaign are still in process of forming and it is too early to say precisely where League forces will line up. But regardless of candidates, it can be written as certain that the League will be in the 1940 campaign in a big way.

"And it will be campaigning vigorously for those candidates and parties who sincerely offer the best hope of providing jobs, preserving democracy, and protecting the social legislation now on the books. Because the League has been on the job organizing over the past four years, labor will go into next year's campaign better prepared than ever to make its votes count."

Churches Hail Union Gains

NEW YORK, Aug. 30.—"Widespread recognition of labor unions, the acceptance of the principle of collective bargaining and the regulation of hours and fair labor standards" are hailed in the annual Labor Sunday Message of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, as paving the way "for more constructive and intelligent cooperation in American industry."

The message, which will be read in hundreds of churches on Sept. 3 or Sept. 10, takes note of the fact that the "trend toward industry-wide organization of employers for collective agreements with organized labor, covering whole industries, offers hope of . . . more stabilized labor relations and fewer strikes . . .

"We heartily commend the efforts of far-sighted American employers toward this end and earnestly hope that such trends may be strengthened."

FARM-LABOR INTERESTS

Admitting that in the past the Church has paid little attention to the close relations between farmer and worker, the message underscored the mutual interests of these two great groups.

"Both cherish the principle of democracy in organization," it states. "Many farmers seek, through their farm organizations, the same essential democratic right of collective action to safeguard their interests as industrial workers seek through their labor unions . . .

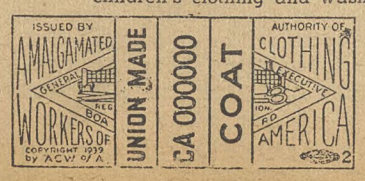
"Furthermore, many of the alleged conflicts of interest between farmers and industrial workers rest upon assumptions which are without foundation."

WHOSE POCKETS —

ARE YOU FILLING? When you buy your clothes do you help pay the wage of a union worker, or do you help swell the profits of a sweatshop boss?

- **The Label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America** will give you the answer. When you don't see the label you know that the garment was probably made by an un-American sweatshop chiseler. When you see the Amalgamated label you know that your money will go into the pockets of union workers, earning union pay, working under union conditions.
- **Demand the union label in the clothes you buy** and insure yourself against sweatshop garments, against sweatshop conditions in industry.

You can find the Amalgamated label in union made suits, overcoats, uniforms, work clothes and overalls, workshirts, dress shirts, underwear, gloves, neckties, sheeplined, leather, and sport coats, children's clothing and wash suits.



Farmer–Worker Cooperation

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

New York Dairy Farmers, CIO Point the Way

NEW YORK, Aug. 30. — Farmer-Labor unity — not so long ago the "dream" of progressives—has passed from the realm of the hypothetical into actual being in New York State.

To a measure, the 1939 session of the State Legislature already described as the "most putrid reactionary" in New York's history, is responsible.

On August 14 there took place in the office of Allan S. Haywood, regional CIO director for New York, a conference made up of fifteen CIO international unions, four representatives of the Dairy Farmers Union and representatives from consumer milk organizations and the American Labor Party.

Dairy farmers in the New York milk shed, unable to exist on the prices paid them by the milk trust, were about to go on strike and they had come to the big city to ask for help from the organized industrial workers and consumer groups. Their presence in New York City was no accident.

MAULED BY TORIES

When the New York State Legislature adjourned early this Summer, legislative representatives of the CIO had met in Albany to take stock of the severe mauling labor had received at the hands of a legislature dominated by Tory Republicans and Tammany democrats.

Learning of the presence in Albany of Archie Wright, president of the Dairy Farmers Union, Mr. Haywood invited him to address the conference. Mr. Wright, in behalf of the farmers, also had much to complain about the recently adjourned legislature.

It was agreed, subsequently, that there would be a farmer-labor get-to-gether in New York City on August 14. In the meanwhile, conditions had become so bad that the farmers set August 15 as the date for a strike against the milk trust.

When the conference assembled in the New York office of the CIO, the delegates were faced with a specific situation; a strike the next day.

FARMERS HARD-PRESSED

The farm delegates told their story simply. Conditions were unbearable. Most of the farmers were compelled to work as hired hands in order to eke out a bare living. City prices for milk were high, they admitted, but the farmer did not get enough to pay for the cost of feed. Organization was spreading rapidly, but many farmers were still afraid to join the union. There had been an unfruitful strike in 1936.

However, they felt confident that the strike scheduled for the morrow would spread, and this time they would win. They needed help in organizing, in the handling of publicity, and above all, they needed money. They had none, and a strike costs money.

Delegates from the unions, consumer groups and the American Labor Party quickly pledged their aid to the farmers. With little discussion, save for details, resolutions were adopted pledging support, calling for financial contributions and setting up a committee from the three groups to meet with the farmers as a strategy board.

At the same time the conference decided to appeal to the AFL unions to join in helping the farmers.

QUICK ACTION

The pledges of aid were met within an hour after adjournment of the conference.

Haywood signed a check in behalf of the CIO Industrial Union Council and handed it to the farmer representatives. The Transport Workers Union immediately assigned two full time organizers and placed at disposal of the dairy farmers its highly-geared publicity office, besides sending a check for $100. The Newspaper Guild sent a check for $50, the Furriers $200 and all the way down the line, the CIO unions flocked to support of the dairy farmers.

Contact was established with friendly AFL unions. Among the powerful AFL unions which responded immediately were the Hotel and Restaurant workers, teachers, printers, plumbers, teamsters and butchers. Resolutions in support of the farmers were wired to Gov. Lehman, Mayor LaGuardia and Secretary of Agriculture Henry Wallace.

EFFECTIVE STRIKE

The strike gathered momentum quickly although the first two days were marked by statements issued by the milk trust officials denying the effectiveness of the strike.

They changed their tune on the third day, however, and the metropolitan papers were filled with denunciations of "the Communist-dominated CIO dominating the dairy farmers." The old, reliable red herring had been dusted off and trotted out again. There were also horrendous stories of "Communist CIO pickets" coming all the way from Michigan to dump milk in up-state New York.

But, as the Guild Reporter says, "red herrings don't give Milk" and the shortage was felt immediately. Within four days, milk deliveries in New York were cut 60 per cent.

The farmers were doing a magnificent job. They were keeping their milk at home and their picket lines prevented the delivery of milk to the up-state plants. However, public institutions were supplied by the farmers and President Wright announced that the union, if necessary would supply the city workers with milk free of charge.

Attempts to import milk from other states and thus break the strike were prevented when President Haywood, City Councilman Michael Quill (international president of the TWU), Heywood Broun and other labor leaders delivered a sharp protest to Mayor LaGuardia against such action by city authorities. The Mayor convened a conference of city and state officials, representatives of the Dairy Farmers Union and officials of the milk trust.

The farmers emerged with a victory. They gained a 50 per cent increase and President Wright declared that the farmers would never forget the help given them by the CIO.

Farmer-Labor unity has proven its worth in the State of New York. Plans already are under way for a farmer-labor drive in the 1940 session of the State legislature.

FARM PICKET LINE: Striking members of the New York Dairy Farmers Union hold a truck carrying scab milk at the village of Boskirk, 25 miles from Albany. Militant strike tactics carried the union to victory.

Bethlehem Campaign Spurts

Continued from Page Three

representatives said there is "strong sentiment for SWOC" in their mills, particularly since the Labor Board order.

In discussing the union campaign, which was launched at a SWOC conference in Chicago last month, Murray pointed out that Bethlehem has always chiseled on the $5-a-day minimum set by SWOC in its contracts with organized plants.

Hourly rates for common labor, he added, undercut the union minimum of 62¼ cents by 9½c, and rates for other classifications are proportionately lower. Efforts to compel all steel mills receiving government contracts to pay the prevailing wage of 62½c an hour are now tied up in the courts, he said, largely because of the resistance offered by Bethlehem and some other steel companies.

LAUD NLRB ORDER

A formal resolution passed unanimously by the delegates pointed out that the NLRB order "verifies the contention of the majority of workmen of Bethlehem Steel that the Employe Representation Plan is in fact a company union . . . designed to frustrate rather than aid collective bargaining."

Listed as goals of the organizing campaign are the five-day 40-hour week, $5 daily minimum pay, time and a half for overtime, and for Sunday work; a permanent vacation-with-pay plan; just seniority rights and more adequate safety measures.

Unionism The 'American Way,' Church Study Concludes

New York, Aug. 26 — Labor unions represent democracy on American principles applied to industrial relations, according to a new study prepared by Rev. James Myers, industrial secretary of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, and distributed through the Council for Social Action with headquarters here.

"Through labor unions," Myers writes, "workers have found an opportunity not enjoyed by unorganized workers to participate in American democracy. The labor unions movement is in essense a demand for democracy on the part of wage earners.

"It is an effort to elevate labor to the status of industrial citizens with the rights of representative government in industry. It is an expression of our American principles of government applied to industrial relations."

UNIONS RESPONSIBLE

The study, released wiht the title "Labor and Democracy" examines many of the charges unthinkingly or maliciously raised against the labor movement, and finds them based on misinformation or deliberate misunderstanding.

Unions are responsible, Myers declares, citing the record of many years of strict contract observance by labor organizations. The most outstanding case, he finds, is that of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee of the CIO, whose record for strict adherence to agreements drew the comment from U. S. Steel Chairman Myron C. Taylor: "The union has scrupulously followed the terms of the agreement."

On racketeering, another favorite charge of anti-union forces that often deceives the unwary, Myers points out that it only can exist where unions are undemocratically controlled. "The rank and file of unions members are just as honest as any other class of society," he writes.

AGAINST INCORPORATION

Incorporation of unions is no remedy for the supposed evils of trade union organization, he adds. Unincorporated unions can be sued and can be enjoined, he points out. They are subject to the same laws and police powers that every other organization is subject to. They have the same checks on their powers, and incorporation in the hands of unfriendly courts could be used as a weapon to break down the movement.

"In many industries which have been organized over a long period of years," Myers concludes, it has been demonstrated that it is possible for organized employers and organized employes to maintain generally harmonious relations with honesty and integrity and to adjust their differences without recourse to strikes and lockouts and for them to cooperate effectively in reducing costs of production."

Myers' pamphlet, Labor and Democracy, 40 pp, price 15 cents, can be obtained from the Council for Social Action, 289 Fourth Ave., New York, N. Y.

Typo Union Bucks AFL Demands

Fort Worth, Tex., Aug. 30. — Delegates to the Intl. Typographical Union convention here returned to their homes today after having voted to stop all per capita payments to the AFL, if ITU delegates are not seated at the Cincinnati AFL convention, on account of the union's refusal to pay the 1c-a-member anti-CIO assessment.

The convention, in a unanimously adopted report, reaffirmed the refusal of the ITU to pay the assessment, despite the threat of the AFL executive council to suspend it on this account.

A letter was addressed to the convention by Secretary Frank Morrison of the AFL, warning of suspension if the ITU failed to pay the assessment and $22,000 in arrears since it was first levied two years ago.

PROPOSE NEW GROUP

A proposal for an independent printing trades federation combining existing printing trades unions was made in a speech to the convention by Pres. George L. Berry of the Pressmen's Union.

Three other actions were taken by the convention which are expected to upset the AFL national leadership:

1. A resolution opposing all amendments to the Wagner Act.

2. A resolution to place the Mid-Continent Oil Co., now fighting the CIO Oil Workers Intl. Union, on its unfair list.

3. A move to arrange further conferences between ITU leaders and those of the CIO American Newspaper Guild.

Bridges' Foes Set Back By Disclosures

'Ol' Man River' Cocks An Ear As Boatmen Meet In Cairo

By BETH MYERS

Cairo, Ill., Aug. 30 — Seventy-six years ago a man by the name of Grant put Cairo, Illinois, on America's map. It was there, in the old Halliday Hotel, that the Union general maintained headquarters during the war to release the people of the South from the shackles of a cruel and moribund slave system.

Last week the same old Halliday Hotel was headquarters for another campaign — a direct descendant of that old one conducted by the man with the pipe, a man who swore and spit and didn't speak politely, but who fought a winning battle for democracy every time.

The Inland Boatmen's Division of the National Maritime Union, CIO, held its second annual conference in Cairo, and mapped out the details for the big fight against that old man, "river boss."

The Inland Boatmen's 50 delegates spoke for 4,000 organized men — river sailors and dock workers. They were from the boats that travel the Ohio and Missouri, the Illinois and Warrior, as well as the Mississippi. They don't yet represent all of the men in the industry, but they soon will.

THEME SONG . . .

The River itself hums the theme song of the CIO these days — "Organize the Unorganized." Men are joining the union by handfuls, contracts are being signed, wages are rising, working conditions are better.

The Cairo conference marked an end to this muddy confusion. Democratically, the delegates thrashed out the petty differences and misunderstandings and recognized their immense responsibilities and grasped their proper perspective. They established true organizational unity and mapped a program for the organization of the 17,000 river men who still are unorganized, and they voted full confidence in the leadership that has served them well — National Organizer Felix Siren, General Organizer Frank Bruno, Sec.-Treas. Fletcher Wilson, and the others.

RIVER PEOPLE

Hardly a soul who lives on the rich flowing artery that is America's middle doesn't love the Mississippi like a mother. River men are river born and their hearts beat in rhythm to the soft wishful music of the river's flow, now punctuated by the screaming shrill whistles of industry.

The IBD's delegates were these kind of people — river men, river born. Daniel Boone's great-great-grandson was one of them, a stalwart young man who guards the Boone tradition proudly, with a union book, marching ahead in the same old spirit of that ancestor of his to whom America owes much.

There were Negroes among the delegates, who brought with them a tradition the River knows well. There was Abe Cook, a man who has spent the whole of his 40 years working on the Mississippi. Vicksburg is his home and it was there, when he was little higher than the sacks that he toted, that he began loading and unloading the river cargo.

MEANING OF UNITY

The meaning of unity took on a deep new significance as the delegates reviewed the changing conditions along the River since "we worked for $40 a month and 24 hours a day." The union has brought wages up to $80, and while conditions aren't yet heaven, they are plenty improved.

The conference took the lead given by National Council representative Frederick Myers, "If any seamen's organization is to survive, all workers in our industry must be organized."

A picture of old Ulysses S. Grant hangs above the bar in the old Halliday Hotel and the general looks pretty serene and confident. It's as if he knew that the work of furthering democracy and fulfilling America's promise to its people is being carried along okay down there, along the River.

Fascist Makes $ $ In Racket

Washington, Aug. 30 — The Dies Committee, making a hop, skip and jump survey of fascist activities in the United States, today made public evidence to show that William Dudley Pelley, head of the fascist Silver Shirts, has netted a personal profit of more than $100,000 from the sale of anti-Semitic literature.

Pelley profited also through dues payments to the Silver Shirts, and the evidence clearly points to the fact that the bewhiskered gentleman from North Carolina has a first-rate "racket" in his hate-preaching organization.

3½ TONS OF HATE

In the last 19 months, evidence revealed, Pelley publications preaching anti-Semitism totaling about three and a half tons have been shipped out of the Asheville, N. C., printing plant of the fascist crew.

Pelley himself failed to appear on the stand, the Dies Committee claiming that it was unable to locate him. But Robert Barker, committee investigator, testified that most check payments to Pelley's outfit are deposited in a bank account of the "Skyland Press," while cash and money orders seem irresistably drawn towards Pelley's personality.

LIKES HITLER

Pelley's magazine, the committee found, boasted in 1934 that its publisher held the distinction of being the first American "to support openly the fight of Adolf Hitler on the German-Jewish reds."

One of the large contributors to the Pelley cause was discovered to be George B. Fisher of New York, a large stockholder in the Crowell Publishing Co. and operator of the dress pattern department for Crowell magazines.

Textile Mills Sign Pacts In Baltimore

Baltimore, Aug. 30. — All three factories of the Mt. Vernon Woodberry Mills, Inc., were working under union agreements today, following signing of a contract with the Textile Workers Union of America, CIO.

Pacts at the Mt. Vernon and Park Mills this week followed by a short time another contract at the Meadow Mill plant, and brought protection to all the company's 350 employes.

Wage increases ranging to 7½%, the 40-hour week, and voluntary check-off were among the provisions in the agreements.

Refused Bribe

ERNEST RAMSAY, victim of the Modesto frameup against West Coast maritime labor several years ago, goes to the recreation room at San Quentin to testify in the Harry Bridges deportation hearing. Ramsay said he was offered a bribe of freedom to perjure himself against the CIO official. He refused.

Attempted Frame-ups Described at Hearing

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 30. — The sensation-studded Bridges deportation hearing moved to San Quentin prison for a day as defense counsel built up their case to show that employers and labor spies were engaged in an effort to deport the West Coast CIO leader at any cost—even frameup.

The witnesses who testified at the hearing at the prison were Ernest Ramsey and Earl King, former maritime union leaders, both sent to jail a few years ago in the notorious Modesto frame-up case, involving Standard Oil.

Both men confirmed previous testimony presented at the hearing on Angel Island in San Francisco Harbor that they had been approached by Larry Doyle, northwest labor spy chief, and alternately teased and threatened to sign affidavits asserting they had attended Communist meetings with Bridges.

Ramsay, dressed in the blue and gray of prison uniform, sat with folded arms on the witness stand and described Doyle's visit to him in 1937.

QUOTE DOYLE

"I'm the guy that's going to send Harry Bridges over the road," Doyle was quoted as having said.

Charging that the fink agent again boasted of representing Gov. Merriam's office (Merriam, a Republican, was defeated in the 1938 elections), Ramsay said Doyle promised that it would be "just like getting up and walking out" if he signed a prepared statement linking Bridges to the communists.

Ramsay told Dean Landis, trial examiner at the deportation hearing, that he himself is not a Communist and had no knowledge of Bridges' membership in that party. He refused to sign Doyle's affidavit, the witness recalled, and was visited a few month later — again refusing.

Earl King, former head of the Marine Firemen's Union and now an honorary president of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific, was the second witness.

"How would you like to get out of here," Doyle asked King when they met at the prison, he testified. Failure to sign the affidavit, Doyle threatened him, would put King in a "tough spot."

King said he told Doyle that "no one can make me perjure myself."

Bridges took the stand for a day to rebut previous charges of Communism made against him early in the hearing, and denied Communist domination or leadership of his union, the Intl. Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's union.

LEGION ON SPOT

Meanwhile, reverberations from the recent state convention of the American Legion continued to roll throughout California's unions. John Leech, an anti-Bridges witness, and Captain John Keegan of the Portland, Oreg., police department, known as a foe of unions and a hostile witness at the Bridges hearing, were introduced to the delegates by Harper Knowles, himself an ardent red-baiter, union-hater, and stool pigeon employed by the Legion and the Associated Farmers.

Keegan, warming up to his subject, shouted, "We're not half through with Harry Bridges yet."

As a result, the Marine Cooks and Stewards have recommended to the Maritime Federation of the Pacific that it urge all members who belong to the American Legion to protest against the anti-labor resolutions passed by the veteran's convention.

The union also suggested that the LaFollette Committee be invited to "investigate the network of labor spies and stool-pigeons whom Legion officers boast of having planted in the trade union movement."

Sugar Firm Locks Out 1,000 Men

Edgewater, N. J., Aug. 30 — Demands made by the United Sugar Refinery Workers, CIO Local Industrial Union, for a renewal of last year's contract with the National Sugar Refining Company, manufacturers of Jack Frost sugar, were met with a lockout of nearly 1,000 workers employed at the big plant here.

The refining in Long Island City, employing some 1,100, was also shut down.

The lockout followed an overwhelming vote by the workers of both plants to go on strike unless the management renewed a contract which expired July 1, with a union shop clause included, Negotiations for settlement of the dispute have been going on since the plants closed down, but the union reports no progress has been made.

In addition to the demand for a union shop, the workers are asking for a five cent hourly increase in wages and vacations with pay, according to John Burke, president of the CIO local at the Edgewater plant.

Swings to CIO

Bristol, Conn., Aug. 30 — The swing to the CIO United Automobile Workers, which is ending the hopes of AFL leaders to split the worker's ranks, gained further impetus here today as the local at General Motors' Roller Bearing plant affiliated with the UAW-CIO.

Following an address by William Carney, CIO regional director in New Jersey, the local decided to drop its AFL ties and join the CIO. The vote was 285-15.

Pennsy City, CIO in Pact

New Kensington, Pa., Aug. 30— The first union contract with town employes in the history of the community was signed here recently between Local 213, State, County & Municipal Workers and the City Council.

The agreement gives sole bargaining rights to the CIO union, and provides paid vacations, seniority rights and machinery for settling grievances. It was signed by Mayor Dick Reeser and Councilman R. J. Sinclair, for the Council, and by John Haser and Harrison Heidrich for the union.

PUSH BIG UTILITY DRIVE

Chicago Hearst Paper Folds; Strike to Go On

CHICAGO, Aug. 30.—The Hearst-owned Chicago Herald & Examiner has suspended publication—a sacrifice, according to leaders of the striking Chicago Newspaper Guild, of the vicious, unswerving anti-unionism of its management.

Sunday editions of the morning paper will be continued, while the Evening American — also struck by the Guild last October—will henceforth be known as the Herald-American.

Strikers announced that their fight for job security will continue, "no matter how Hearst changes around the structure of his newspapers."

Announcement of the demise of 'Her-Ex' was made to a group of scabs who have been getting out a "ghost paper" ever since the strike began. The announcement came less than three hours after a negotiating session between the Guild and Hearst management representatives who made no indication of the coming event.

GUILD STATEMENT

"Naturally, the strikers' immediate reaction is intense sympathy for ther fellow members of legitimate organized labor — the printing, driving and other craftsmen — whose interests have been sacrificed to years of Hearst mismanagement and fundamental opposition to all organized labor," declared H. Richard Seller, Guild international representative.

"Settlement of this strike would have cost the management a mere trifle, financially, compared to the millions of dollars poured into fighting it."

FLIMSY EXCUSE

Suspension of the Herald-Examiner followed shortly after the management's negotiators had withdrawn a proposal to reinstate all strikers—a move which they attributed to allegedly high wage demands made by the Guild's representatives.

The Guild pointed out, however, that the Hearst excuse was in need of crutches, since wages had not been discussed and were still open for negotiation.

With the strike passing the 270-day mark, the campaign to weaken resistance of the Hearst management was showing good results.

300 Strike At Haguetown Sweatshop

Jersey City, N. J., Aug. 30— Three hundred employes of H. Goodman & Sons, big sweatshop manufacturer here, walked out on strike when the management refused to renew a contract without slashing wages.

The company, maker of "Goody" hair and novelty products, had previously been under contract for two years with Local 421 of the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers.

The workers are firm and determined in their stand that wage cuts will be prevented.

Success in this strike, leaders say, will mean organization for thousands of unorganized workers in Jersey City.

Company products include, in addition to "Goody" hair products, Dry-Fast end curlers, Pyrolite sun glasses, Kant-Slip combs, Fosta-Grand barretts.

CIO Building Local Jumps Membership

BALTIMORE, Aug. 30.—This city's newly-chartered local in the CIO's United Construction Workers Organizing Committee has nearly tripled its membership in the last month, Intl. Organizer G. Pilon reported today.

"At the close of August we've got three times as many members as we had in July," he said, "and by the time the snow flies we're going to have 500 more."

News Guild Wins Scripps-Howard 1-Day Strike

San Diego, Calif., Aug. 30 — The American Newspaper Guild's first strike against a newspaper in the Scripps-Howard chain ended today in a 24-hour victory.

The San Diego Sun, after refusing Guild demands on employment methods and apprenticeship limitations, signed a contract the next day covering both these points. Other provisions include sick leave and severance pay.

AFL Outfit Scabs In Tennessee

Copperhill, Tenn., Aug. 30 — Relying on some 250 armed sheriff's deputies and an AFL strikebreaking union, management of the Tennessee Copper Co. today was attempting to open their three plants near here.

Operations had been halted when the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers, CIO, struck because the company refused to grant its demands for a contract.

Pres. Reid Robinson of the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers is in the district to help direct the strike and lead negotiations for a settlement.

PLOT EXPOSED

AFL plots to aid the company have been repeatedly shown up. One of these attempts was blasted when the three striking locals discovered that AFL phonies had stored three truck loads of hardwood clubs in their headquarters, apparently with an eye to violence.

When a CIO handbill announced this revelation to the community, the AFL leaders secretly moved the "armaments" out of their headquarters and dumped them in the river.

Haywood Predicts Workers Will Beat All Obstacles

NEW YORK, Aug. 30—Allan S. Haywood, chairman of the CIO's Utility Workers Organizing Committee, declared in a special Labor Day message that the industry's employes are "determined" to "enjoy those rights guaranteed to them by the law of the land."

UWOC members, Haywood said, "are engaged in struggles with some of the greatest combines of capital in the country. Resistance has been met at every turn, but in spite of this, the officers and members of local unions affiliated with the UWOC are determined to carry on the struggle under the banner of the CIO, to the end that they will, along with their fellow workers in other basic industries, enjoy those rights guaranteed to them by the law of the land.

OVERCOME OBSTACLES

"In New York City, the Consolidated Edison Co. was compelled to reinstate discharged workers and pay them $22,000 in back pay," Haywood declared. Yet the company is persistently evading the rulings of the National Labor Relations Board as sustained by the Supreme Court; and the IBEW is linking up with them, functioning as a typical company union. Regardless of all the obstacles this combine of the IBEW and the Consolidated Edison Co. have created, the Utility Workers has petitioned the NLRB for an election, which it is very hopeful of winning, aiding them to establish a real union in this system.

"In the state of Michigan the IBEW connived with other opposing forces of real unionism. The UWOC defeated them in an election conducted by the NLRB. Then the IBEW openly played the role of labor-hating employers by obtaining an injunction against the NLRB preventing the Board from completing the election with only the UWOC on the ballot, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Board. That case is now in the courts.

SPIRIT STRONG

"As a result our officers and members have to battle along against this unholy alliance; but they are determined to keep up the fight to the end that justice shall prevail.

"In Pennsylvania, as well as in Ohio, the same kind of resistance is at work. In the latter state, the workers at Philo, Akron, Youngstown and elsewhere, are rapidly overcoming this resistance.

"Progress has been made in California, and further results are expected there in the near future.

WORKERS DETERMINED

"It is evident that the utility workers throughout the country are determined to have a union in this important industry which will truly represent them. They rejected the AFL-IBEW vassal class B membership, and craft union policies in its application to this industry.

"A spirit of determination and loyalty prevails to which there can only be one answer: building up a powerful national union of utility workers, obtaining for its membership greater security and a higher life, a union free from craft divisions, one for all and all for one.

"On this Labor Day let us rededicate ourselves to the attainment of his goal."

District 50 Certified

Washington, Aug. 30 — District 50, United Mine Workers, was certified by the Labor Board this week as the sole bargaining agency selected by a majority of the employes of the Alabama By-Products Corp., Coke Oven division, Tarrant, Ala.

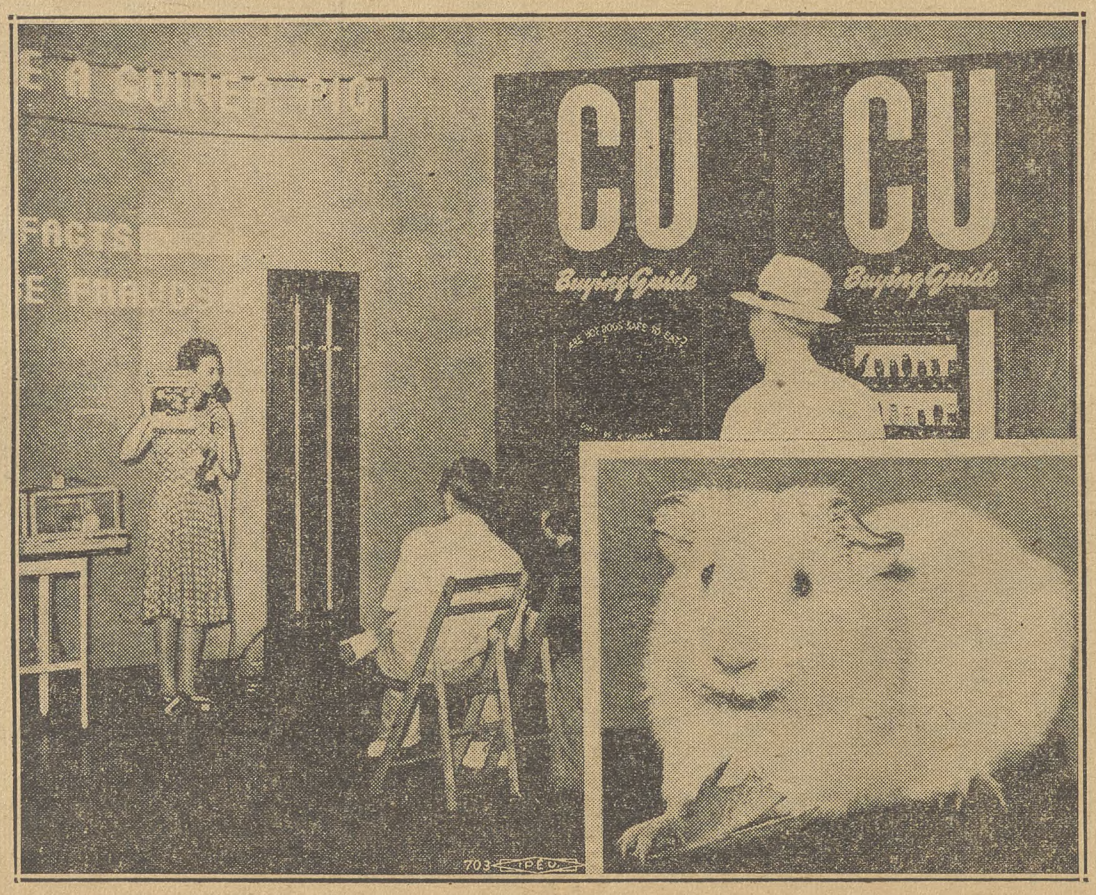
District 50, which has jurisdiction over gas, coke and chemical workers in the UMW, defeated an AFL union by a vote of 105 to 94 in an election held among the production, maintenance, shipping and receiving employes of the Alabama corporation.

Vote 5-1 For CIO

Chicago, Aug. 30 — Employes of the Harris Hub Bed & Spring Company and Carl Harris Company voted five to one for the United Furniture Workers, CIO, defeating the AFL Upholsterers 142 to 30.

Results of the poll, conducted by the Labor Board, was the second drubbing the AFL local has received in two weeks, having been defeated at an election held earlier among the employes of Showers Bros., Bloomington, Ill.

Don't Be A Guinea Pig



CONSUMERS UNION, which gives the low down on commercial products, warns visitors to the New York's World Fair against being "guinea pigs" for manufacturers' experiments. The CU exhibit is located near the Trylon and Perisphere at the Fair.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. 11—No. 37 20 SEPTEMBER 11, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

CIO LEADERS URGE U. S. TO STAY CLEAR OF WAR

The News In Brief

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

War Profits

Jersey City, N. J.—Shipyard operators must be prepared to bargain collectively and share their fat wartime profits with the workers, Pres. John Green told delegates to the convention of the Industrial Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers.

War Risk

New York. — Seamen on American vessels entering war areas must receive bonuses, the National Maritime Union is telling ship operators.

Vigilantes

Silverton, Colo. — Federal authorities are investigating a vigilante attack on striking metal miners here. Two officials of the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers were escorted out of the town to safety after a mob attacked the union hall.

Jolt Holts

Huntington, W. Va. — Two Holts — Gov. Holt and Sen. Holt — came in for bitter criticism at the annual convention of the West Virginia Industrial Union Council. Delegates accused the two officials of anti-labor activities.

NAM Tie-Up

Akron, Ohio. — The "Civic Unity" campaign being pushed in a number of Ohio cities is closely linked with the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers, the United Rubber Workers charged. Purpose of the drive, says the URW, is to weaken labor's power in coming municipal elections.

Aluminum Local Wins

Alcoa, Tenn., Sept. 9—An election struggle extending over two years and requiring four polls was definitely won by the Aluminum Workers of America in a run-off election carried by the CIO union by a vote of 1,707 to 1,602. The poll was held among the employes at the Alcoa plant of the Aluminum Company of America.

The union said it was the largest election ever held by the National Labor Relations Board in the South. The AWA local defeated an AFL union and an "independent" at previous polls, but did not succeed until this election in winning a majority of all the votes cast.

Prize Winner

TOLEDO CIO OFFICIALS awarded a prize to this float which was entered in the Ohio city's Labor Day parade by the Bingham Stamping Unit of Local 12, United Automobile Workers. Fifteen thousand marched in Toledo labor's turnout, while other similarly large crowd raded in cities large and small throughout the nation.

Shoe Workers Ask U. S. Revoke Permit For German Firm

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—Steps to seek revocation of a permit granted to the Bata Shoe Co. of Ziln, Germany, for its new American plant at Belcamp, Md., were undertaken today by the CIO United Shoe Workers.

The union charged that several hundred Czech workmen have been brought to Maryland by the firm, through an arrange-ment permitting them to come in over the immigration quota.

It contends that "the establishment of the factory at Belcamp is an attempt by this firm to transplant foreign standards and foreign working conditions on to American soil."

The union has been told that the firm "tried to pay as low as 20c an hour to the workmen hired to erect the factory buildings," and is apparently set on a similar low-wage policy for the shoe workers themselves. Some 135 Czechs have already been brought to Belcamp, and as a result "few American workmen will be hired for some time to come," the USWA charged.

In a letter to all affiliates of the union, its national officials said the factory is being set up "in an anti-union district under the sponsorship of anti-labor, ultra-reactionary Sen. Tydings." Members are asked to send protests to their Congressmen and to Edward J. Shaughnessy of the Immigration Division of the U. S. Dept. of Labor.

The Bata factory in Europe, which employs thousands of workers at low wages, was taken over by the Nazis when Germany conquered Czechoslovakia, and has since been "co-ordinated" into the Nazi economic machine. The Bata brothers, its original owners, still retain management control.

N. Carolina AFL Slaps Barden

Durham, N. C., Sept. 9 — Rep. Graham Barden of North Carolina, sponsor of AFL amendments to the Wagner Act and leader of the attack against the wage-hour act, has been slapped down by the state's AFL Federation of Labor.

The delegates voted strong support for the wage act, condemned attempts to amend the vitality out of it, and wound up by calling for the defeat of Barden.

Win Poll By 23-1

Philadelphia, Sept. 9.—An election among the industrial insurance agents of the Pennsylvania Mutual Life Insurance Company here was won by the CIO union by a vote of 23 to 1. The poll conducted by the State Labor Relations Board was carried by the Insurance Guild, Local 22, United Office and Professional Workers, CIO.

Lewis Demands Neutrality, Jobs For All

(See Stories Page 3; Editorial Page 4)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—Speaking to a nation thrown into anxiety by the European war, leaders of the CIO, in Labor Day speeches, declared that American workers want an end to unemployment and insecurity and avoidance of armed conflict.

Pres. John L. Lewis, speaking over a nationwide radio hookup, declared: "Let those who will seek the votes of the workers of America be prepared to guarantee jobs for all Americans and freedom from foreign wars."

He berated those statesmen who spend "sleepless nights" of worry over the European situation while neglecting the problems of America's standing army of unemployed. "America's number one base problem," Lewis emphasized, "is productive work for its population."

Vice-Pres. Philip Murray, who spoke before many thousand Canadian steel workers at Hamilton, Ont., assured his audience that CIO unions in the Dominion are Canadian institutions and will support that nation in its "great emergency."

Sec. James Carey, speaking from Springfield, Mass., where the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers are holding their annual convention, demanded that labor, farmers and consumers be given places on the War Resources Board, now largely occupied by representatives of the House of Morgan.

Director John Brophy spoke in Des Moines, Ia., General Counsel Lee Pressman addressed a Duluth, Minn., mass meeting and Walter Smethurst, executive assistant to Pres. Lewis, was in Flint, Mich., for that city's Labor Day celebration.

Reports from all sections of the nation indicated that despite the war clouds, organized labor put on its greatest holiday show. Thousands of CIO members paraded in Detroit, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Toledo, St. Louis and other large metropolitan areas.

The celebrations, however, were not confined to the big cities. Picnics and parades were scheduled in hundreds of smaller communities. In Ontario's largest gold mining camps, AFL and CIO unions held a joint celebration, while 5,000 attended a picnic of Trumbull County, Ohio, CIO and AFL unions.

Labor Day Contract Wins 60% Pay Raises

NEW YORK, Sept. 9.—Wage increases of 20 to 60 per cent, two weeks vacation with pay, legal holidays off with pay, time-and-a-half pay for overtime and the closed shop are embodied in a two-year contract signed on Labor Day between the Avenue B and East Broadway Transit Company and the CIO Transport Workers Union, ending a ten-week strike against the bus company.

The strike victory brings into line the last remaining non-union bus company in New York City. The TWU, headed by City Councilman Michael J. Quill, has closed shop contracts with every subway, elevated, trolley and bus company in New York, covering more than 50,000 transit workers.

Drivers on the Avenue B line worked under a contract held by the AFL Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes, until two years ago, when the Amalgamated deserted the men after an unsuccessful strike.

Wage boosts, written into the contract, elevate drivers from a top wage rate of 65 to 80 cents per hour; mechanics from 65 to 85 cents per hour and maintenance employes from 25 to 40 cents per hour.

Lumbermen Win, 5-1

Tacoma, Wash., Sept. 9.—Members of Local 2-9, International Woodworkers of American, are elated over a thumping victory won by their union at a Labor Board election held among employes of the St. Paul & Tacoma Lumber Company. The CIO union defeated a local of the AFL Carpenters & Joiners by a vote of 738 to 163.

The company's workers have been on strike for four months, following refusal of the E. G. Griggs, head of the firm, to negotiate a contract. The AFL local claimed before the election that it had the majority of the workers.

'Civic Unity' — — More of the Old Stuff

AKRON, Ohio, Sept. 9—Recipe for "keeping labor in its place":

1. Several thousand dollars from men close to the anti-union Natl. Association of Manufacturers.

2. Formation of a phoney "front" organization, the American Economic Foundation.

3. Selection of would-be economists, and trained propagandists.

Stir thoroughly, mix with hot air.

* * *

This is the recipe which the reactionaries are trying in a half-dozen Ohio cities after finding that the old brand of anti-labor

The finished product — "Civic Unity."

broth is no longer palatable to thousands of workers who have tasted the fruits of industrial unionism.

The United Rubber Workers of America, which has been carrying on a long campaign to expose the fallacies of the "ghost town" propaganda which was unsuccessful in stopping the march of unionism here, is now warning its members of the new 1940 slick propaganda model.

Several thousand dollars were put up by manufacturers, most of them connected with the NAM, for the experiment in undermining unionism, the United Rubber Workers report.

From these funds was created the American Economic Foundation, Inc., which ample evidence would indicate has little to do with economics, has no foundation except to fight unions, and if anything, is un-American.

FANCY FRONTMEN

To carry out its experiment, the AEF chose the following personnel:

1. Dr. Alfred Haake, managing director of the Nat'l. Furniture Manufacturers' Assn., formerly director of state divisions of the American Liberty League and producer of a "model code for self-governing industries" for the NAM.

2. DeLoss Walker, an associate editor of Bernarr MacFadden's Liberty Magazine, former speaker for the NAM during its 1936 "civic progress" campaign —a campaign which was built on the same lines as the present one.

3. Sherman Rogers, former speaker for the "Crusaders."

4. Fred Clark, independently wealthy oil baron and former commander of the Crusaders—a man who has made no bones about his hatred of unionism.

With this personnel, the American Economic Foundation moved into a number of northern Ohio cities with its "civic unity" program. Ostensibly, the campaign is to bring all elements of the community into a central group where mutual problems can be discussed by leaders of organized groups. Haake and Rogers have used the sugar coating for all it is worth, telling unionists how they have talked employers out of "misunderstandings" about the CIO and suggesting to the union members that employers are pretty good fellows after all.

CAN BE OUTVOTED

Many who have studied the AEF program say that its real purpose is to bring one or two representatives of labor into the central group, where they will obviously be outnumbered by the representatives of anti-union organizations in the community.

Thus, if labor has been induced to swallow the "civic unity" bait, it can be outvoted in the "community" forum or made to appear as a disturber of "civic unity" when it strikes for just demands. For the American Economic Foundation representatives hedge when asked how "civic unity" will help increase the wages paid by a sweatshop boss or shorten the hours of work in a large factory — particularly when the sweatshopper and the industrialist may be enthusiastic and influential supporters of the NAM "civic unity" program.

"In the course of a conference he had with Akron union leaders, the following facts emerged.

"Haake believes that the reason for mass unemployment in the United States is due to 'lack of confidence' on the part of investors. This alleged lack of confidence he attributes to 'increased government control of business' of which he said the National Labor Relations Act is an example.

"He further expressed the opinion that 'we are heading rapidly for Fascism under the New Deal' . . ."

SIGNIFICANCE

"It seems very significant that this type of campaign should be initiated in certain key cities in Ohio just at this time when important municipal election campaigns are being held, just at a time when preparations are being made to organize a nation-wide reactionary fight against President Roosevelt and the New Deal.

"Reactionary strategists know that the working people of our country are the solid organizational bloc supporting the New Deal. They realize that in order to defeat the New Deal in 1940 they must crack this bloc —and what better way is there to do it than for agents of reaction to slip into the ranks of labor in the sweet name of 'civic unity'."

Goons Jailed

Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 9 — A stinging rebuke, a year in jail and a $500 fine were handed out in court last week to two plug uglies who beat up two organizers for the United Automobile Workers, CIO, after a union meeting during the drive to organize automobile workers here.

Terming their gangsterism as "cowardly and Un-American," Judge James H. Anderson, in sentencing the two men, said: "I truly regret that it is not within my power to send you to the pententiary, but I am giving you as severe a sentence as I am able to do."

Fido Can Eat in Peace; Dog Food Union-Made

CHICAGO, Ill., Sept. 9. — Your pooch can exist on a 100 per cent union diet, thanks to the new contract signed here by the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America with the Rival Packing Co., manufacturers of a widely-sold dog food.

A flat ten cent-an-hour raise for both men and women is the outstanding feature of the agreement which includes a guarantee of 32 hours pay per week. The shop committee is fully recognized as the sole collective bargaining agent in the plant and strict seniority provision provide a maximum of job security for the workers. workers.

Under the provisions of the new contract there will be a ten minute rest spell in the morning and afternoon. The vacation clause calls for one week paid vacation after a year's service, and two weeks for those five years with the company.

UCAPAWA Field Representative John Schmies, regards the contract as an outstanding victory in a recently-organized shop, where working conditions have been far below standards in the nearby stock yards.

Armour Backs Down, Union May Strike

CHICAGO, Sept. 9.—Ignoring its solemn pledge to Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins, Armour and Company has disrupted contract negotiations with the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, CIO.

Following the breakdown of negotiations at Chicago, the union moved rapidly to place its case before the federal government.

Charging that Armour broke its pledge to negotiate contracts on a plant-by-plant basis in those plants in which the union has been certified as sole collective bargaining agent by the NLRB, national officers of the PWOC wired Secretary Perkins that a national Armour strike will be called after Labor Day if she cannot effect a joint conference between national officials of the company, national officers of the union, and herself.

STRIKE NOTICE

Simultaneously, the union sent the obligatory ten-day notice of intention to strike to the state authorities of Minnesota. Indication that the strike may spread to all plants of the "Big Four" packers—Armour, Swift, Wilson and Cudahy—is found in the union's formal notice to the Minnesota authorities, which specified "Big Four" plants in South St. Paul, Albert Lea, Faribault and Newport.

Letters, signed by Don Harris, director, and Henry Johnson, assistant director of the PWOC, were also sent to the mayors of principal U. S. cities which would be involved in a strike. The letters told them of the union's demand to meet with responsible officers of Armour and Company.

Unless such a meeting takes place at once, PWOC officials say, the union will be forced to accept Armour's repeated challenge and call a strike—an action which the union has sought to avoid.

Packing Workers Win Omaha Poll

Omaha, Neb., Sept. 9—Meat packing workers have shown Armour and Co., currently stalling in contract talks with the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, that they back the CIO by rolling up a big majority for the PWOC in a Labor Board election.

The vote, 748 for CIO to 549 against, was recorded in spite of vigorous company efforts to intimidate the workers.

The election was the last in the major Armour plants throughout the country, and indicated that packing workers throughout the country are unanimous in their support of the CIO and its demand for real collective bargaining.

2,000 Strike In Carolina

Columbia, S. C., Sept. 9—Refusal of the company to grant the demands of the Textile Workers' Union of America has precipitated a strike of 2,000 workers in the four big Pacific mills here. The employes walked out an hour after the old contract expired.

The union's chief demand was for elimination of the 12½% wage cut put through last year. A week's vacation with pay, voluntary check-off of union dues, and improved working conditions were among the other points the union sought to include in a new agreement.

The motion to call a strike was unopposed after the union negotiating committee reported that it "ran against a brick wall" during negotiations with the company.

"We did everything possible and it is out of our hands now and in yours," J. W. Johnson, president of the local and chairman of the committee, told the workers.

Auto Union Wins Third Election

Detroit, Sept. 9 — By a sizeable majority the United Automobile Workers, CIO, swept to a Labor Board election victory at the Bundy Tubing Co. plant here, thereby winning its third major poll in less than a month.

The UAW-CIO received 360 votes from Bundy workers, with the AFL outfit getting only 293. As a result, the CIO union will be certified as sole collective bargaining agency.

"This is almost getting monotonous," declared Pres. R. J. Thomas of the UAW. "The auto workers are re-affirming the decision for CIO industrial unionism, which they made a dramatic style in the great strikes of 1937."

Little 6 To Big 4

REPRESENTATIVES of the 'Little Six' meat packing firms get together with negotiators of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee and sign a renewal agreement which the militant CIO union described as a "model contract." Now the PWOC is redoubling efforts to get pacts from the 'Big Four'—Armour, Swift, Cudahy and Wilson.

War Danger Key Labor Day Topic

Speakers Hope For Peace

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9 — Appreciation of the war situation in Europe, together with a determination to uphold our democratic institutions and lessen the shock of war to workers here, marked Labor Day speeches by CIO leaders in various cities of the U. S. and in Canada.

In Hamilton, Ontario, Philip Murray, CIO vice-president and chairman of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, told an audience of 5,000 that the CIO in the Dominion is a Canadian institution, and as such supports the Canadian Government in its national policies.

"PROPER TREATMENT"

James B. Carey, CIO secretary, speaking on a national radio hookup from New York, demanded "proper treatment for labor and its rightful voice in the councils where decisions are made," and sharply criticized the omission of labor, farmer and consumer representatives from the War Industries Board, government control agency in the event war comes to America.

In Des Moines, Ia., John Brophy, national CIO director, told his audience of industrial workers and radio listeners that labor is "profoundly thankful" that Americans are not forced into war at the command of a Nazi-aggressor regime, and "profoundly determined to maintain the democracy and the peace under which our government exists and grows."

In Duluth, Minn., Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, warned against allowing native Fascists to destroy our freedom and lead our people to destruction as Hitler is leading the German people under his regime.

Walter Smethurst, CIO headquarters executive assistant to Pres. Lewis, spoke on industrial and political democracy and the workers' role in broadening social progress to an audience of automobile workers and their families at Flint, Mich. He was joined on the platform by R. J. Thomas, UAWA president; Adolph Germer, Michigan regional director; Roy Reuther, and a local committee of UAWA members.

DEFEND DEMOCRACY

All five speakers held up the record and the program of the CIO as a mainstay of economic and social progress, without which democratic institutions be-

Continued on Page Six

American Labor and the European War-Discussed by Lewis and Carey

Following are excerpts from the Labor Day speeches of CIO Pres. Lewis and Sec. James Carey discussing American labor's attitude towards the European war:

PRES. LEWIS

"Let those who will seek the votes of the workers of America be prepared to guarantee jobs for all Americans and freedom from foreign wars."

* * *

"Labor in America wants no war nor any part of war. Labor wants the right to work and live—not the privilege of dying by gunshot or poison gas to sustain the mental errors of current statesmen."

* * *

"Patently an attempt is being made to create the illusion that when war breaks in Europe, the United States in some mysterious fashion will forthwith be involved. Such a concept is of course a monumental deception and amounts to a betrayal of national interest."

* * *

"Countries of the Western Hemisphere are self-contained and have no need to participate in the festering intrigue and ancient political quarrels of Europe. The destiny of our own country should be in the keeping of its own people and it should not become a puppet to be pulled by strings from the war-lusting rulers of Europe."

SEC. CAREY

"We of the CIO note with disappointment the recent announcement of a War Industries Board, which is to control the industrial side of the nation's life in case of war. . . . We note that this board, to which so much responsibility and power is given, includes some prominent men who are by no means famous for their sympathetic approach to labor's problems. Nor does this important board include a single labor representative, a single farmer representative, or a single consumer spokesman."

* * *

"In times of crisis, cooperation and helpfulness are especially vital to our America. But this cooperation is not to be imposed on labor; for you cannot get democratic cooperation by the issuance of decrees."

* * *

"If the working people of the European counties has been or now were represented in the governments that are now playing Power Politics with human lives and human civilizations, war would today be far away."

Lewis Demands Jobs

Ogden, Utah, Sept. 9—Heard by thousands of American workers attending their annual Labor Day celebrations in every part of the nation, CIO Pres. John L. Lewis warned "those who will seek the votes of the workers of America" to be prepared to "guarantee jobs for all Americans and freedom from foreign wars."

The CIO leader spoke over a nation-wide radio hookup from Ogden and his speech was rebroadcast at hundreds of meetings.

Lewis' address constituted a reminder to the world that "labor in America wants no war nor any part of war. Labor wants the right to work and live—not the privilege of dying by gunshot or poison gas to sustain the mental errors of current statesmen."

PROPAGANDA

Charging that the nation has been subjected "to an overdose of war propaganda" designed to create the "illusion" that the United States must "in some mysterious fashion" become involved in a European war, Lewis said:

"The country is being told of the statesmen and national leaders who are spending sleepless nights in worry over the situation in Europe. In every way, how much better it would be if the same statesmen would spend a few sleepless nights in devising a way for one-fourth of America's workers to get a job at a wage that would keep them alive."

Lewis called for "modern methods of expanding the export of American surplus commodities," describing the reciprocal trade treaties as a "delusion and a snare."

It is essential that "the trade territory of the Western Hemisphere be preserved and developed for the advantage of American industry," he said. "Central and South America is capable of absorbing all of our excess and surplus commodities if the problem is approached with intelligence and modern methods are pursued."

It was to the staggering do-

Continued on Page Six

Shipyard, Marine Unions Act For Members In War Crisis

Jersey City, Sept. 9—American shipbuilders who anticipate a war boom based on fat orders and low pay, non-union conditions were warned today that the nation's shipyard workers will not tolerate such policies.

The warning was contained in the address of Pres. John Green to the national convention of the CIO Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers. Some 80 delegates from shipyards in the Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf coasts are attending the three-day sessions, the first CIO convention to be held in Mayor Hague's Jersey City.

"As shipyard workers responsible for construction of naval ships, rightly called the country's first line of defense, we are concerned that our country's defense shall be adequate and impregnable," Green declared. "We do not wish to engage in actions that might jeopardize the preparation of our country's defenses at such critical times as these.

"But," he continued, "neither do we expect to supinely submit to the vicious and repressive anti-labor tactics of certain of the large employers in our industry; employers who are already licking their chops

Continued on Page Six

JOHN GREEN
Shipyard Union Head

Washington, Sept. 9—Demands of CIO seamen for adequate war risk bonuses, pay raises to compensate for dangers in sailing to belligerent waters, and insurance moved toward success today as the Natl. Maritime Union pressed its campaign on three fronts.

The demands, based on a 50 per cent wage increase, a $250 bonus per trip, and insurance of $25,000 for unlicensed personnel, have been agreed to "in principle" by the American Merchant Marine Institute, employer organization in the industry.

HEAVY RISKS

NMU leaders pointed out that these demands were reasonable compensation for the heavy risks taken by seamen in manning ships in submarine-infested waters. At the same time, American crews on ships in European ports worked double shifts and gave up their own quarters to anxious citizens fleeing Europe.

In Washington, NMU legisla-

Continued on Page Six

Standard Oil Jockeying Condemned

New York, Sept. 9 — Standard Oil embarked on a policy of hypocrisy in the midst of the war crisis, the National Maritime Union charged today.

The union is conducting consumer action battle against the big monopoly until it signs a contract covering oil tanker crews.

The NMU asserted that when Standard Oil realized the inevitability of a European war, it "immediately began to play the role of a good patriot" by changing some of its ships from foreign flags to the American flags and allegedly replacing fascist crews with Americans.

That, the union said, "was only a side show to try and fool the public."

HIRED BRITISH

When the S.S. L. V. McKnight arrived at Bayonne, N. J., last week to change its crew, the company found it could secure British seamen for half the wages American seamen receive.

"It immediately got busy picking up all the English seamen

Continued on page six

River Boatmen Win Pact in Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 9—River boatmen here affiliated with the Inland Boatmen's Division of the National Maritime Union, have just negotiated the first union contract for boatmen ever signed in Pittsburgh. The agreement is with the Campbell Transportation Company and covers about 150 men employed on all the firm's six boats.

Wage increases ranging from five to eleven per cent are provided in the new pact which becomes effective Sept. 1, 1939. Union officials said that the new wage rates are the highest paid and will benefit not only the 150 Campbell employes directly, but also effect 5,000 workers of two other companies — the Federal and the Mississippi Barge lines.

The present contracts with these two lines includes a provision that the companies will meet any upward revision in wages in the industry.

The new Campbell agreement, in addition to a pay increase, provides 30 days' vacation each year, closed shop, shorter hours, and improved working conditions.

French Labor Asked CIO Support for Peace Pleas

Washington, Sept. 9.—Just before declaration of the second European war, French labor appealed to the CIO for support of President Roosevelt's peace proposals—proposals which were ignored by Hitler.

President Leon Jouhaux, head of the French Confederation of Labor (CGT) sent the following cable to President John L. Lewis on Sept. 1:

"After the appeal of the International Federation of Trade Unions, the French General Conferation of Labor addresses you in these grave hours with an appeal that in united action of the labor organizations of the United States you lend your unanimous support to the so-highly humane action of President Roosevelt in favor of safeguarding peace with honor and dignity. In the assurance of your collaboration for the defense of the right and liberty basic to all civilization, receive our fraternal salutations."

Lewis cabled the following reply:

"Acknowledging your cable, American labor profoundly conscious of gravity of problem now faced by people of the several countries of Europe. Without question, the workers of America approve proposals for honorable mediation or conciliation of dispute. We will yet hope that conflict of major propositions will be avoided. Fraternal salutes to the workers of France."

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II September 11, 1939 No. 37

Labor and the European War

The European war cast a gigantic and horrifying shadow over the recent Labor Day celebrations throughout the United States and Canada.

Speaking to audiences who just the day before had heard of the British and French declarations of war, following the German invasion of Poland, the leaders of the CIO voiced labor's reaction to the international calamity.

President John L. Lewis, in his nationwide broadcast, declared:

"Labor in America wants no war nor any part of war. Labor wants the right to work and live—not the privilege of dying by gunshot or poison gas to sustain the mental errors of current statesmen."

Lewis denounced propaganda designed to involve the United States in war, and emphasized the importance of dealing with unemployment and other pressing problems of social insecurity.

"The destiny of our own country should be in keeping of its own people," he said, "and it should not become a puppet to be pulled by strings from the war-lusting rulers of Europe."

Speaking to a Canadian audience at Hamilton, Ont., Vice-President Philip Murray emphasized that just as the CIO operates as an American institution in the United States, in Canada it operates as a Canadian institution which will support the nation in its "greatest emergency."

Vice-President Sidney Hillman, in a Labor Day message, hit at "autocratic and irresponsible powers that violate the rules of international traffic. The strengthening of democracy in our nation is the great contribution we can make toward international peace," he said.

Secretary James B. Carey, in his broadcast, denounced "the mad and bloodthirsty dictator of Germany, whose power came from the failure of the German people to win for themselves the prosperity the CIO is fighting for."

Pointing out that labor must "bear the brunt of the work and sacrifice" in war, Carey declared that "labor asks proper treatment for itself and its rightful voice in the councils where decisions are made."

Demanding the inclusion of labor, farmer and consumer representatives of war boards and similar governmental agencies, he said that with such representatives seated "in numbers more nearly related to the numbers of people these organizations represent, this nation is more likely to remain at peace, and better prepared in case of war."

The above quotations indicate what is most on American labor's mind at this time of crisis:

(1) That it wants no part in foreign wars.

(2) That it demands proper representation in all governmental agencies, whose decisions and activities so vitally affect the laboring people.

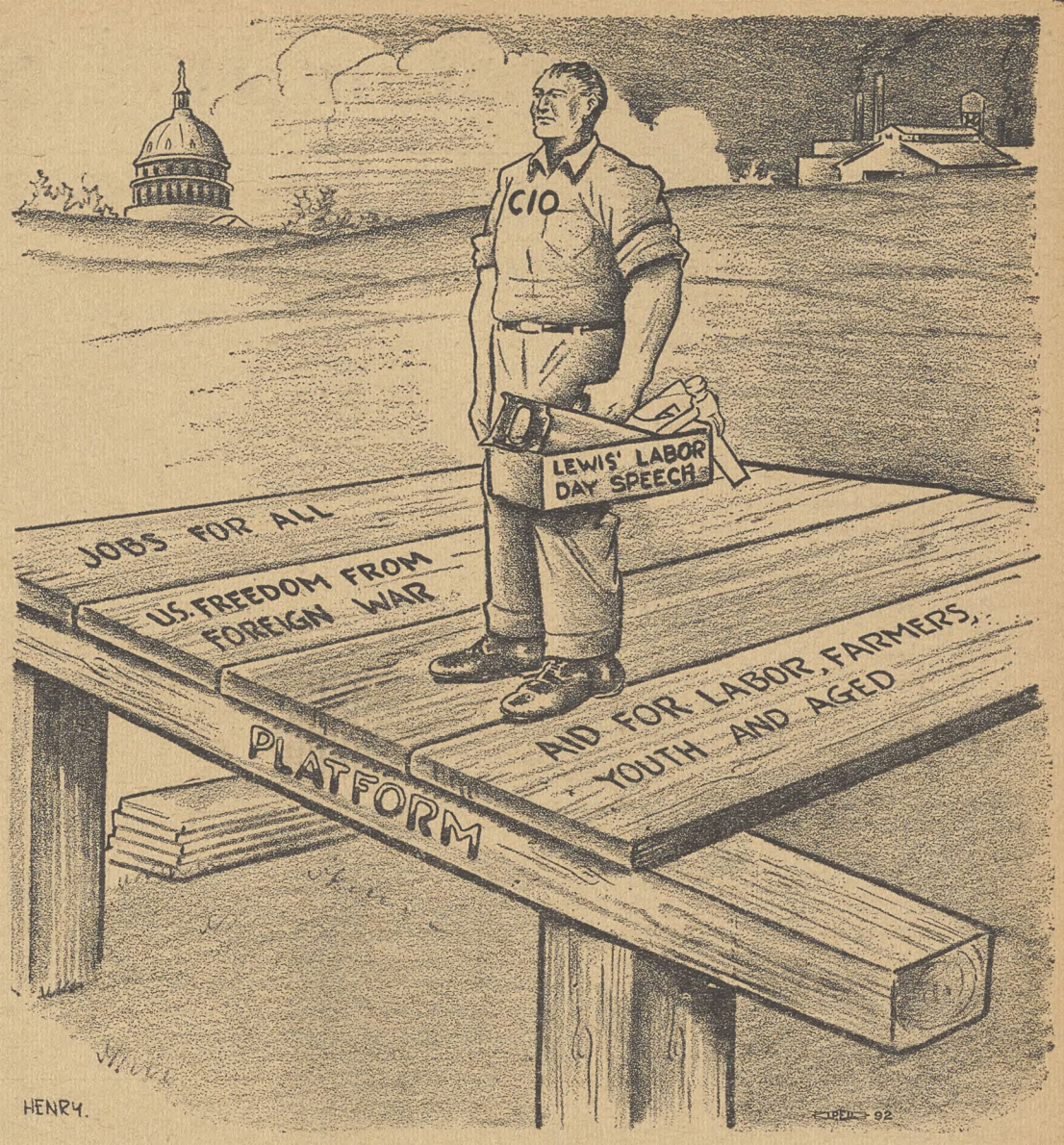
(3) That it believes the cause of peace is best served by the strengthening of our democracy through the building of the progressive labor movement, and through measures to set our own house in order by coping with unemployment and economic insecurity.

League Lists Voting Record of Congress

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9—Labor's Non-Partisan League has just published a special issue of The National Bulletin which contains the most important roll calls of the recent session of Congress.

Measures of vital interest to labor, farmers and progressives are included in the league tabulation. The vote of Senators and Representatives on these issues reflects their general attitude toward pro-labor legislation.

Extra copies of this special issue may be obtained from Labor's Non-Partisan League, Earle Building, Washington, D. C.



Taking A Stand

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Fiction When Facts Fail

TRUTH, as usual, has been the first casualty in the European war. But let no one think that we in America are behindhand in preparedness for massacring the facts.

While the war propagandists of Europe painstakingly try to present their fictions as sober fact, some of our magazines have developed the art of making regular fictional thrillers out of real people and real movements like the CIO.

To illustrate the new technique of such fiction magazines, let us consider the kind of job they might do on the American Federation of Labor if they used against it the same methods of fact-distortion as they use against the CIO.

'Lowdown' for a Nickel'

The AFL is losing ground to the CIO, as Labor Board election results amply demonstrate. It is tending to disintegrate through internal dissension.

You naturally think this is due to the workers' preference for the modern industrial unionism of the CIO. But the magazine implies you are simple-minded to accept such an obvious explanation. The real reason, it claims, is much more exciting.

The magazine offers a Mr. Stoolbird or a Mr. X who for the price of a nickel will give you "the real lowdown" which only he has discovered.

You may have had the impression that the AFL was run by a pink-faced, cherubic and almost painfully respectable gentleman named William Green, assisted by a number of executive council members whose characteristics seem only too obvious.

But fiction in this case is made much stranger than truth by the all-seeing, all-knowing Mr. Stoolbird.

For one solitary nickel you can be told by him that the AFL is really run by the Nazi party of Germany — and thrown in for good measure is a cowboy yarn, a detective story, something about a movie star, an editorial attacking the wagner Act, and Little Lulu.

Your breath is naturally taken away by this revelation exclusively vouchsafed to Mr. Stoolbird. But you'll have to stay breathless for a few minutes more reading time. For the plot gets thicker and thicker.

Green is not really a Nazi himself, it is admitted with a great show of fairness. But he is the willing prisoner of Woll, Hutcheson, Frey, the heads of most of the AFL unions and most of his own organizers—all of whom, you get the impression, are Nazis.

But hold your lawyers, gentlemen of the AFL council. Before you file your libel suits, you will find the magazine has lawyers too, skilled in the art of covering up lies with the whitewash of insinuation.

Contrary to first impressions, you will find that Mr. Stoolbird does not say the AFL leaders and organizers are actually members of the Nazi-Bund. In fact, he says the Nazi rulers of the AFL are so subtle that they require their agents not to be members.

How a man can be a Nazi without being a Nazi is a problem easily solved by Mr. Stoolbird. He invents the words 'Hitlerist" and "Hitleroid," which he feels he can apply with impunity to anyone he chooses.

Resourceful In Outs

Now it so happens that most of the AFL leaders are well known to have no sympathy with nor even knowledge of the doctrines of Herr Hitler. But that doesn't stump Mr. Stoolbird.

If they are not Hitlerists themselves, he says they are surrounded by Hitlerists. And if this still strains your credulity, Mr. Stoolbird speaks vaguely of "fellow-travelers" — people who are not Hitlerists but who share the Hitlerists' taste for such things as liverwurst and lager beer, and who will travel along with them until they get them, if no further.

If, however, your enjoyment of all this fiction is stil spoiled by a haunting sense of unreality—if it strains your imagination too much to think of the work-hating, pinochle - playing, simple - minded old men of the AFL executive council as sinister Hitlerists, associates of Hitlerists or fellow-travelers with the Nazi-Bund — then the resourceful Mr. Stoolbird has yet another out.

He will tell you that the AFL is not really run by its apparent leaders, but by several staff members of devious and totalitarian character who, if they are not Hitlerists, are Hitleristic, or influenced by Hitleroid fellow-travelers, etc., etc.

It Doesn't Make Sense

It's all very involved, contradictory and ridiculous if you try to figure it out. But you can't expect a nickel thriller to make sense.

In any case, the millionaire anti-union interests that run such magazines would never bother to do a job like this on a movement that is innocuous and decaying.

It is precisely because the CIO is growing in strength, vigor and effectiveness, because attacks on it and attempted disruption have failed, and because election results show that the trend is all toward the CIO, that these interests turn to fiction to use against the CIO when facts fail them.

Lewis, In Labor Day Speech, Demands Jobs For All, Freedom From War

(Following are excerpts from the Labor Day speech of CIO President John L. Lewis. Mr. Lewis spoke to the nation over the coast-to-coast blue network of the National Broadcasting Co.)

I am happy to have this opportunity to speak to my fellow Americans upon this Labor Day.

Although the workers of America are celebrating this day, I know that in their hearts there is an anxiety and concern for the future which casts a deep shadow upon every picnic ground and every meeting hall where the millions of labor are assembled. I know that every home and every family is haunted today by the fear, and many of them by the reality, of unemployment and destitution.

This, our holiday, is a time not just for merry-making—although I hope that it is bringing relaxation and recreation into the burdensome lives of our harassed working men and women—but it is our day for stock-taking, for looking backward over the year passed and for surveying, as well as we can, the year to come.

That look in retrospect and that survey of the future give labor little reason for gratitude or for trustfulness, upon this Labor Day of 1939. We see behind us a road made difficult by the callous indifference or the cold brutality of those who rule the nation. Our victories have been won by our own strength and by the justice of our cause; our progress has been slowed down by the antagonism of those upon whom we should have been able to rely for assistance. Looking toward the future, we scan the horizon in vain for any sign that a new intelligence among those rulers, or a new concern for humanity, will reinforce the efforts of labor as we press forward. But we have gone forward, and we will go forward, and neither the antagonism of open enemy nor the faithlessness of false friend shall avail to halt our march.

Progress of CIO

Since our last Labor Day, many thousands of workers who have heretofore been helpless and inarticulate have gained, through organization, a voice in determining the conditions under which they labor. Because of these new unions, democracy today has won a beginning in mills and factories, which, a year ago, were unchecked autocracies. Life has been made easier, and more secure for these workers. That is real progress, and we are proud of every inch of those great gains.

If labor had to survey only the limited field within which its unions function directly, its responsibilities would be less grave. But as American citizens we must look beyond mere organizational activity.

We see clearly that many of the men into whose hands we have entrusted the government of the United States, have lost sight of the fact that the welfare of the people should be the primary objective of government. They seem determined to subordinate human beings to inanimate, material things, as though these were the purposes of government—as though tons of steel, or barrels of oil, or dollars of bank clearings were the sufficient and final test of our national well-being.

Unemployment

Let us consider the plight into which incompetent industrial and political leadership has led this nation. Where does labor stand, where does the nation stand, as the year 1939 enters its final months? Of the many grave economic and political problems confronting us, that presented by our millions of unemployed workers is still by far the most serious. For ten years we have been struggling in the great swamp of the depression. We have sometimes climbed a little nearer solid ground, and at times we have slipped deeper into the mire.

But the net effect of all the efforts that have been made is to leave the number of unemployed not far less than at the worst period of the depression. There has been some resumption of industrial activity in 1939, but it is scarcely enough to absorb the advance guard of the army of our unemployed.

In this wealthy nation, there is no possible excuse for denying to men and women willing and able to work an opportunity to earn their living by working. But not less than ten, and perhaps as many as thirteen millions of men and women are out of work in the United States today.

Young and Old

These unemployed could not be absorbed into American industry even though we returned to the production levels of our peak year. And their numbers steadily increase. Every year new hundreds of thousands of young people reach employment age, joining the milling millions around our factory gates. What are we going to do about these youths? Our schools are graduating more and finer young people today than ever before.

Thus far the plans of industrial managers have gone no further than to make use of the vigor of the young men and women by displacing the older workers, and speeding up machinery and assembly line so that the nerves and muscles of these new comers may be transformed into the mass production of the factories. It is a major test of our civilization to offer opportunities worthy of the youth of America, and a major failure that we have not done so.

At the other end of the age scale, the indictment of our present-day policies is, if possible, more damning. We have put upon the statute books a social

JOHN L. LEWIS

security act, a beginning—and a very slight one—toward provision for the aged. In plain truth, that provision is purely nominal.

The depression slashed from our payrolls first of all these older workers, who had already fed into the machines their fine years. Americans in later age brackets found themselves deprived of all income. Those who had savings saw, as though an earthquake had opened a chasm before their feet, their slender resources torn from them in the general crash of the banks. To all of us, the great depression has meant trials almost beyond enduring; to the aged, these ten years have been indescribable tragedy. Each year has made more clear the need for adequate pensions for our older people, but no year has brought more cruel disappointment to them than the year 1939.

The Farmers

The hardships inflicted upon our industrial wage earners have been paralleled upon the farms. The farmer, in fact, has not known reasonably prosperous conditions since the end of the World War.

Production in America proceeds as a partnership between industry and agriculture. Historically, at least, agriculture is the senior partner; our industries find their raw materials and their greatest ultimate market in rural America. But the senior partner is in a very bad way. A nation of free farmers has been transformed into one of tenants and share-croppers, clinging precariously to the land upon terms dictated by remote financial control. The individual farmer, who once held his destiny in his own hands, now rents his farm from a New England life insurance company, buys his implements from an international machinery monopoly, and sells his products upon a market and at a price controlled by a Chicago speculator.

The extreme poverty of millions of American farmers, the insecurity of all farmers, is a national problem which cannot be neglected. In his own right, and by virtue of the heart-breaking labor of himself and his family, the farmer is entitled to economic security, to all the comforts of modern life and to a price for his products not less than their cost of production.

These are our basic economic problems—the unemployment of our workers, the hopelessness of our youth, the helplessness of our aged and the submergence of our farmers. Fhom these fundamental dislocations have flowed a long stream of unhappy consequences, in some manner affecting every American.

Need for Leadership

The solution of the national problems calls for strong national leadership capable of understanding the economic and the complicated integration of the country's productive and marketing facilities.

America's number one base problem is productive work for its population. Solve this and every incidental and collateral question assumes its proper proportions, checks into its own slot and becomes relatively insignificant.

With employment comes buying power, plant operation, fulfillment of obligations, community activity, tax revenue, freedom from fear and individual security.

Displacement and economic abandonment of twenty-five per cent of the adult population able to work constitutes a threat to the stability of the republic. Attempts to maintain alive this population by direct and work relief, while humanely commendable, makes no contribution to solution of the basic problem.

The nation cannot forever continue its appalling drift. Privation is taking a toll from the population that cannot forever be endured. Thoughtless and sadly executed experimentation will not always suffice to beguile a suffering people. The internal national debt has already reached such proportions that it may never be liquidated by orthodox methods.

Labor and War

In the face of the economic debacle in America many of our statesmen are more concerned and agitated over the political quarrels in Europe. War has always been the device of the politically despairing and intellectually sterile statesmen. It provides employment in the gun factories and begets enormous profits for those already rich. It kills off the vigorous males who, if permitted to live, might question the financial and political exploitation of the race. Above all, war perpetuates in imperishable letters on the scroll of fame and history, the names of its political creators and managers.

Labor in America wants no war nor any part of war. Labor wants the right to work and live—not the privilege of dying by gunshot or poison gas to sustain the mental errors of current statesmen.

During the last fortnight our country has been subjected to an overdose of war propaganda. Patently an attempt is being made to create the illusion that when war breaks in Europe, the United States in some mysterious fashion will forthwith be involved. Such a concept is of course a monumental deception and amounts to a betrayal of national interest.

The country is being told of the statesmen and national leaders who are spending sleepless nights in worry over the situation in Europe. In every way, how much better it would be if the same statesmen would spend a few sleepless nights in devising a way for one-fourth of America's workers to get a job at a wage that would keep them alive.

One way to achieve this objective would be for the federal government to institute modern methods of expanding the export of American surplus commodities. Exclusive of supplies utilized in the military rearmament of foreign nations, the export trade of America is diminishing. The completion of Japanese plans in the Orient will drive American exporters from that market. In Europe the German and British influence will substantially accomplish the same result. The American reciprocal trade agreements are a delusion and a snare. They contribute neither whit nor jot to the sum total of our foreign trade volume and, all things being equal, have never put an American to work.

How essential, then, that the trade territory of the Western Hemisphere be preserved and developed for the advantage of American industry. Central and South America is capable of absorbing all of our excess and surplus commodities if the problem is approached with intelligence and modern methods are pursued. Obviously, increased trade volume with the Latin-American countries would result in improved political and cultural relationships and make for increased security for the United States when the day comes that some imperialistic foreign power challenges the Monroe Doctrine.

Countries of the Western Hemisphere are self-contained and have no need to participate in the festering intrigue and ancient political quarrels of Europe. The destiny of our own country should be in the keeping of its own people and it should not become a puppet to be pulled by strings from the war-lusting rulers of Europe.

In the march of years 1940 will be one of the cross-roads of destiny for the people of the United States. Labor must increasingly organize and prepare to participate, upon a scale greater than ever before, in the political contests of the year. Let those who will seek the votes of the workers of America be prepared to guarantee jobs for all Americans and freedom from foreign wars.

Prepare Program For Congress, Unions Urged

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—All CIO affiliates were urged today to start pressing a labor progressive program in the coming session of Congress, either for its regular session in January or a possible special session called to deal with the war crisis in Europe.

They were warned that the tory Republican-renegade Democrat coalition that hacked so much of the New Deal at the last session, will intensify its anti-labor offensive, and were urged to form lines now for coming struggles over the Wagner Act, social security, wages and hours, housing, and the like. The warning was sent in the form of a circular letter from Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, released to all CIO units today.

"It is extremely important," the letter said, "that organized labor in all localities should get in touch with the Congressmen and Senators and let them know what labor thinks about these issues."

SWEPT ALONG

The reactionary coalition, "acting contrary to the desires of the overwhelming mass of people who gave their mandate to President Roosevelt in 1936," was successful to the extent that labor failed to press its program, the letter explains.

"A number of Congressmen were swept along during the past Congress because they did not know exactly whether this reactionary tendency represented the prevailing feeling in their community or not," it said.

"The barrage of the press and the high-powered lobbyists of the big financial interests in Washington confused them. In some cases the absence of any clear and positive communication from the people back home left Congressmen without any guide as to the true feelings of their constituencies."

REACH CONGRESSMEN

Labor's task is to straighten out this confusion in the minds of the Congressmen and Senators, the letter points out. They must be told clearly and positively that labor wants more progressive laws, not less, and wants those now on the books left there unemasculated.

"Those Congressmen who have allied themselves with the reactionary forces in Congress and betrayed the people must be confronted with their record. Liberal Congressmen should receive expressions of support and commendation to assure the continuance of progressive policies," it said.

The letter emphasizes the importance of reaching Congressmen in the home towns now, before they leave for Washington and become necessarily somewhat more difficult to contact. Letters, delegations and personal calls on the legislators in their homes are recommended.

PROGRAM

Discussing the issues involved in the past session and due to come up again in the next, the letter points out that while the Wagner Act was saved at the past session, efforts to preserve it from reactionary attack will have to be kept at the same high level to keep it from annihilation.

On the wages and hours law, the Barden amendments (HR 7133) are cited as the worst danger. This bill, the letter says, "would have practically repealed the protection which the law gives against substandard wages and hours." No hearings were held at the last session on these amendments, and the letter urges labor to demand full opportunity to testify before any amendments are passed in future.

Turning to sins of omission during the past session, the letter cites the collective bargaining guarantee bill (S. 1032) which provides for revoking government contracts to firms violating the Wagner Act, and urges greater pressure than ever before to get it past the House. The bill has already been passed by the Senate, but its companion measure, HR. 3331, was not even reported out in the House.

On social security, the past session did pass some mildly liberalizing amendments, but many more are needed, the letter says. Red tape, inefficiency, and appalling confusion exist in the various laws and their administration, all of which must be simplified and their benefits extended. The letter further cites the CIO stand for $60 a month at 60 years of age for old age assistance.

The need for housing was criminally neglected in the past session, the letter points out, and the work of the U. S. Housing Authority brought almost to a standstill by the refusal to vote $800,000,000 in needed funds. Action to secure this appropriation next session is recommended.

UNEMPLOYMENT

The S. 2507 and HR 6740, both calling for a 3,000,000 job program, are still alive though ignored in the last session and should be pushed, the letter states.

On civil liberties, CIO members are urged to renew the fight for Senator LaFollette's "Oppressive Labor Practices" bill (S. 1970 and HR 6470 outlawing industrial spies, munitions, and use of armed private guards.

Finally, on national health, affiliates are urged to support Sen. Wagner's bill (S. 1620) for a federal program of industrial hygiene, hospital building, etc.

Houston, Tex., Sept. 9. — An agreement signed here between the Steel Workers Organizing Committee and the American Can Company, brings to 17, the number of the company's plants now under SWOC contract.

Standard Oil Practices Condemned

Continued from Page Three

around New York City, with the results that the seven Americans who had been able to secure jobs were paid off. Is it any wonder that American workers are boycotting Standard Oil," the union inquired.

PROFITS CUT

The union noted that consumer resistance to Standard Oil products since the NMU has been fighting the company has resulted in sharply decreased profits for the country. Also on the union's unfair list are Socony Vacuum, Tidewater and C. D. Mallory.

AFL Match Workers Laud Wagner Act

WADSWORTH, O., Sept. 9—Another AFL group has gone on record against Wagner Act amendments.

The National Match Workers' Council, composed of AFL Federal locals in the match industry, passed a resolution at its convention here bucking the federation executive council's demands for changes in the labor act.

Other actions taken by the council included indorsement of CIO President Lewis' attack on Vice-President Garner's tory policies and support for the Wagner Health Bill.

Shipyard Union Acts In Crisis

Continued from Page Three

at the prospect of huge war profits at the same time that they continue to defy the law of the land as expressed by the National Labor Relations Act.

WAVE FALSE FLAG

"These employers will not hesitate to wave the false flag of patriotism in an effort to exploit their employes in the shipyard where naval and merchant ships are being built for the U. S. Government."

Green served notice that if employers wish peace in industry, they will have to submit their labor relations policies to drastic overhauling, agree to genuine collective bargaining and grant the workers a "fair return on their labor and a proportionate share of the profits that accrue to the industry."

"These demands are modest," he declared, "and we don't feel that we are holding a gun at the head of the industry or the government when we put them forward."

GOUGED GOVERNMENT

The union president anticipated some measure of government control over the industry "because of the scandalous behavior of the shipbuilding corporations in the last war," when, he charged, "they gouged the government for millions."

"It should be the purpose of this nation," he concluded, "to set an example to the world of how well a genuine political and industrial democracy can function, how we can provide a high standard of living for everyone within our borders, and extend to all that measure of personal liberty and freedom of conscience that is guaranteed in our Constitution."

Seamen Ask War Risk Bonuses

Continued from Page Three

tive representatives reported some resistance from the U. S. Maritime Commission, notorious for its anti-labor, union-busting tactics in the past. Meanwhile, in London. U. S. Ambassador Joseph P. Kennedy sent urgent appeals to Washington for American ships to evacuate some 28,000 citizens caught in the war areas.

BESIEGE EMBASSY

All American ships abroad are filled to capacity with Americans alarmed by the sinking of the British liner Athenia, and American lines are experiencing an unprecedented boom in business.

In New York, NMU seamen held up the liner President Roosevelt for six hours to speed negotiations on their demands. They sailed when NMU leader Joseph Curran secured an agreement from the operators that all increases agreed upon would be retroactive for the ship's voyage.

NMU officials point out that the booming business means inflated profits for the companies, that the seamen are entitled to protection for their families in the event of disaster, and that in case of torpedoing, crews are invariably the heaviest sufferers.

SUPPORT PROGRAM

Des Moines, Ia., Sept. 9.—Both the Iowa-Nebraska Iudustrial Union Council and the Iowa AFL federation of labor have taken action calling for continuance and expansion of the WPA workers education program.

War Danger Discussed By CIO Leaders

Continued from Page One

come meaningless and pass out of existence.

SWOC Chairman Murray stressed the constructive work of the CIO in contributing to the national welfare. "We work objectively and constructively," he said. "The CIO since its existence has increased the purchasing power of American workers by approximately five billion dollars annually. That is real service."

The social and economic program of the CIO, Director Brophy declared, "represents the will for progress not only of our 4,000,000 members, but of the entire American people." Those reactionary forces that try to block this program, he declared, are "attacking the interests of the entire American people."

Brophy appealed for unity of labor, farmers and all progressive forces in resisting the attacks, by propaganda as well as by political and economic warfare, made on the labor and progressive movement by the common enemies of the national welfare.

CIO CRUSADE

Secretary Carey described the "CIO crusade" as a movement for all the people, dedicated to the welfare of labor, farmers, small businessmen and all who must get their living by working for it.

"If the working people of the European countries had been or now were represented in the governments that are playing power politics with human lives and human civilization," Carey said, "war today would be far away. This Labor Day finds us thinking through the lessons of the past, the lessons of years and decades of struggle for the right to organize, the right to decent living.

"It finds us thinking forward, too, studying the shape of things to come. We want our great nation to be peaceful and prosperous, and that means that we want everyone in it to be peaceful and prosperous."

THREE WANTS

Basic labor needs and desires revolve around three main points, Pressman told his audience in Duluth: "security of jobs, the maintenance and protection of our freedom and democracy, and peace in this world."

Pressman also made the point of the CIIO's service to the whole working population of this country, declaring: "In marching ahead during the past year the CIO has acted not only as a protector of its own members among industrial workers, but has protected the interests of all working people, farmers, small businessmen, and professional groups as well."

Speaking at Flint to a huge Labor Day rally, Walter Smethurst urged his listeners to still greater union and political organization. "Industrial democracy is our goal," he said.

"With increased organization it will be surprising to note the attitude of the boss during periods of contract negotiations. And it is equally surprising the respect that politicians have for the workers when they are organized.

"Every man and every woman who works should be a volunteer in this crusade for industrial democracy, each individual can make a lasting contribution, not only to themselves but to the general welfare of the nation, by joining a union of his trade."

Lewis Asks Neutrality, Jobs for All

Continued from page three

mestic problems that Lewis devoted the bulk of his half-hour speech.

Recalling that labor's gains have been won only because of labor's strength, he said: "we scan the horizon in vain for any sign" that new intelligence or new concern among the nation's rulers will back up labor's efforts.

ASKS HUMANE APPROACH

He castigated those leaders who "seem determined to subordinate human beings to inanimate, material things, as though these were the purposes of government—as though tons of steel, or barrels of oil, or dollars of bank clearings were the sufficient and final test of our national well-being."

Lewis discussed the growing effects of technological unemployment, the "extreme poverty . . . and insecurity" of millions of farmers, the "hopelessness of the youth" who can find no jobs and the helplessness of the aged," who are dumped out of industry with no provisions for support.

These, he said, are our "basic economic problems" and from these "fundamental dislocations have flowed a long stream of unhappy consequences, in some manner affecting every American." As a nation we are wealthy, the CIO president pointed out, but to preserve our institutions "we must find a way to end the senseless, inhuman degradation of our farm and industrial workers.

STRONG LEADERSHIP

"The solution of the national problem calls for strong national leadership capable of understanding the economics and the complicated integration of the country's productive and marketing facilities.

"America's number one base problem is productive work for its population. Solve this and every incidental and collateral question assumes its proper proportions, checks into its own slot and becomes relatively insignificant.

"With employment comes buying power, plant operation, fulfillment of obligations, community activity, tax revenue, freedom from fear, and individual security."

Oil Union Convention Sept. 11

Hammond, Ind., Sept. 11—Delegates streaming into this city for the annual convention of the Oil Workers International Union, CIO, report growing strength for the D-X-Mid-Continent unfair list drive and increasing consolidation and growth of all local affiliates of the international.

The convention will be highlighted by addresses from R. J. Thomas, president, United Automobile Workers, CIO; Governor Clifford Townsend of Indiana, Congressman William T. Schulte and other prominent labor and political leaders.

WITNESSED PARADE

Delegates who arrived last week witnessed a four-mile Labor Day parade in which CIO and AFL affiliates took joint part.

They also joined the 60,000 workers and their families who attended the CIO picnic after the parade—largest labor gathering ever held in Lake County. Plans are being laid for the formation of an international ladies' auxiliary—first in the history of the Oil Workers. Auxiliaries have played a leading role in the six-months-old strike of oil workers at the Tulsa plants of the Mid-Continent Company, which has been resisting collective bargaining and violating federal and state laws in its attempts to break the union.

BOYS WILL BE GIRLS!—Alluring, charming, divine are the adjectives for these members (male) of the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers at the Westinghouse Electric plant in Lima, Ohio. Borrowing their sisters' clothing, they engineered this piece of electioneering previous to a Labor Board election. Result: the union won, and now these boys, who have been paid girls' wages by the corporation, look forward to reclassifications. Cute, aren't they?

Bridges Defense Confident

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 9. The Harry Bridges deportation hearing moved into its eighth week today with a desperate prosecution legal battery bringing to the stand witnesses whom it had previously rejected as unreliable.

Observers judged that the prosecution's first estimate of the witnesses was correct, for they proved a discredited group of men so zealous to "prove" the West Coast CIO director is a Communist that they tripped from one mistake to another.

John A. Kessler, now a cook at Alcatraz prison but formerly chef at Pierre's Chateau—a restaurant allegedly frequented by Communists—failed to advance the prosecution's case.

In his eagerness to identify Bridges as having visited the restaurant, Kessler "identified" everybody suggested to him, until he was thoroughly discredited and had to apologize to the U. S. attorneys for his confusion.

WITNESS REBUKED

Miles Humphrey, ex-Communist and former secretary of a county CIO council until he was expelled from his own union for advocating violence, was another unhappy witness.

Finally Chief Prosecutor Shoemaker had to tell his own witness on the stand that he was not testifying truthfully in regard to his interviews with U. S. Immigration officials.

Murray Offers Facts For Stolberg Fiction

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 9.—"The CIO is fundamentally American, pledged to adhere to American philosophy, doctrine and form of government and will go as far to maintain our institutions as any other group of citizens in America."

This was the reply of CIO Vice-Pres. Philip Murray to the scurrilous, distorted attack on the industrial union movement which appeared in a recent issue of the Saturday Evening Post. Murray's statement was given in a special interview to a correspondent of the Detroit News.

"The record is the best answer that can be made to Stolberg's statement," Murray said.

To illustrate his point, he quoted the CIO's rising membership figure, its highly successful record of organization and contract observance in steel, the growth of the meat packers' union and the steady preference for CIO's rising membership figure, its highly successful record of organization and contract observance in steel, the growth of the meat packers' union and the steady preference for CIO unions which the nation's workers have demonstrated in scores of impartial elections under the auspices of the National Labor Relations Board.

AFL WANTS HITLER PEACE

Of prospects for labor peace—Stolberg had charged the CIO leadership with blocking it—Murray said:

"Like Hitler, the AFL wants peace, but only on its own terms."

Stolberg was putting his money on the wrong horse when he talked about disintegration in the CIO, Murray told the news reporter. Citing the actors' fight, the possible suspension of the Intl. Typographical Union and the long-standing battle of the Brewery Workers with AFL teamsters, he indicated that Stolberg might well look to the AFL for signs of crumbling."

Of CIO membership, Murray had this to say:

"I know of no single union that has lost any membership during the past year to any other union or whose membership has dwindled below the actual dues-paying membership of 1937.

"To the contrary, the records disclose a steady, consistent and almost remarkable growth in membership of 1937.

"To the contrary, the records disclose a steady, consistent and almost remarkable growth in membership."

The CIO vice-president asserted that Stolberg's "red" claims are "baseless," and referred the Satevepost writer to the blessing given by Bishop Sheil to the recent CIO packing meeting in Chicago.

Revives Myths, Thomas Says

Detroit, Sept. 9—Ben Stolberg was taken for a hot ride over the coals today by Pres. R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers, CIO.

"The UAW is in no sense dominated by the Communists, and neither am I," Thomas declared. To revive this myth at a time when Mr. Stolberg's late hero in the UAW has been repudiated even by the AFL shows the Post writer has no sense of reality or fact."

Rubber Union Meets Sept. 11

La Crosse, Wis., Sept. 9.—Members of Local 14, United Rubber Workers, here, are making big preparations for the fourth national convention of their union which opens in this city September 11. Local 19 at Eau Claire, is also cooperating with the La Crosse union, and has planned an evening's entertainment for the delegates during the week of the convention sessions.

Highlight of the entertainment provided for the delegates by Local 14, will be a Winnebago Indian ceremonial dance under the direction of Chief Tom Thunder, a Winnebago chief living in this locality.

CIO Faces Attacks, Council Told

Omaha, Neb., Sept. 9—Labor will face the sharpest attack in its history in 1940, John Brophy, CIO director, told several hundred delegates to the state convention of the Iowa-Nebraska Industrial Union Council, which met here last week.

"The tories are engaged in a deliberate campaign to destroy the social advances made under the New Deal," he said, "but we will not yield to reaction."

Don Harris, president of the Council, was re-elected to head the state CIO for another term. Harris is also director of the Packing House Workers' Organizing Committee, the union which had the largest representation at the convention. Ben Henry, of the United Mine Workers, was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

700 Attend CIO Council Meeting In W. Virginia

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., Sept. 9—Scorching attacks on Governor Homer A. Holt of West Virginia for his anti-unionism were made by several leading speakers at the convention of the State CIO Industrial Union Council which met here last week.

More than 700 delegates from CIO affiliated unions throughout West Virginia attended the sessions, which were presided over by John B. Easton, president of the Council. Easton was re-elected by acclamation during the closing sessions of the convention.

Van A. Bittner, official of the United Mine Workers, which had the largest delegation at the convention, and John Brophy, CIO director, were among the CIO national leaders who addressed the Council.

Brophy praised the work of the council and urged continuation of its efforts.

RAP AT HOLT

U. S. Senator M. M. Neely created a sensation at the opening session by a speech urging the unions to beware of "electing official strike-breakers to office in 1940." Although he mentioned no names, the Senator made plain that he was directing his remarks at Governor Homer A. Holt, who sent out letters last July to 2,500 miners in the state offering them his support if they would go back to work before the United Mine Workers had won union contracts.

President Easton and Bittner also bitterly criticized the Governor for his action. Easton charged that Holt had "deliberately attempted to violate the rights of labor." Bittner was greeted with thunderous cheers when he declared that the recent mine suspension in West Virginia "demonstrated to every labor-hating organization in the country that there is no group powerful enough or influential enough to whip the United Mine Workers."

SCORES GOVERNOR

William Blizzard, vice-president of UMW District 17, and Frank Miley, president of District 31 at Fairmont, also scored the Governor for his attempt to get the miners to go back to work without a contract.

Blizzard declared it was the first time in the history of the state that a governor had ever offered both the national guard and the state police to help the coal operators in their fight against the union.

One of the highlights of the convention here was a testimonial banquet attended by approximately 500 delegates to pay tribute to West Virginia's Grand Old Man of Labor, Ned Sims. For 55 years Mr. Sims has been active in the labor movement and, although a member of the AFL typographical union during all of that time, is a vice-president of the state CIO council and one of the movement's most active and most influential members.

Metal Miners Ask Probe Of Attack

Vigilante Mob Surrounded Hall; Two Men Hurt

SILVERTON, Colo., Sept. 9—The U. S. Dept. of Justice today was considering requests for an investigation of a vicious vigilante attack on striking metal miners and two organizers of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers.

Intl. Rep. A. S. Embree and Exec. Sec. Chester W. Yates of the local spent the night in a nearby town after being escorted from Silverton by law enforcement officers after a brick-throw-ing, club-wielding mob besieged members of the union in the Miners' Hall and threatened to lynch their leaders.

The vigilante outbreak, formented by persons who were trying to stir up a back-to-work movement for the company, developed at the end of the union's regular meeting.

Pre-Arranged Signal

When it was learned that internal disruption had failed and that the union was solidly united against a company-sponsored back-to-work plan, the mob suddenly began to gather, obviously on a pre-arranged signal. Bricks and stones crashed through windows of the hall as Sheriff Patterson and his deputies held the mob off for an hour.

As it became apparent that they could do so no longer, Embree and Yates agreed to leave town under sheriff's escort provided the ring-leaders of the vigilantes would not molest the rank-and-file unionists or further damage the union hall.

As the union members hurried to their homes, vigilante efforts were made to manhandle Embree. Street fighting broke out and two unionists were beaten and clubbed.

Leaders of the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers said the strike would be continued despite the attack. The dispute started in mid-July when the company rejected union proposals for a new contract and led the local to believe it was uninterested in signing a decent agreement.

BACK CANDIDATE

Philadelphia—The Philadelphia Industrial Union Council has endorsed Angelo Pasquarella, long-time member of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, in his candidacy for city magistrate.

100,000 Units Completed By USHA

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9—The number of of low-income families to be rehoused under the program of the United States Housing Authority has now passed the 100,000 mark, according to Administrator Nathan Straus. About one-third of the 101,961 dwelling units now under development or being planned will be occupied by low-income Negro families in 90 communities throughout the country.

Recent loan contracts approved provide for Negro housing projects in Birmingham, Ala.; Tampa, Fla.; Columbus, Ga.; Gary, Ind.; Summitt, N. J.; Kingsport, Tenn., and Austin, Tex.

'Leading Citizen' On The Run

Washington, Sept. 9—Reports from CIO affiliates and progressive groups all over the nation show a rising—and effective—tide of protest against the labor-baiting, "Our Leading Citizen," released by Paramount.

Following labor action in cities as far apart as Los Angeles, Toledo, Madison, Wis., and New York, the misleading production has been withdrawn or has played to two-bit business in scores of Paramount houses.

Latest CIO union to rap the producers, who were repeatedly warned while the picture was still in script form, is Local 16 of the United Office and Professional Workers, whose executive board wrote:

"This film is deliberately anti-labor and distorts and perverts the very principles and motives of the American labor movement. Our union has committed itself to use its influence among its members, their friends and relatives to boycott this film and to urge its immediate withdrawal from circulation."

Customer!

REID ROBINSON, president of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers, stops for lunch at Hearst strike headquarters in Chicago, and orders a sandwich and coffee. The union recently "adopted" one of the Hearst strikers.

Leather Firm Rapped By Board

Washington, Sept. 9—The Superior Tanning Company, Chicago, was ordered this week by the Labor Board to stop discouraging membership in Local 43, National Leather Workers' Association, CIO, and to stop giving effect to individual contracts entered into with its employes It was also ordered to reinstate a fired worker with back pay.

The CIO union began a membership campaign at the company's plant shortly after the Supreme Court upheld the validity of the National Labor Relations Act in April, 1937. The company met this by calling a general meeting of all employes and confronting them with individual contracts, which were later distributed by supervisory employes who requested their workers to sign.

The Board found on the basis of all the evidence that "the meeting was a challenge to the attempted unionization of the company's employes, a challenge which was understood as such by the employes and to which they capitulated when they signed the individual contracts of employment." The Board called this a "pretense" at collective bargaining.

HEALTH PLAN

Chicago—The Social Service Employes Union, CIO, has signed an agreement with the Civic Medical Center of Chicago, setting up a health security plan for the union's members.

Eight Shoe Firms Hit By Board

Washington, Sept. 9—Eight major shoe companies in Maine were ordered by the Labor Board this week to bargain collectively with the United Shoe Workers, CIO, and to cease interfering with genuine trade union organization in their plants.

The order came after repeated violations by the companies of the rights of their workers and after long defiance of previous Labor Board decisions, which had certified the Shoe Workers as sole collective bargaining agency as long as 1937.

The companies, all located at Auburn, Me., provoked a bitter strike of their workers at the time, in which many union leaders and active members were gassed, clubbed, and finally jailed by a reactionary court.

CIO Can Aid Iron Range Men—Germer

Ironwood, Mich., Sept. 9—Asserting that "absentee owners and coupon clippers obviously refuse to understand the problems" of the people who live in the Iron Range in Michigan's upper peninsula, Pres. Adolph Germer of the state's Industrial Union Council invited the workers to join the CIO and improve their conditions.

In a half-hour radio address, Germer called the "ghost towns" of the area "living symbols of the greed and inhumanity of these corporations," which have taken great wealth from the earth.

Denying slanders that the CIO is interested in promoting violence, the council leader said that the workers who make up CIO unions are set on winning American standards of living through peaceful methods.

"With cooperation between the miners and timber workers organized into strong CIO unions and all working together with the farmers union and with the national and state CIO organizations, labor can bring new vigor, new hope and new life into the Upper Peninsula," Germer said.

Agreement Puts Leash On 'Yellow Dogs'

CHICAGO, Sept. 9—Leaders of the Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee moved today to take advantage of the first big break in the anti-union front of the giant farm implement trust.

Deere & Co., located at Davenport, Ia., last week signed a stipulation with the National Labor Relations Board in which it agreeed to obey the letter of the Wagner Act — understanding that violation of the stipulation will lead to contempt of court proceedings.

By signing the agreement with the NLRB, the Deere firm eliminated long NLRB hearings on unfair practices, and killed its 37-year-old yellow dog contract labor relations policy.

OLD PRACTICE

The company has long followed a practice of forcing each employe to sign an individual contract with the company, under which collective bargaining rights were sharply curtailed. The firm promised the Labor Board not to discriminate in regard "to hire, tenure, terms or conditions of employment" through any yellow dog agreement in the future.

"This opens the way for the establishment of genuine collective bargaining at all Deere Co. plants," commented Joseph Weber, FEWOC assistant director. Plans for a big organizing drive are being rushed.

Stooge, Lawyer Star In Farce Roles

CHICAGO, Sept. 9—Labor Board hearings against the Intl. Harvester Co. took on a Gilbert & Sullivan appearance today, with the company's stooges and $1,000-a-day legal battery playing the comic leads.

Otto Sattler, company union big-wig, admitted under cross-eexamination, that appication cards for the so-called independent union had been printed two days before the mass meeting at which the outfit was "spontaneously" organized.

The company's lawyers took up where Sattler left off by moving for a "mistrial" because of a leaflet issued by the Farm Equipment Workers' Organizing Committee local at IHC's West Pullman plant.

The leaflet, noting company attempts at intimidation, merely told the workers that they did not have to give false testimony for the company at the Labor Board hearing.

Trial Examiner Charles Whittemore, a veteran of several score similar performances by the IHC brain trust, calmly denied the motion to dismiss.

Miners Win Pay For Idle Time

Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 9.—CIO coal miners in the United Mine Workers have won a great victory in the decision of the Unemployment Compensation Board to pay benefits to 15,000 who were locked out by operators during the April shutdown, John Owens, district UMWA president, declared here.

The decision means that Ohio miners will get about $500,000 in compansation, Owens pointed out. "The coal miners did not want to inconvènience the coal-consuming public and they did not want to be out of employment," he said.

"The victory is of benefit not only to the miners but to all workers in Ohio and the nation. The decision stands as an example to anti-labor employers who would attempt to use a piece of social legislation against union members who sponsored its passage."

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II — No. 38 — Send form 3578-P to 1106 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. — SEPTEMBER 18, 1939 — Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 — $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

War!

EFFECTS OF EUROPE'S WAR were quickly felt in the United States.

Pictures show three quick developments as the conflict rounded out its second week. At top, members of the National Maritime Union sign up for work on the S. S. Roosevelt after refusing to do so until they received satisfactory replies to demands for war bonuses and insurance protection. Company agreed to negotiate and to make any benefits retroactive to time of strike.

Government, meanwhile, took steps to prevent profiteering in food — of which there is still an abundance, as the photo taken in New York City's market district indicates.

Profiteering now, as they did in the last war, speculators enjoyed a boom as stock prices swept upwards, reaping huge rewards for the insiders. New York Stock Exchange (shown below) had some of its busiest days in history, with "war baby" issues swinging to new highs for the year.

But American workers and farmers found prices sweeping upward, in effect giving them all a sizeable cut in wages.

PROTECT LABOR, END PROFITEERING, CIO UNIONS ASK

(See Story, Page Three; Editorial, Page Four)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16 — America must stay out of Europe's War.

Profiteering must be stopped.

The war danger must not be used as an excuse to undermine labor's hard-won victories during the past three years.

These are the universal demands of American workers as first effects of the European conflict began to be felt in the United States.

Conventions of a number of CIO unions—shipyard workers, electrical workers, oil workers and rubber workers—demanded labor representation on basic war policy boards of the U. S. government, and warned Tory employers that their members stand ready to protect the advances gained by their organizations.

Similar sentiments were voiced by city and state labor bodies, and in a wire sent to Pres. Roosevelt by Sec.-Treas. Bruce Hannon of the powerful Maritime Federation of the Pacific.

Meanwhile, real wages of the nation's industrial workers skidded as food prices shot upwards—in many cases as much as 20 and 30%—as speculators and monopolies took advantage of the war fears of the people. Consumer and labor groups sent immediate protests to the government, and Pres. Roosevelt, Secretary of Agriculture Wallace and Secretary of Interior Ickes promised action.

Whether prosecution of profiteers is possible under existing statutes is being studied by the anti-trust division of the Dept. of Justice.

Textile Workers Press For Pay Increases To Match Price Rise

NEW YORK, Sept. 16.—Moving quickly to keep wage rates in line with the soaring cost of living, Pres. Emil Rieve of the Textile Workers Union, CIO, today called a meeting of the organization's national executive board for September 28.

"At this meeting, the executive board of the TWU will consider the possibilities of and the means for securing general wage increases in the textile industries to compensate the workers for the rising cost of living and the increasing profitableness of industry, and to offset the reductions made in textile wages during the spring and summer of 1938."

In issuing the call for the latter part of the month, Rieve said the intervening time would be spent in studying conditions likely to prevail in the near future.

MEET LIVING COSTS

"Every increase in the cost of living must be compensated by wage increases so that the living standards of textile workers are not depressed," Rieve continued. "They are now receiving the lowest wages among the industrial workers of this country, and are living at inadequate levels.

"Substantial wage increases would raise their living standards and assure this country of the best protection against foreign aggression as well as create the well-being which our democracy desires."

The TWU leader said that recent successes in winning a 5 per cent wage increase and vacations with pay in the carpet and rug industry are only a "forerunner to similar advances in all branches of the industry.

"The workers were compelled to bear the burden of unprofitable business. It is now time that they share in the rising profitablenesss of industry."

Andrews OKs 32½c Textile Wage Rate

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16—Overriding protests of southern manufacturers, Wage-Hour Administrator Elmer Andrews today ordered a 32½-cent minimum hourly wage for the textile industry.

Some 650,000 workers will benefit, directly or indirectly, by the order, effective October 24.

Andrews' order backed up the recommendations of the textile industry committee.

CIO WINS

New York — A Labor Board election among editorial and commercial employes of the New York Post resulted in a 338-20 victory for the CIO American Newspaper Guild.

Athenia Survivors Praise CIO Crew

Halifax, N. S., Sept. 15.—Survivors from the torpedoed liner Athenia landed here by the U. S. City of Flint were full of praise for the heroic and self-sacrificing conduct of the CIO seamen who rescued them.

The crew of the City of Flint, 90 per cent organized in the CIO Natl. Maritime Union, worked unceasingly for the survivors' security and comfort, giving up their own bunks and donating clothing and food to the rescued.

These are the men whose union is demanding and winning an adequate system of war risk compensation for travel in belligerent waters. They are exposed to extreme risks as well as hardship in sailing American vessels to Europe at this time.

Four CIO Unions Plan Campaigns

Electrical Union Maps Organizing Drives For Year

By LYLE DOWLING

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Sept. 16.—The fifth convention of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, just ended here, gave special recognition to the new "war situation" in convention actions which indorsed the President's foreign policy, condemned food profiteering, urged Roosevelt to run for a third term, and made organizatoinal plans centering around portions of industry affected by events abroad.

The general officers—President James B. Carey, who is also national secretary of the CIO; Julius Emspak, general secretary-treasurer, and James J. Matles, director of organization—were unanimously re-elected. In their lengthy general report on the past 12 months, the general officers stated that a yearly average of 210,000 workers are now working under the UE banner — under signed contracts, verbal or memorandum and letter agreements. It was stated unofficially that the number of workers thus protected varies seasonably from 190,000 to more than 230,000.

The "third term for Roosevelt" resolution, passed unanimously, not only specifically indorsed the President's foreign policy, but was unusual in that it called on Roosevelt to "spare no efforts in bringing to light the oft-hidden facts about the nature of the reactionary forces that conspire against the common good" and counseled him "to make no compromise with these reactionary groups but on the contrary to provide the people with that clear-cut, vigorous, fighting leadership that he can give."

HIT PRICE RISES

In the midst of reports of unreasonably increasing food prices, Local 730 of Warren, Ohio, introduced and had passed a resolution urging "the establishment of a federal food board to regulate the prices of food and other necessities of life," and urged that the CIO and other labor organizations be represented on such a board.

Sessions from Monday, Sept. 4, to Friday, Sept. 8, were held in the Municipal auditorium here. The bright blue convention caps of more than 200 delegates from more than 100 locals, ranging in membership from 500 to 15,000, filled the city.

The community was especially impressed when all officers and delegates marched in a picket line around the Springfield Upholstery Works, where members of United Furniture Workers are on strike. "Host" locals of the union kept delegates' spare time filled with entertainment and social features.

MOONEY A 'HERO'

From the time he arrived at the railway station until he left after making a moving speech at the convention, Tom Mooney was a special "hero" of the convention. Other notable speakers were Michael Quill, president of Transport Workers' Union; Edwin S. Smith of the National Labor Relations Board, E. L. Oliver of Labor's Non-Partisan League. The general executive board of the union conferred before and after the convention.

CONVENTION PICKET LINE: Delegates at the convention of the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers in Springfield, Mass., took time off to do some picketing at a struck furniture factory. That's UE Pres. James Carey in the foreground, and Mrs. Carey (at right) with her back to the camera. Behind Carey is Matt Campbell, UE's New England vice-president. Picket line was one of the largest in city's history.

Shipyard Union Plans Big Drive

Jersey City, N. J., Sept. 16.—Launching of a campaign to bring remaining unorganized shipyards in the country under the CIO banner was voted unanimously at the national convention of the Industrial Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers which met in Jersey City last week.

To aid this campaign delegates voted to increase the per capita tax and to seek long-term loans from the larger and more prosperous locals.

Pres. John Green's opening statement that the union would take full advantage of the present employment conditions in the shipbuilding industry to press for genuine collective bargaining and for a higher standard of wages and working conditions, was endorsed by the convention.

COMPLETE PROGRAM

A complete program of demands was adopted looking toward the eventual establishment of a national agreement and standard conditions in all shipyards in the country.

Both Pres. Green and Sec.-Treas. Philip Van Gelder were unanimously re-elected. John F. Dempsey, Local 16, was elected vice-pres. to replace Benjamin Carwardine who declined to run again.

A resolution was adopted by the convention endorsing New Deal accomplishments and policies, but another endorsing Pres. Roosevelt for a third term was rejected.

Officers reported to the convention that the industry is now near maximum employment except for the repair section, and that new shipbuilding yards are being opened in different parts of the country.

Wisconsin CouncilMeets Sept. 29

Milwaukee, Sept. 16. — Wisconsin's Industrial Union Council will hold its 1939 convention at Racine on Sept. 29-30 and Oct. 1, CIO union leaders announced today.

Twice postponed, the convention date was finally set after an agreement which brought a number of previously unaffiliated locals into the council.

"The basis for a truly democratic convention, in which every local union will have its true voice and vote, has been laid down," Sec. Gunnar Mickelsen declared in a letter to member unions.

Rubber Union Asks Protection For Labor's Rights

LA CROSSE, Wisc., Sept. 16. — Demanding that "labor's legal rights should be recognized and maintained" in times of war, delegates to the annual convention of the United Rubber Workers, CIO, demanded representation for labor on the new U. S. War Resources Board.

The resolution, passed without a dissenting vote, warned of the danger that the European war may result "in seriously restricting the civil rights of labor and of the people generally" in this country.

"The best protection against such abrogation of the rights of labor and of the people lies in a strongly-organized labor movement," the convention statement said. At the same time it expressed "warm endorsement of Pres. Roosevelt's patriotic and humanitarian efforts to maintain peace," and endorsed a third term for the President.

Pres. Sherman Dalrymple, in his opening address to the convention, said that "if the New Deal is to continue after 1940, we must build our unions and we must close our ranks.

"We must go forward as a united body determined to make America the leader in a campaign for social progress and freedom."

He said that organization campaigns to complete unionization of the industry's 142,000 workers must be pushed forward, not only to aid the unorganized but to protect gains already made.

The URW paid tribute to the CIO for its defense of progressive legislation.

The convention had gone on record against amendments to the Wagner Act, though expressing accord with an attack on the National Labor Relations Board for its recent "weak-kneed, watery rulings."

Vice-Pres. Thomas Burns, who discussed the Board's recent policies, declared:

"We view with alarm certain recent decisions of the NLRB. In the past few months the Board has interpreted the law in such a way that the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers and the AFL won't need amendments.

"We say to the Board: 'We cannot remain your friends unless you return to what Sen. Wagner meant when he wrote the Act."

LEWIS TELEGRAM

Delegates cheered a telegram from CIO Pres. John L. Lewis, which said: "The CIO is very proud of the United Rubber Workers, and watches with deepest interest the growth and progress of your great union. In these tragic days we of the CIO are faced with new and profound public responsibility. We must bend all our energies to keep this country out of war and to maintain here a progressive, democratic way of life."

Other resolutions passed by the convention called for extension of the 30-hour week in contracts "wherever possible," provided for an immediate study of the wage incentive system evil and methods of controlling it, condemned attacks on racial, religious and national groups and support for the unemployed.

Oil Union Supports Tulsa Strike

By FRANKLYN E. WOLFE

Hammond, Ind., Sept. 16.—The tenth annual convention of the Oil Workers International Union opened with delegates representing and embracing all districts spreading from Massachusetts to California.

The session has been marked by the highest degree of enthusiasm and harmony. The delegates stand squarely behind the Mid-Continent strikers in the terrific struggle they have been making. The fight against D-X gasoline and other products has been widespread and effective. A plan has been adopted to extend the fight against the Mid-Continent Company, and ask all union men everywhere that D-X gasoline is used to join in the effort to make the "unfair" listing complete and effective.

Many distinguished officials, including Gov. Townsend of Indiana, Congressman Schulte and the mayor of Hammond, have addressed the convention and all have pledged their support to labor legislation and fair administration of labor laws.

GERMER SPEAKS

Outstanding was the speech of Adolph Germer at a great mass meeting in the civic auditorium on Tuesday night.

Four representatives of the oil workers syndicate of the Republic of Mexico, Federico Azenar and Fernando Labastida, fraternal delegates, and Ricardo H. Guerra and Oscar L. Casso have been with the delegates at the convention. This is the first time fraternal delegates have attended and their presence is regarded as highly significant.

The address of Fernando Labastida brought the delegates to their feet with cheers and prolonged applause. He told of the early organizations and their failure to bring about better conditions through their divided and ineffective efforts. Then they decided to reorganize on an industrial basis. Despite their strong organization they were so mistreated that finally Pres. Cardenas and other government executives put into effect the expropriation of the petroleum properties as a natural resource belonging to all the people.

They told of the boycott the American supply companies clamped down on them, making mechanical replacements impossible.

They were also unable to procure ethyl fluids. Now they are rapidly tooling up machine shops for replacements and preparing for production of ethyl fluid which will be available in a few weeks.

NIGHT SESSIONS

The program calls for an adjournment of the convention by Friday but the present outlook indicates night sessions and late Saturday or Sunday before the delegates may leave for their homes.

Pres. Harvey C. Fremming, who has been on a leave of absence for several months is back in the harness and presiding at the convention.

Expect Auto Union Victory In Briggs Poll

DETROIT, Sept. 16 — Another decisive victory was expected today by the CIO United Automobile Workers as workers at the Briggs Manufacturing Co. went to the polls in National Labor Relations Board vote to name their sole collective bargaining agency.

The voting at Briggs, where the National Labor Relations Board conducted one of its biggest elections to date, followed shortly afte another UAW triumph at the Brewster Aeronautical Corp. in Long Island City, N. Y.

In winning its first NLRB election in an aircraft plant, the UAW-CIO piled up a 3-1 margin over Homer Martin's AFL affiliate. Some 680 workers voted for the CIO affiliate, only 241 for the AFL.

Allan Haywood, New York CIO director and eastern director of the auto union, said he would shortly request the firm to open contract negotiations.

WIN BENDIX STRIKE

At South Bend, Ind., meanwhile, the automobile workers showed that they can win strikes as well as elections when the Bendix Products Corp. came to terms with the union, thereby ending a 10-day strike which had caused halts at Nash and Packard plants in Wisconsin and Michigan.

Three thousand men struck at Bendix on Aug. 31 when the company, which manufactures brake parts, stalled on union demands for settlement of grievances and signing of a contract.

Chrysler's 70,000 employes will pick their collective bargaining agency in an election to be held the latter part of the month. UAW officials predict a smashing CIO victory.

Seamen Win Progress In Confabs

Washington, Sept. 16. — CIO seamen's demands for adequate war risk compensation moved closer to realization today with a major concession won from Standard Oil and the beginning of direct negotiations between the National Maritime Union and the American Merchant Marine Institute.

From Standard, the seamen won an agreement defining the war risk zones to include the North Atlantic, Mediterranean, Baltic and other belligerent seas, and a system of bonus and insurance payments. The bonus will be on the basis of 50 per cent of the monthly wages, and a maximum insurance of $5000.

Personal effects lost at sea will be compensated at the rate of $150 for unlicensed personnel, $300 for licensed officers. Full wages will be paid all seamen from lost ships until they reach the nearest American port.

MEET IN NEW YORK

In New York, U. S. Maritime Commission representatives conferred yesterday with Merchant Marine Institute men representing east and west coast shipowners in an attempt to define the extent of the war zones. A conference between the institute and the NMU concerning a new agreement was expected to follow.

CIO Strike Hits Western Union

San Francisco, Sept. 16 —Cancellation by the Western Union Telegraph Company of pension and sick benefits, added to the other grievances which have been piling up for months, was the last straw for employes in the company's offices here. They walked out on strike last week, following a three-day strike of the messengers.

Members of the American Communications Association, CIO, the San Francisco WU Employes are demanding: Recognition of the ACA as sole bargaining agency; restoration of full sick, death and accident benefits and guarantee against any downward revision of pension, and protection against loss of jobs through mechanization.

SEEK PAY RAISE

They are also asking for wage increases, a shorter work week and their full benefits under the Wage-Hour law.

Local 30 of the ACA which called the strike, said that about 700 operators, clerks and messengers are affected. All the major offices of the company here are being picketed in what is declared to be the opening move of a nationwide drive against the company.

Dan Driesen, legislative representative of the ACA in Washington, said that the strike has a direct bearing on national defense, as "the disregard of its employes and the general public by the WU constitutes a grave threat to the maintenance of a communications system adequate to meet national defense needs."

Walkout Ties Up Bohn Aluminum

Detroit, Mich., Sept. 16—Union, government and company officials were conferring this week in an attempt to settle the strike of 1,400 workers at three plants of the Bohn Aluminum Corporation. The local of the United Automobile Workers which called the strike here, said that it might spread to six other units of the company.

The management charged that the strike was interfering with the government's airplane orders, and demanded that it be called off. Federal Conciliator James E. Dewey of the Dept. of Labor met with the union and company conferees.

NAME CANDIDATES

New York—The American Labor Party, Labor's Non-Partisan League affiliate, has nominated 10 candidates for the City Council.

Food Price Rise Benefits Trusts, Hurts Workers

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—America took a wage cut last week.

Prices on the foods that go into most American homes rose sharply—in three cities as much as 20%. But payroll envelopes contained no corresponding increases; the nation's workers were paying for the price rise out of their own slender resources.

Thus, the first effect of the European war on the United States was to cut the purchasing power of the people.

Many predicted that the price rise had taken place with such startling suddenness that the bubble would soon burst, throwing the country's economic machine into a state of disorder.

Other indications, too, pointed to a boom. Steel production rose to over 70 per cent, the highest since 1937. War industries in general prepared for increased business.

Stocks of the nation's "war baby" corporations skyrocketed on the New York Stock Exchange, rising 10 and 15 dollars a day—to the profit of the speculators.

But, though employment may rise as a result of the war conditions, the increased cost of living is certain to plague many a family budget.

Protests from union groups at the abrupt rise in prices—unnecessary in view of the nation's huge surplus—came immediately from workers' groups and from the unemployed. Near-starvation relief allotments now prevailing will fail even more completely to provide liveable diets for millions who have no jobs.

ENDS SUGAR QUOTA

President Roosevelt, in a move to curb profiteering, announced that the sugar quota plan designed to sustain prices for that commodity, would be lifted until sugar prices came back into line.

Secretary of the Interior Ickes, predicting moves to preserve the nation's national resources from possible war-time profiteers, declared:

"I can see no legitimate reason for the present increase in commodity prices because of the European war."

Abundant supplies of all farm commodities, Secretary of Agriculture Wallace predicted in a radio speech, should be sufficient to keep prices from rising.

"If all other industries will produce as abundantly during the next year as the farmers, we need have little concern with profiteering anywhere in our economic structure," the Secretary said.

FARMER HOLDS BAG

However, processing and distributing corporations may continue

Continued on Page Five

Bittner On Agriculture Council

Washington, Sept. 16—Chairman Van A. Bittner of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee was named today to the Agricultural Advisory Council of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Announcement of the appointment was made by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, who said that a meeting of the group would be held here on September 19 to discuss policies to protect consumers and producers from "harmful" speculation in commodity prices.

Bittner was one of a group of four people added to the previously-named council. Among the appointees are Mayor LaGuardia of New York City and President Daniel Tobin of the AFL teamsters.

No Excuse For War On Labor

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 16—Sec.-Treas. Bruce Hannon of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific has sent the following telegram to President Roosevelt discussing war risk insurance for seamen:

"We cannot allow a state of war or declaration of national emergency to be used as a weapon of union-smashing forces to wipe out the civil rights of the American people, thus denying workers the right to organize and bargain collectively."

Ask Action Against Profiteers

Waterbury, Conn., Sept. 16.—Quick reaction to the dangers to labor in the present war cisis was seen at the meeting of the state CIO Council here when it passed two resolutions calling for labor protection in American war policy.

The first demanded labor representation on the War Industries Board recently appointed by Pres. Roosevelt, declaring that "labor and the people are determined to protect their living standards and the national unity of the U. S. from the special interests that now control the Board."

The second urged Roosevelt "to act sternly and without delay against the war profiteers" who are already "wringing superprofits out of the national and international crisis and the distress of the American people."

Both resolutions were sent to Pres. Roosevelt, to Connecticut Gov. Baldwin, to the Connecticut Representatives in Congress, and to the press.

At the same meeting the date and place for the second annual convention of the state Council was announced. The meeting will take place October 28-29 at the Hotel Elton in Waterbury.

Offer 'Payless' Crews For Refugee Ships

NEW YORK, Sept. 16. — Crews will man without pay any vessels furnished by the steamship operators to bring Americans home from the European war areas without charge, the National Maritime Union announced last week.

The CIO union informed President Roosevelt, Secretary of the State Hull, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins, Secretary of Commerce Harry Hopkins and Chairman Emory S. Land of the U. S. Maritime Commission of the offer by telegrams.

Declaring that the operators are attempting to put the responsibility on the union for the delay in the sailing of vessels without war risk compensation, the NMU pointed out that the operators are reaping a handsome profit for "their alleged philanthropic activities" which they are publicizing as "mercy voyages".

RAP SHIPOWNERS

A statement issued by the union scored the shipowners for trying to make it appear that it is not dangerous to sail a vessel through submarine infested waters, while passenger, cargo and insurance rates are mounting rapidly.

"There are plenty of ships now tied up which could be recommissioned for the emergency, if the operators can be induced to forego their wartime profits," the NMU stated. "There will be no difficulty in securing seamen. All available space, including cargo space, must be utilized for passengers."

In the telegram sent to President Roosevelt and the other government officials, the NMU charged that "shipowners are charging exhorbitant rates to returning Americans and carrying war cargoes at tremendous profit.

"The National Maritime Union proposes as their patriotic duty to man ships without any wages provided shipowners supply free passage to returning Americans and carry no cargo in order to utilize all space for carrying such passengers."

Pritchett Re-Admitted To U. S.

Seattle, Wash., Sept. 16 — Harold J. Pritchett, president of the International Woodworkers of America, returned to Seattle last week from Canada, on a new visitor's permit. He was forced to leave the United States a short time ago, as he has had to do on several previous occasions, when a permit issued by the Immigration Service of the U. S. Dept. of Labor, expired.

Pritchett has charged that anti-labor interests are back of the attempts to have him deported to Canada.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II September 18, 1939 No. 38

The Enemy Within Our Gates

Foreign powers unquestionably have their agents and spies inside this country, and proper vigilance should of course be exercised in regard to their activities.

But none of these outside agents can do such damage to the national security and welfare as can selfish American interests which take advantage of the country's emergency to profiteer at the public expense and to undermine its liberties.

What could undermine public confidence more than a wholesale assault on the living standards of most of the population?

Yet profiteering interests are doing just this when they manipulate the markets to raise prices of food and other necessities, while at the same time they try to prevent wages from rising in proportion.

What kind of sabotage is worse than trying to destroy the laws which protect the people's security and liberty, at a time when the appeals of patriotism call for the defense of this country and its institutions?

Yet every indication points to redoubled efforts being planned by tory elements to curtail or destroy labor and social legislation, under pretext of the emergency; and propaganda campaigns are already under way to discredit labor unionism and to prepare the way for the suppression of civil liberties.

As against such plots on the part of the enemy within our gates, the CIO advances a program of true patriotism and true Americanism.

It calls for stringent measures against profiteering, and for an extension and strengthening of labor organization, so that American living standards may be preserved through increasing wages in line with increased prices.

It calls for internal security through adequate measures to cope with unemployment and promote prosperity; and through the defense and extension of existing social and security legislation.

It calls for the defense of American democracy, through safeguarding labor's right to organize as embodied in the Wagner act; through securing adequate labor and farmer representation on all governmental emergency boards and agencies; and through resistance to all attempts to curtail civil liberties.

The program of the profiteers and tories is the program of a selfish minority which sets its own interests above the country's welfare.

The program of the CIO is a program of true patriotism because it sets the country's welfare first.

CIO Is Far Ahead

When a man bites a dog, it's news, and on the same principle most of the press considers it news when the AFL scores a victory over the CIO.

For the constant succession of CIO election victories over the AFL has become almost monotonous in recent years. The figures for every month show an almost unbroken record of CIO advance in number of elections won and number of workers who vote their preference for the CIO.

The latest figures, for August, show that in elections in which CIO and AFL unions were opposed, 200% more workers voted for the CIO than for the AFL, the CIO winning eight elections as against only two won by the AFL.

Altogether the CIO participated in 27 elections during August, won 74% of them and received 14,387 votes. The AFL won only 25% of the 24 elections in which it participated and received 4,382 votes. The CIO polled 13,292 votes in the 20 elections it won, while the AFL got only 1,140 in the six elections it won.

In July and in the first and second quarters of 1939, in the year 1938 and further back, the story was much the same—with the CIO far ahead in elections won and the number of workers voting for it. About the only difference is that the proportion has been progressively increasing in favor of the CIO.

While the reactionary press may make the excuse that CIO victories are so frequent and regular that they are no longer news, there is no excuse for the propagandists who say the CIO is slipping—they are just plain liars.

The Pickpocket

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Beware Of Pickpockets

A FAVORITE trick of pickpockets is for one of them to bump into or jostle the intended victim in a crowded street, while another dips into his pockets during this distraction.

A fire, a riot or any other event that absorbs the attention of large numbers of people and shakes them out of their usual habits, presents a golden opportunity to these same light-fingered gentry.

On the same principle, every national emergency, be it plague, pestilence, fire, famine or most of all war, gives shady elements in our social and political life a chance to get away with thieveries of every kind.

In the emergencies which war creates, the attention of millions of people is distracted from their customary concerns. Emotions of hate and fear are aroused by the conflict. Patriotic feelings are stirred. Mass hysteria may be induced by unfounded rumors or unscrupulous propaganda.

Profiteers and Tories

Out of the shadows in which they have been lurking then come pickpockets of a more pretentious kind than the little sneak thieves of the street.

Profiteers begin to rob the people by raising prices and creating artificial scarcities. Wall Street gamblers try to rig the market and through rapid stock fluctuations to make unheard-of profits from the losses of small investors.

In the political field, the tory agents of the profiteers see a chance to steal away the legislative gains made by the common people in more normal times. With specious professions of patriotism, they demand that labor legislation be curtailed or abolished and the workers subjected to a quasi-military discipline; and that funds for unemployment relief and social security be diverted to national defense.

At the same time, the tory profiteers seek to filch the people's democratic liberties. They try to whip into a hysteria the natural fear of foreign spies and foreign agents.

They extend their propaganda campaigns against foreigners and radicals to smear reputable and patriotic labor leaders and all the progressive and democratic forces which oppose profiteering reaction.

Then under cover of the unreasoning hysteria thus created, they seek to pass legislation directed against labor's rights and civil liberties.

Real Wages Cut

The European war has only just begun, and the United States is not involved in it. But already we can see the tory pickpockets at work here, promoting their own selfish and anti-social interests while the public's attention is distracted by the emergency.

Profiteering is already rampant. Prices have begun to soar and stocks to skyrocket. In some cities food prices have already risen as much as 20 per cent.

This means a sharp cut in the real wages of American workers. They need the strength of labor unionism as never before to bring wages into line with increased prices.

But here the tory politicians step in to safeguard the right of profiteers to rob the workers. To weaken the unions, they demand the amendment or abolition of the Wagner Labor Relations Act. They call for the establishment of war and emergency boards, dominated by industrialists, which will rule labor with an iron hand.

A Smear Campaign

While the Smith investigating committee is preparing to whip up a campaign against the Labor Board and the Wagner Act, through its approaching hearings, the Dies un-American Committee has already demonstrated the tory technique for using the present situation to attack labor and liberalism.

Witnesses have been encouraged to make wild charges against outstanding labor leaders, liberals, New Dealers and members of the Roosevelt administration, without advancing any real evidence.

One witness, for instance, was deliberately encouraged to smear CIO leaders, with no further proof than that he had read such charges against them in a slanderous and unsubstantiated article in a fiction magazine.

After the intended damage to the CIO has been done, through the widespread publicity given to such slanders, the Dies Committee then makes a pretense to fairness by saying it will give some of the accused a chance to disprove charges for which no real proof has been advanced.

Contrary to the most elementary principles of justice, it appears to place the burden of proof on the accused, assuring that every labor and liberal leader within reach of the lying tongues of its scallawag witnesses is guilty as charged until given a chance to produce proof to the contrary.

Be On Guard

Labor needs to be vigilantly on guard in the present situation, and above all to build the strength of its unions, if it is not to be robbed of its wages, its right to organize, its social legislation and its civil liberties.

It should be wary of all the propaganda let loose in time of war, and particularly of the internal propaganda campaigns of tory politicians and the tory press.

Remember that the interests which finance these campaigns have their own axe to grind, and they are grinding it to cut off labor's neck.

U. S. Again Urges Armour & Co. To Negotiate

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—Armour and Co. officials were urged once again today by the U. S. Government, prompted by Packing House Workers Organizing Committee leaders, to come to the negotiation table in an attempt to avoid a nation-wide meat packing strike. Their answer was to continue stalling for time.

PWOC Chairman Van A. Bittner, leading a delegation that included Don Harris, director; Henry Johnson, assistant director; James R. Robb, Indiana district director, and John J. Doherty, Missouri district leader, met with Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins to tell her for the second time that either Armour would negotiate in good faith or every major Armour plant in the land would be shut down by the PWOC.

Perkin's wire to Armour President Cabell, urgently requesting him to come to Washington the next day for a further conference with her, was answered by Cabell to the effect that he could not come until later next week—Tuesday, September 19.

Perkins wire read:

"During yesterday and today we have discussed fully with union representatives the present labor situation affecting the Armour plants certified by the National Labor Relations Board. Certain new developments of the situation make it important that I discuss it separately with you before further plans for solution can be made. I am inviting you and appropriate representatives to come to Washington tomorrow."

Frame-Up Victims

In reporting the Harry Bridges deportation hearings, the CIO NEWS incorrectly referred to Earl King and E. G. Ramsay as victims of the Modesto frameup.

King and Ramsay, together with F. J. Conner—all of them members of the Pacific Coast Maritime Firemen, Oilers, Wipers and Watertenders—were sent to prison after the notorious Point Lobos case, which had no connection with the Modesto case.

The three men, all active union members, were arrested in the spring of 1936 and tried for the murder of the chief engineer on the S. S. Point Lobos. Ample evidence that the three men knew nothing about the murder and had no connection with it was presented at the trial, which came at a time of strong shipowner opposition to the union.

Following presentation of the judge's charge to the jury—in which he overlooked most of the defense testimony—the men were convicted of second degree murder and sentenced to from five years to life.

The King-Ramsay-Conner Defense Committee, with headquarters at 112 Market Street, San Francisco, has been assisting the prisoners in their rightful fight for freedom.

Price Rise Hurts U. S. Workers

Continued from Page Three

to lift the retail price to the consumer, at the same time holding down the price paid to the farmer for his products, thereby swelling middleman's profits. Meat packers, too, may increase their earnings with the farmers getting only slightly higher prices for their cattle and hogs.

National, state and city officials were in receipt of hundreds of communications from consumer and labor groups. In New York, Allan Hoywood, regional CIO director, answered sugar trust propaganda aimed at placing the blame for the price rise on the workers, who have been locked out in two important refineries. Haywood suggested that the companies negotiate a union contract and allow the plants, which can supply 7½ million pounds of sugar a day, to resume production.

In Chicago, Mrs. Violet Stewart, head of the CIO Steel Workers Ladies' Auxiliary, called for strong consumer organization to fight the food profiteers.

"The first defense of the American people against the war-profiteering monopolies," she said, "is organization of strong consumer groups in every neighborhood, county and state. The government must take immediate steps to regulate the price of all basic commodities."

Dies

Frank Miley, president of District 31, United Mine Workers, and CIO regional director in West Virginia, who died suddenly at his home in Fairmount.

Frank Miley, Mine Union Leader, Dies

Fairmount, W. Va., Sept. 16—Frank Miley, president of District 31, United Mine Workers, died suddenly here last week of a heart attack. Stricken while in a restaurant, President Miley was rushed to a hospital but was pronounced dead upon arrival.

CIO President John L. Lewis, upon learning of Mr. Miley's death, made the following statement:

"As president of the United Mine Workers of America, I desire to express the profound grief which the death of Frank Miley will undoubtedly cause the members of this organization. Mr. Miley made a very great contribution to the labor movement of the United States and to the welfare of his fellow workers.

"I know that his memory will be venerated, as it deserves to be, by each and every member of his union."

President Miley, who had long been identified with the UMW, had served as president of District 31 since 1933.

Lewis Predicts CIO Will Help South Lift Standards

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—The CIO offered its cooperation to the South in an article "Labor Looks South" by CIO Pres. John L. Lewis, in the September issue of the Virginia Quarterly Review, published by the University of Virginia today.

Lewis' article, after stating the fundamental aims of organized labor for the South as for the rest of the United States — "a land of happy, secure people endowed with the right to work, to live, to be healthy, to educate their children" — discusses the main problems of the South under three heads.

PROBLEMS

(1) "The South, predominantly agricultural, has been the victim of what might be called a mercantilist policy. It has suffered for many years by the fact that its vast raw materials must be shipped from the area, manufactured afar, and returned to be sold in the South for profits that never have stayed down there.

(2) "The poverty of the Southern people is being exploited by large capital, most of which derives from the great Northern industrial centers. This capital seeks to exploit the poverty of the South by calling its millions to work in factories at sweatshop wages — wages which any decent man ought to be ashamed to pay.

(3) "The output of these plants, created in the main by underpaid workers is placed in profitable competition with the output of better organized and better paid work in the North. The strength and health of Southern workers is sacrificed for this profit, but most of it does not go to the South."

BENEFITS FOR PEOPLE

Solution of these basic problems, Lewis writes, lies in the development of Southern resources "under such conditions that the resultant riches will mean food and clothes and houses and schools for the common people of the South.

"Labor believes," he adds, "that such conditions can only be guaranteed by the organization of labor and by the cooperation of all progressive forces in the South with labor in a common program dedicated to the welfare of the people."

Stating the belief of the CIO "that our economy can be so operated that poverty and unemployment will disappear," Lewis blames the "paradox of plenty" side by side with widespread poverty on "the lack of adjustment between consuming power and productive capacity."

This can be corrected on three bases, Lewis explains, first by organization of the workers for higher wages and shorter hours, second by government investment where private investment fails, third by a rise in farm income at least to cost of production.

Since "the South's future is tied up integrally with that of the nation as a whole," labor's program is a beneficial one for the South. Already there are signs that this program is appreciated in the South, whose progressive leaders "are coming more and more to understand that the future progress of their section is inextricably bound up with the well-being of its workers, organized into constructive, peaceful unions."

Dairy Farmers Urge City Enter Milk Business

NEW YORK, Sept. 16.—A proposal that the City of New York take over pasteurization and distribution of milk for Gotham consumers was put forward today by an official of the Dairy Farmers Union, which with CIO assistance recently won a major victory against the milk trust.

Speaking over Station WEVD, Sec. Harry Carnal of the farm organization said the rank and file milk producers are uncompromisingly opposed to the price increase slapped on by the private distributors.

Discussing the recent strike, which cut in half milk deliveries to the city until the distributors agreed to increase prices to the farmers, Carnal paid tribute to the work of the CIO and said that "the benefits of labor-consumer support of the farmers have been proven."

Haywood Derides Sugar Shortage Propaganda; Lockout Closes Plant

New York, Sept. 16—Sweeping government investigation of profiteering in the sugar industry was demanded by Pres. Allan S. Haywood of the New York Industrial Union Council today in wires sent to Sec. of Agriculture Wallace and Mayor LaGuardia of New York.

A thorough probe of the situation, he charged, would include the activities of the U. S. Cane Sugar Refiners Assn. — one of whose member corporations the Natl. Sugar Refining Co., has locked out 2,000 employes at Long Island City and Edgewater, N. J., plants.

"These plants can produce 7½ million pounds of sugar daily. The company has refused union offers to arbitrate all points of disagreement.

"There is no basis for a claim of a sugar shortage. The CIO will cooperate with the government in combatting profiteering."

The lockout, which started early in August, followed the taking of a strike vote by the workers at the plant, who are members of a CIO local industrial union. No strike call has been put into effect.

WHOSE POCKETS —

ARE YOU FILLING? When you buy your clothes do you help pay the wage of a union worker, or do you help swell the profits of a sweatshop boss?

- **The Label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America** will give you the answer. When you don't see the label you know that the garment was probably made by an un-American sweatshop chiseler. When you see the Amalgamated label you know that your money will go into the pockets of union workers, earning union pay, working under union conditions.
- **Demand the union label in the clothes you buy** and insure yourself against sweatshop garments, against sweatshop conditions in industry.

You can find the Amalgamated label in union made suits, overcoats, uniforms, work clothes and overalls, workshirts, dress shirts, underwear, gloves, neckties, sheeplined, leather, and sport coats, children's clothing and wash suits.

Scores of Thousands Marched on Labor Day

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—Labor Day celebrations were the most successful in recent years, reports from CIO councils in key cities throughout the nation indicated today.

In San Francisco, 30,000 unionists marched in a miles-long parade up Market Street and before a reviewing stand at City Hall, where Gov. Culbert Olson watched labor celebrating its day of the year. Marching with the CIO were unions from the Maritime Federation of the Pacific and unofficial AFL units.

Down the coast at San Pedro—harbor for Los Angeles—a similar number turned out for the joint AFL-CIO parade, with unions from Los Angeles, Santa Monica and Long Beach joining the demonstration.

"Labor history was made in Portland, Oreg.," reports said, as the city's orkers paraded for the first time since 1918. AFL and CIO unions were represented, with Pres. H. F. McGrath of the Maritime Federation leading the marchers.

At Seattle, AFL unionists defied orders of special representatives of Pres. William Green and marched with their CIO brothers. In all, about 10,000 took part in the city's celebration.

D. C. PICNIC

On the other side of the nation, Washington, D. C., had its first Labor Day turnout in years, with more than a thousand attending the CIO Council's picnic on the outskirts of the city. Reports from mining communities and steel towns throughout a number of eastern states showed that though the Labor Day celebrations were lacking the numbers of the big cities, they produced just as much enthusiasm for the advances of labor under CIO leadership.

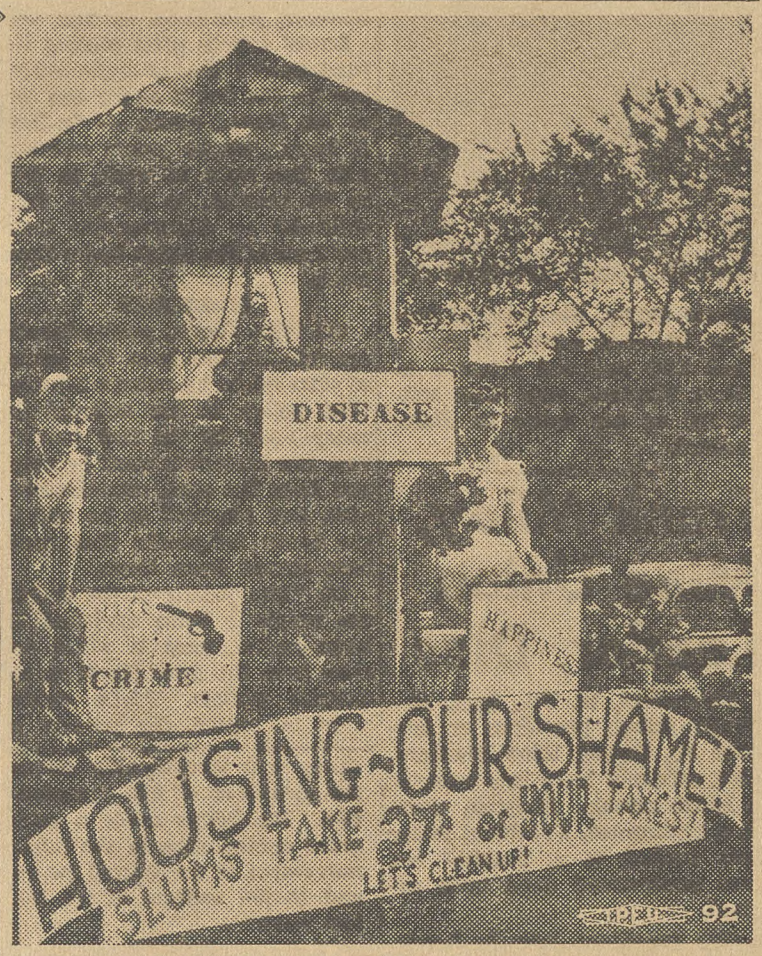
Thousands of CIO members in Detroit gathered at Cadillac Square for speeches by Pres. R. J. Thomas of the UAW and Pres. Adolph Germer of the Michigan Industrial Union Council.

Automobile workers, steel workers and thousands of others from the city's varied industries marched in the parade and entered scores of floats. Observers described the demonstration as the greatest Labor Day turnout in Detroit history.

The crowds cheered the speakers as they promised continued gains for the workers during the coming year under the banner of the CIO.

At Tarentum, Pa., near Pittsburgh, 5,000 paraded, with Steel Workers Organizing Committee lodges and Aluminum union locals dividing a number of the prizes among them.

In Toledo, rain cleared just in time to permit 15,000 to march through the down town shopping area. Many colorful floats were entered by Toledo's unions, with the Auto-Lite unit of the United Automobile Workers copping the prize.



INDIANAPOLIS LABOR DAY PARADE featured 2,500 cars, including this float pointing to the evils of slum housing and the benefits of substituting low-rent modern apartments for low income families.

2,500 CARS

Largest of Indiana's 20 Labor Day celebrations was at Indianapolis where more than 2,500 cars were entered in the CIO parade. According to James Robb, CIO director there, it was the largest labor demonstration in the city in many years.

CIO and AFL held separate meetings in Duluth, with the CIO drawing by far the larger crowd, despite the presence of Pres. Green at the AFL meeting in the heart of the city's Gold Coast. Speakers at the CIO demonstration were Lee Pressman, general counsel, and John O'Leary, United Mine Workers international executive board member.

O'LEARY SPEAKS

O'Leary traced CIO progress in the last few years and predicted that few workers will be "fooled" by attacks on the industrial union movement.

"I know that with the hundreds of thousands of union men and women meeting throughout the nation today, you, on this Labor Day, are going to renew your pledge to make the United States a better nation in which to live by building strong labor unions," O'Leary declared.

Fined $5,000 For Pay Law Violation

Boston, Sept. 16 — Bosses of the Adams Shoe Manufacturing co. at nearby Webster dug into their jeans today to pay $5,000 for the privilege of having violated the federal wage-hour act.

The company was assessed $3,000 and three officials an additional $2,000 after they pleaded guilty to charges against them. The defendents were given until October 9 to pay back $2,500 to some 125 employes.

Brophy Nails Lies At Dies Hearings

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—This week's barrage of lies, slanders and distortions emanating from the un-American Dies Committee drew a sharp rebuke from John Brophy, national director, CIO, in answer to wild charges by Ben Gitlow, a former Communist.

"Recently Ben Gitlow appeared before your Committee making certain statements concerning me in relation to the Communist Party," Brophy wrote.

"I deny completely and emphatically that I ever received one penny directly or indirectly, either from the Communists or the Communist Party for my 1926 campaign for the Presidency of the United Mine Workers of America. I enter this denial whether that statement was made by Gitlow or anyone else, now or at any other time.

NOT A COMMUNIST

"I am not a Communist; neither am I a Communist agent as alleged, and never have been. I am and always have been opposed to the philosophy of Communism. No one knows this better than the Communists themselves. If at any time they have expressed approval and apparently supported views and policies for which I have stood, they have done so without advice, consultation or permission from me."

Continuing the tactic of smearing the progressive labor movement, the Dies Committee listened with open mouths to the fantasies of the witness, who went on to list other leaders of CIO unions as "Communists" or "Communist agents." Newspapermen and the audience yawned.

Transport Union Delegates Ready For Convention

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Sept. 16.—Delegates to the convention of the CIO Transport Workers Union were heading for this resort today for the organization's convention—a meeting which will survey gains during the past year and point the way for further organizing activity.

The report of Pres. Michael Quill to the convention is expected to comment on the union's progress, which has not only consolidated its strength on New York's subway and elevated lines but spread its protection to workers on a number of bus and trolley lines. In addition, TWU representatives have reported considerable success in organizing transit workers outside of New York.

Union membership has increased considerably in the past 12 months, and further additions are expected in the future.

WAGES RAISED

Wage increases, improved job security and a number of service, health and credit facilities have been brought to transportation workers through the efforts of the union, which overcame the long standing hostility of Gotham transportation companies to win contracts and the respect of the employers as a militant defender of the workers' rights and needs.

A number of CIO leaders and government officials will address the delegates at their meeting here.

MICHAEL QUILL

OVERRULE AFL

Indianapolis, Ind., Sept. 16. — Objections by an AFL union to the election won by the United Furniture Workers at the Shower Brothers big plant in Bloomington have been overruled by the Labor Board's regional office here, on the grounds that the AFL had not raised "substantial or material issues."

Department Store Signs With CIO

New York, Sept. 16 — Lane, Bryant & Co., one of New York's oldest women's department stores, joined the CIO parade today, signing a two-year closed shop contract with Local 1125 of the United Retail & Wholesale Employes.

Some 350 employes in the firm's two New York stores, gained 10% wage increases, the 43½-hour week and vacations with pay as a result of the agreement. Wage and hour provisions will be subject to revision at the end of the first year of the contract.

CIO Leads AFL 10–1 In 28 Polls

Washington, Sept. 16—CIO unions won a total of 13,319 votes in 20 elections conducted by the National Labor Relations Board in August, as opposed to 1,277 won by the AFL in eight elections, according to figures released by the Board this week.

The CIO took part in 30 elections, winning 20 of them, while the AFL was on the ballot in 20 cases, winning eight.

Three of the elections won by the CIO involved more than 1,000 workers at each poll. The AFL won only one election of over 1,000.

Largest election won by the CIO was that conducted among employes of the Packard Motor Car Co. at Detroit, where the CIO carried 6,090 out of a total of 8,352 votes cast. The AFL union received 1,547 in this election.

Next in number of workers voting was the poll at the Motor Products Corp., won by the CIO by a vote of 2,033 to 188 for the AFL.

The third poll of over 1,000 won by the CIO was at the Alcoa plant of the Aluminum Company of America, won by the Aluminum Workers of America by a vote of 1,707. The AFL was not on the ballot in this run-off election, having been eliminated at an earlier poll by failing to receive sufficient votes.

West Coast, Missouri Councils To Meet

Washington, Sept. 16 — Two state CIO conventions open today, one in Tacoma, Washington, the other in Jefferson City, Missouri. The second annual convention of the Washington State Industrial Union Council is to convene this morning at ten o'clock in the hall of Local 2-9, International Woodworkers of America, with Richard Francis, Council president, in the chair.

In Jefferson City, CIO affiliates throughout Missouri are holding their first convention, called to set up a state CIO Industrial Union Council. It will meet in the Sellinger Auditorium.

San Francisco, Sept. 16 — The second annual convention of the California CIO Industrial Union Council will meet at Polk Hall here October 6-8, Secretary-Treasurer Louis Goldblatt announced this week.

Previously scheduled to open August 25, the State convention was postponed to the later date after the CIO national convention was set for October 10 in San Francisco, so that delegates attending the state meeting might stay over for the national convention.

A Tale of 3 Union Men:

Brother Boggle And The Pearly Gates

(This is the last in a series of three stories.)

Brother Bill Boggle was a good union man, almost from the day he was born. Everyone in Local 777 respected Boggle for his honesty, capability, and unfailing devotion to organized labor. That's what they said about Brother Boggle when he died, and the members of Local 777 really meant every word of it.

Not long after his funeral Brother Boggle began his climb to heaven. When he reached the pearly gates, he pulled the bell and shortly afterwards was admitted to St. Peter's ante-room. There he filled out an application for Heaven, carefully writing his name, address, social security number, ledger number, local number, age, weight, sex, number of dependents, etc.

Just as he finished writing his mother's maiden name, St. Peter called him into the office for the oral examination and interview. (Brother Boggle had passed the physical examination; he was perfectly dead.)

INTERVIEW

"Brother Boggle," boomed St. Peter, "have you ever been a scab?"

"No," Boggle answered in a clear voice.

"How long have you been a member of Local 777?"

"Forty years."

"How regular have your dues payments been?"

"Before the check-off I always paid on time. My dues book is perfect."

"Did you ever skip picket duty?"

"No."

"Did you attend all your local meetings? How active were you?"

"I never missed a meeting. I have served on the shop committee, have been a shop chairman, was president of Local 777 for many years, and have been a member of the chorus and the bowling team."

"Well," said St. Peter, "that sounds like a near perfect record. There's one more qualification which I'm sure you'll pass. Come here a moment."

ONE FLAW

Brother Boggle stepped forward so that he stood directly in front of St. Peter. The latter grabbed Boggle's coat and looked into the inside pocket. The Saint was angry.

"Boggle," said Peter, "I'm sorry, but you'll have to leave. We can't have you in Heaven."

Boggle paled. "Why?" he asked, "I thought I had a good record."

"Not good enough," replied St. Peter, to the accompaniment of thunder and lightning. "You're not wearing union label clothes. You certainly ought to know better. What would happen to the labor movement if every union man bought clothing without the label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, and the printers' label would not be called for on printed matter, and so on? The sweatshop would come back to industry. Good-bye, Boggle."

Brother Bill Boggle, formerly of Local 777, slid pass the pearly gates and dropped down to join the open-shop bosses and the scabs.

CIO Social Security Group Issues Leaflet

Washington, Sept. 16.—A new four-page leaflet by the CIO Social Security Committee, "How to Get Federal Old Age Insurance Benefits," tells workers of 65 or more how to get their old age pensions July 1, 1940.

Besides explaining who is eligible to get pensions, the leaflet lists the chief requirements which must be met by applicants.

Copies may be ordered from the CIO Publicity Department, 1106 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C., and cost 40c a hundred; $3.75 a thousand. This is CIO publication No. 33.

Steel Union Progressing

Reading, Pa., Sept. 16 — Rapid progress in winning new contracts and consolidating locals in this district of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee is reported by George Medrick, SWOC subregional director.

A contract signed with the Penn Hardware Co.—first in its history—gives 1,000 workers increased wages, grievance machinery, seniority rights, check-off and 100 per cent union shop.

At the Warren Foundry in Phillipsburgh, Pa., 270 out of 295 workers have shown the company they want the check-off by signing union cards to that effect. Negotiations are under way.

At American Steel and Wire in Allentown, Pa., a new dues collecting system headed by 22 committeemen is bringing the local very quickly up to 100 per cent.

Plans are being laid by Reading SWOC lodges for a fall mass meeting to honor Philip Murray, SWOC chairman and vice-president of the CIO. Steel Workers throughout the district will rally to hear Murray and further strengthen the union in the area.

Triple Trouble

New York, Sept. 16—The Burndy Engineering Co. today had triple trouble — a strike by three CIO unions which followed the failure of negotiations for a joint union contract.

Provisions for a closed shop, seniority rights and dismissal arbitration included in a recently-expired two-year agreement were opposed by the management.

The three unions involved are the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists & Technicians, and the United Office & Professional Workers.

WON'T TALK

Washington—Leaders of the United Federal Workers, CIO, have launched protests against the refusal of Russell H. Herrell, director of personnel at the Government Printing Office, to meet with union delegations.

ConsiderPlan For Coast Marine Pact

San Francisco, Sept. 16.—Probability of a compromise solution to the dispute over contract renewals between west coast waterfront employers and the unions was seen here today. The agreements are scheduled to end Sept. 30.

An arrangement being worked out through the office of the Maritime Labor Board would involve renewal of the 1938 contracts, with either side being given the right to reopen negotiations on 60 days' notice.

However, if either side is at the time conducting or expecting to conduct a referendum, the notice to reopen the negotiations would be extended until the end of the referendum.

FOLLOWS RESOLUTION

This is said to be in line with a resolution passed by the convention of the International Longshoremen's & Warehouseman's Union, which called for extension of the contracts to permit negotiations in the spring, rather than in the fall. Maritime workers consider this a better time of the year for negotiations, since the Alaska salmon ships sail at that time.

Questions about application of war bonuses and to what date wage increases will be retroactive still remain to be settled.

Sign Contracts

San Francisco, Sept. 16—Union contracts covering employes in two plants of the Boyle Manufacturing Company of Alameda and Vernon, Calif., were announced this week by William Dalrymple, field director for the Steel Workers Organizing Committee.

Both agreements provide for an eight-hour day, 40-hour week, time and a half for overtime, seniority rights and other union conditions.

Bridges Hearing Ends; 1,600,000 Words In Record

By MIRIAM ALLEN DE FORD

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 16. — The nine-weeks-old Harry Bridges deportation hearing has ended.

Dean James Landis of Harvard Law School, who presided at the hearing for the Dept. of Labor, returned to the East with 1,600,000 words of testimony taken from scores of witnesses during the sessions at Angel Island, in San Francisco harbor.

As he departed, Landis spoke caustically about Larry Doyle, West Coast labor spy chief and one of the prime movers in the attempt to force the West Coast CIO leader out of the country.

Doyle, an elusive witness, was subpenaed early in the hearing by defense counsel, but was located in Minnesota shortly before the conclusion of the hearings. When Doyle sent a wire announcing delay in arriving here, Landis commented sharply about the stoolpigeon's "complete disregard of the proprieties of the law" and added:

"In the light of Mr. Doyle's record — a record which, with my naive ideas about the importance of citizens' observing the processes of the law in this country, I believe unpatriotic in the extreme," he would have to adjourn the hearing and have Doyle's testimony taken by deposition.

REFUSED TO TESTIFY

Doyle finally arrived in San Francisco, but after being sworn in, refused to testify. However, he was forced to surender to the police on a battery charge brought by Ernest Besig, secretary of the American Civil Liberties Union, who charged that Doyle assaulted him at a demonstration at the German consulate last year. Doyle was freed on $25 bail.

Landis gave counsel for both sides in the deportation case six weeks in which to file their briefs.

MANY SENSATIONS

Up to the very end, the hearing was filled with sensations. In a statement given to defense counsel at the Oregon State Penitentiary, Al Rosser — teamsters union official serving a 12-year term —admitted that during 1936 and 1937 he had "many times" given money to Capt. Keegan of the Portland police to "get" Bridges. He said the amounts ran to "several thousand dollars."

Jack Estabrook, another Oregon teamsters official, said that he had given $1,000 to Keegan directly, and $250 through an intermediary.

Keegan denied both charges.

Final blow of the defense was the introduction of copies of letters to and from Roy Norene, U. S. Immigration director in Oregon. One of these, sent to Dept. of Labor headquarters in Washington, said that two of the prosecution witnesses "were becoming very impatient" and threatened "to tell the complete story to the newspapers."

Observers here are extremely doubtful that the government will win its case against Bridges. The charges — that Bridges is a Communist and that the Communist party advocates revolution by force and violence — were supported largely by labor spies, stoolpigeons and tools of the anti-union employing interests.

WIVES PICKET at Ducktown, Tenn., where CIO members are striking against the powerful Tennessee Copper Co. until the corporation agrees to sign a new union contract. AFL back-to-work movements are proving a flop.

West Coast Maritime Unions Conduct Big Education Program

San Francisco, Sept. 16—Libraries, discussion forums, pamphlets and classes for workers on shipboard and ashore feature the new educational campaign just outlined by Council 2 of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific here.

The program, outlined by Revels Clayton, Council secretary, is based on four objectives; 1) "to keep the brothers on the ships well posted on timely developments that affect their wellbeing, 2) promote open discussion among maritime workers of local, natonal and international problems, 3) raise the knowledge and morale of all martime workers, and 4) act as an organizatonal force for all kinds of educational activity among maritime workers."

SUPPLY SHIPS

Under the program, ships are supplied with crew libraries of 28 volumes, weekly open forums are held, plus a monthly forum for longshoremen, union pamphlets and discussion outlines are distributed, and classes in parliamentary law and public speaking, labor history and English are arranged.

"In these times when so many falsehoods are being spread about the labor movement in general and the marime unions in particular, it is extremely important that the truth be known," Clayton wrote. "Education in the hands of the labor movement is a powerful weapon for progress."

ASK ORDER

Washington—The Labor Board has asked the 6th circuit court to enforce the NLRB order against the Ford Motor Co.

Celanese Co. Lockout Ends; Union Wins

CUMBERLAND, Md., Sept. 16. — The month-old lock-out which threw 9,000 employes of the giant Celanese Corporation plant here out of work has ended in a labor victory.

Local 1874 of the Textile Workers Union, CIO, won an agreement providing for wage increases averaging six per cent and dismissal pay ranging from two to ten weeks for workers laid off because of technological improvements at the plant.

The union had previously rejected an offer of a slight wage increase affecting part of the workers only, and making no provisions for employes displaced by technological changes. After the plant had been shut down for 25 days, the Corporation finally agreed to negotiate. Edward MacDonald, conciliator with the U. S. Dept. of Labor, sat in with the union and company conferees.

Before the shut-down, the union had been negotiating for an agreement for more than a year. The union pointed out that Celanese could well afford to give a substantial wage increase as it made more than $3,000,000 in profits during the first six months of the current year.

During the lock-out the union maintained a strong picket line and the spirit of the workers was high. There was no disorder in spite of a "back-to-work" movement started by a so-called "Committee of 115". The movement flopped when the union disclosed that it was tied up with suspicious characters.

Technicians Discuss War Problems

Washington, Sept. 16 — Personnel problems of Navy Yard and Navy Department technicians made more acute by the war situation were discussed at a conference with Navy Department officials here by FAECT President Lewis Alan Berne and other union leaders. Berne pointed out that maximum efficiency in the Navy's emergency program can be reached only if workers operate under progressive personnel policies.

The Navy Department will state its official reaction to the FAECT suggestions when the conference is resumed September 15.

Board Orders $400,000 Paid to 165 Workers

CHICAGO, Sept. 16.—Hope that a $400,000 slap by the National Labor Relations Board will convince the Stewart Die Casting Co. of the value of collective bargaining was expressed today by Sec. Edward Cheyfitz of the National Assn. of Die Casting Workers, CIO affiliate.

The Board order, which directed the money to be paid to 165 union members, is among the most sweeping in its history, and involves a near record in back pay awards.

Company officials locked out the 165 men in March, 1937, when their union—at that time the United Automobile Workers—struck to gain a contract.

Cheyfitz, hailing the NLRB verdict as a victory for "righteousness and justice", predicted that if Stewart will find unionization "truly a benefit to the company as well as to the employes themselves."

Comely Renee Frantz (left), 4 years old, was voted "Miss Union Label" at the Park City, Utah, Labor Day celebration, while Coleen Olson (right) was named her attendant. Contest was sponsored by Ladies Auxiliary 43 of the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers.

Death Robs Four Of Awards

Ironwood, Sept. 16 — Four deaths from silicosis blighted enthusiasm here for settlement of a two-year dispute with the Oliver Mining Co., which resulted in the distribution of $11,800 in back pay to 35 members of the CIO Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers Union.

Three of the 35 died of the dread lung disease before the settlement was reached, while a fourth passed away four days after signing of the agreement between the company and the Natl. Labor Relations Board.

The settlement, union leaders predict, will benefit organization drives not only in this town but in other iron mining centers on the Michigan peninsula and in Minnesota.

Oil Firm Financed Gas Buying

Tulsa, Okla., Sept. 16—The Mid-Continent Petroleum Corp., now in the ninth month of a vicious fight against the Oil Workers Intl. Union, financed the city of Tulsa to lay in a supply of tear gas and industrial munitions valued at $4,000 just prior to the calling of the strike.

This information was spread on the record at a National Labor Relations Board hearing today by Joseph T. Miller, salesman for the Federal Laboratories, Inc., of Pittsburgh.

Though the purchases were made by Berg Hughes, detective chief of the Tulsa Police Department, Mid-Continent footed the bills—both for a $250 order several months before the strike, and for $3,790 in December of last year.

A cancelled check for the latter amount, introduced as evidence at the hearing, threw defense counsel into turmoil.

GAS WAS USED

Other testimony developed the fact that the same tear gas bought by the city with Mid-Continent's assistance, was used against the strikers last December 22, immediately following their exit from the big D-X refinery after completing the shutdown. Gas containers, recovered by the strikers following the barrage, bore the same serial numbers as those purchased by the Mid-Continent Corp.

The strikers have been waging a consumer battle against Mid-Continent, and its chief product, D-X gasoline. The product has been placed on the unfair list of many unions throughout the country.

Workers' Education Program Slashed

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16—Some 40,000 workers who formerly came to their union centers to attend WPA workers' education classes in trade union problems, labor legislation, parliamentary law and other subjects, today are deprived of such opportunities.

Workers' education—the one special service offered by WPA for organized labor—has been beaten down by repeated cuts in the last two years to a shadow of its former self.

In 1937 the program reached 75,000 workers in 35 states and used the services of 900 unemployed teachers. In 25 States there were full-time supervisors of workers' education. Work was headed up at Washington by a staff of eight, with as many as six field representatives helping make the program of practical use to labor.

Staff Cut Down

Today no field representatives are left, while at Washington only one executive and a secretary remain to advise and guide a nation-wide program. Work in the States has shrunk more than half. Only 16 State supervisors are left.

This drastic scaling down has taken place at the same time that more and more unions have been asking for classes. Requests for services are on hand from unions in 18 States, but cannot be met under present limitations.

Many union members also are asking why unemployed teachers and other specialists on WPA can't be used to lead union sports and recreation programs, give health counsel, explain social security problems and the like.

Unions Protest

In New York city, the WPA administration recently decreed that no more classes are to be held in union centers and that labor is no longer to have an advisory voice in formulating an educational program. A group of labor leaders, including President Sidney Hilman, of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, issued a statement contrasting this action with the generosity shown by the government toward the educational needs of other groups.

"Vocational education is maintained for industry," they said. "Education is provided for agriculture through the AAA, and federal subsidies to agricultural colleges. We have every right to expect public support for education oriented to the special needs of labor.

"We assert that workers have a right to workers' education, particularly in times like these."

A number of CIO unions throughout the nation have sent protests to WPA on elimination of the education program, and more will undoubtedly do so as the results of the slashes are seen.

Hosiery Workers Meet In New York City

NEW YORK, Sept. 16.—Delegates from every hosiery center in the country are arriving here for the 28th annual convention of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers which opens at the Park Central Hotel on Monday morning, Sept. 19.

Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and chairman of the executive board of the Textile Workers Union of America to which the AFHW is affiliated, heads the list of convention speakers.

Others who will address the delegates are Allan Haywood, president of the New York CIO Council and regional director for New York; Frieda Miller, head of the New York State Dept. of Labor, Dr. George W. Taylor, impartial chairman for the hosiery industry, and Roy Lawrence, regional director for TWUA in the South, who is in charge of the southern hosiery organization drive.

Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia of New York City has promised to make every effort to be present, the union reported.

Social high spot of the convention will be the banquet to be held Thursday night at the hotel.

Firm Recognizes Auto Union

Toledo, Sept. 16—A three-year effort by the United Automobile Workers, CIO, to win a contract at the DeVilbiss Co., here, ended in success today.

Local 12 of the UAW signed an agreement under which it gained recognition for its members and those who may become members, and prepared for further negotiations to discuss wages and hours.

Defeated two years ago in an NLRB election, the Local 12 unit at the plant made a comeback and enrolled a substantial majority of the workers.

Vigilante Victim

SERIOUSLY WOUNDED, this agricultural worker, slugged by anti-union vigilantes near Stockton, California, is carried to safety. LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee is preparing to investigate West Coast Tory farm outfits, notably the Associated Farmers.

RAP FIRM

Washington—The Labor Board, acting on a complaint of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, ordered the Ohio Brass Co., at Mansfield, Ohio, to stop interfering with employes' rights to bargain.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 39 | Send form 3578-P to 1106 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. | SEPTEMBER 25, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

Sidney Hillman

Pres. John L. Lewis pays tribute to one of the nation's great citizens—Pres. Sidney Hillman of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers—in reviewing a new biography about the young man who gained a new type of success in the United States. (See Page Five.)

TWO CIO UNIONS WARN TORY FOES OF LABOR

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23.—Two conventions of CIO unions, meeting this week, expressed the feelings of American workers in demands that the United States keep out of war and that reactionaries keep their hands off labor's new gains.

The Transport Workers Union, meeting in Atlantic City, N. J., and the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, convening in New York City, heard leaders of the nation's labor movement warn that the workers' real wages must be preserved, with increases in retail prices being met by greater earnings for the producers of the nation's commodities.

CIO Vice-Pres. Sidney Hillman, addressing the hosiery workers, declared: "American labor hates war!" At this time, he continued, when reactionary industrialists may try to knife the Wagner Act and the wage-hour law in the name of "emergency" workers must resist the attacks on "legislative guarantees which assist labor in its struggle against exploitation."

John Brophy, CIO director, appeared before the transit workers with a similar plea that labor protect itself from possible "flank" actions designed to steal away its new gains.

Discussion of the same problem is expected when the State, County and Municipal Workers Union holds its first convention in New York next week.

Striker

This is Mrs. Ona Briner, member of the American Communications Assn., CIO, now on strike against Western Union in San Francisco.

Says Mrs. Briner: "I am the mother of three children. As such I understand children. For this reason my conscience demands that I support the messenger boys in their fight to get humane conditions and a wage that will make it possible for them to live decently.

"These boys are trying to help support families on the few dollars a week that the company pays them after making deductions for bicycles and other equipment for company use.

"I am not the youngest member of the picket line but I intend to be one of the most militant until Western Union is forced to change the conditions under which we work."

(See Story Page 3)

40,000 Shirt Makers Win 7½% Pay Raise

NEW YORK, Sept. 23.—Forty thousand shirt makers today had licked the rising level of prices—for the time being, at least—with a general 7½% wage increase.

Won through negotiations carried on by the CIO Amalgamated Clothing Workers and the Shirt Institute, the wage raise will go into effect immediately in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, West Virginia, Massachusetts and other North Atlantic states.

Only recently pants makers gained a 10 per cent wage increase, and today ACW officials hinted that other sections of the men's apparel industry may get demands for similar increases to match the rising price level.

President Sidney Hillman and the union's general executive board declared, in making public the new contract terms, that because of the war-influenced price rises union workers must fortify their living standards against cuts in their real wages.

Ban on Super Profits Asked

La Crosse, Wis. Sept. 23—"Drastic punishment" of profiteers was asked by the CIO United Rubber Workers of America convention as it closed its sessions here.

A resolution unanimously adopted calls upon Pres. Roosevelt to propose profiteering-prohibition legislation at the special session of Congress. It also asks the President to demand repeal of the anti-WPA legislation passed by Congress in its last session and to step up Social Security Act payments to meet the rising cost of living.

Pres. S. H. Dalrymple, Vice-Pres. Thomas F. Burns, Genl. Secy. Frank Grillo were re-elected without opposition.

Shoe Union Meeting To Consider Price Rise

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23.—Faced with the prospect of rapidly rising living costs in a war-scared country, the question of demands for wage increases to keep pace with prices will be one of the major issues to be taken up at the second convention of the United Shoe Workers which opens in Rochester, N. Y., October 2, it was stated at USW headquarters here this week.

Several hundred delegates from the various joint boards and from 80 locals will attend the convention which will be held in the Hotel Powers. Speakers scheduled to address the CIO shoe workers, according to the USW national office, include Mary Anderson, head of the Women's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, and Walter Smethurst, administrative assistant to CIO President John L. Lewis.

The USW which has a total membership exceeding 50,000 affiliated with the CIO in February, 1937. Its first convention was held in St. Louis, Missouri, in November of the same year.

Labor Elects Candidates

New Kensington, Pa., Sept. 23—President A. F. Daughenbaugh of CIO Aluminum Workers Local 2 rolled up the highest vote in primary elections here for city council.

Workers' votes in this heavily organized area brought victory for practically all of labor's candidates both in this city and in nearby Arnold. Frank Serene, electrical union member, was nominated as a school director, while in Arnold four unionists were selected for city council and two for the school board.

'Blitzkrieg' Flops In Baltimore

Baltimore, Md., Sept. 23—Taking a lesson from Hitler, the Baltimore Sun tried "Blitzkrieg"—lightning war—tactics against the Newspaper Guild.

Unlike the German feuhrer, the Sun was unsuccessful in its campaign.

When the European war broke out, the Sunpapers decided to restore the six-day week, allegedly because of the rush of war news. Leaders of the Baltimore Newspaper Guild immediately launched an offensive against the decision, pointing out that other papers were either increasing their staffs or paying overtime.

As a result of the Guild's fight against the publishing company, which is one of the nation's wealthiest, the Sun management 14 days later gave up its idea and reverted to the five-day week.

Technicians Told: 'Work For Peace'

New York, Sept. 23—American labor and the American people want no war, and they are determined that the best way to keep us out is to build our democratic institutions and our unions, Lewis Alan Berne, president of the CIO Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians told a special meeting of the union's General Executive Board here.

Construction Campaign

Chairman A. D. Lewis of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee lays bare the fears, failures and Class B 'slavery' plans of AFL building trades leaders — and describes the progress of the CIO construction campaign. See Page 2.

Transit Union Asks Support of Civil Rights

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Sept. 23.—Expansion of unionization of transit employes under the CIO, support for a New Deal candidate in the 1940 presidential elections, protection of the Wagner Labor Relations Law and the Fair Labor Standards Act, promotion of the Wagner Health Program and Better Housing for America's workers, and practical day-to-day cooperation between AFL and CIO unions looking toward a "genuinely" united labor movement are included in the program being charted here at the second biennial convention of the Transport Workers Union of America.

As the four-day convention drew to a close, the TWU delegates representing more than 90,000 subway, elevated, trolley, bus and taxicab employes throughout the nation, took cognizance of the European war situation by resolving:

1. That America must stay out of Europe's war.

2. Food profiteering must be stopped by direct government action.

3. Organized labor must be represented on the War Resources Board.

4. The civil rights of the people, and labor in particular, must be protected against emasculation by tory employers and politicians.

President John L. Lewis greeted the convention in a wire addressed to TWU President Quill, which read:

"Please convey my warmest greetings to members of your great union, assembled in convention. Your union has a notable record of achievement. You now stand at the gateway of vast new opportunities for extending the benefits of or-

Continued on Page Eight

Name Walsh To LaFollette Committee

Washington, Sept. 23—Sen. David Walsh of Massachusetts (Democrat) has been appointed to fill the vacancy on the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee.

The position on the committee was held by Sen. Louis Murphy of Iowa until his death in July, 1936. During debate on the LaFollette Committee appropriation in the Senate this year, some question was raised about the failure to appoint a tthird man to the committee.

Other members of the group are Elbert Thomas of Utah and Robert LaFollette of Wisconsin.

Agents of the committee left for the West Coast this week to start their investigation of Associated Farmers and violations of civil liberties in California, Washington and Oregon.

Ohio CIO Meets Sept. 29

Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 23—The second annual convention of the Ohio Industrial Union Council opens here at the Neil House September 29. Delegates from CIO locals affiliated with the United Mine Workers, United Rubber Workers, Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, United Automobile Workers, Steel Workers Organizing Committee and other CIO unions throughout the state will attend.

The Ohio CIO Council was formed a year ago last spring at a constitutional convention also held here.

CIO Construction Drive Worries AFL

PhoneyPeacePlan 'Class B' Racket, Show Desperation

By A. D. LEWIS
Chairman, United Construction Workers Organizing Committee

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23. — The progress of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee is driving the leaders of the AFL building trades unions to frantic efforts to meet the competition of this growing CIO industrial union.

The UCWOC is able to report that in addition to the local industrial unions of construction workers which have been transferred to the new organization, charters have been issued to new local unions throughout the country and the UCWOC now has local unions in the following states:

Maryland, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Colorado, Montana, Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma, New York, Washington, Minnesota, New Jersey, Illinois and the District of Columbia and Alaska.

ENTHUSIASM FOR CIO

The growing membership and the enthusiasm with which the CIO has been greeted by the construction workers justify the Committee in feeling that its efforts to date have been most successful.

In an effort to check the sweep of the construction workers to the CIO and to cover up some of the abuses and scandals which the CIO campaign has exposed, AFL leaders have taken the following steps:

1. Amid a fanfare of publicity they announced another plan "to end all jurisdictional disputes" in the building industries.

2. They have expressed alarm at the existence of large numbers of low-paid unorganized building workers, about whom they showed no concern until the CIO started its campaign. In order to offset the CIO organizing drive among these workers, they are making all sorts of plans for giving them Class B membership, with lower wage rates, longer hours and fewer union privileges than are accorded to present members.

These and other similar plans of the AFL leaders are a fraud and a delusion.

DISPUTES CONTINUE

Jurisdictional disputes have by no means ended by the new plan, any more than they were ended by the many preceding plans sponsored by AFL leaders for the supposed purpose of putting an end to the abuse. As this is written, Operating Engineers and Teamsters are engaged in a jurisdictional dispute in Washington, D. C.; in Indianapolis nine buildings are tied up by jurisdictional strikes; in St. Louis buildings are also tied up by continuing jurisdictional squabbles; and there are similar reports from other cities.

Nor are American construction workers likely to be tempted by offers of a Class B status in the old craft unions, when they have an opportunity to join a modern industrial union which will give them the same wages, conditions and union privileges as all other members.

John Coefield, president of the AFL plan to end jurisdictional disputes, at the recent convention of the New Jersey Building and Construction Trades Council. Despite this plan, work has been stopped on many of the big operations in many cities during the last five weeks due to jurisdictional disputes, speakers told the convention.

Admitting there still were jurisdictional disputes, Coefield told the delegates that "there probably always will be."

Most of Coefield's speech was devoted to warning of the progress of the CIO construction workers union.

FEW WERE ORGANIZED

"We must recognize the danger in Lewis' threats," he said. "The small housing has got away from the unions and these non-union workers are the ones Lewis will attempt to organize. In Washington, D. C., alone there are three or four non-union men to every union man working on the small housing projects. We must get after these men and try to bring them into our ranks."

Indications of how the AFL is trying "to get after these men" are given by recent developments in Washington, Pittsburgh, New York, St. Louis and other cities.

In Washington, some of the AFL locals are trying to set up "auxiliary" unions with lower wage scales and longer hour standards for residential construction. The idea appears to be to mulct dues from the workers on private construction, although they will have to work for lower wages and longer hours than on public construction, and will not have the full benefits of union membership.

Aside from constituting a raid on the public treasury, this plan would establish two classes of construction workers, with most unequal rights.

The CIO union, in contrast, will establish scales of wages for the different occupations which will be uniform on all union construction jobs, and it insists that all its members have equal union rights.

A. D. LEWIS

Further particulars about the AFL plans are given in a recent issue of a Washington labor news letter, which declares that AFL international union leaders are advocating alternative schemes for competing with the CIO, as follows:

OFFER 'CHOICE'

Either (1) locals may choose to set up a Class B membership with lower dues, fewer benefits and less voting power, and with lower wage rates for work done on home construction or other non-capital construction.

Or (2) if locals are unwilling to do this, the international union may charter an auxiliary union to cover unskilled or semi-skilled workers or others who have been excluded from the craft unions because of their restrictive regulations.

As illustrations of the changed policy, the news letter cites the above-mentioned Washington plans, noting that the Electrical Workers have already set up a lower rate for work done on house construction; the action of the Bricklayers International in chartering a local union in Pittsburgh to cover house building; and action by the Plumbers in New York City and the Lathers and Laborers in St. Louis in setting up auxiliary unions and lower wage rates for house construction.

NEW PLANS ARE OLD

These plans of the AFL are not unlike the plans with which craft unions in other industries sought to oppose the industrial organization campaigns of the CIO, and they are not expected to meet with any greater degree of success.

For example, one of the biggest factors in bringing the radio and electrical workers and the woodworkers into the CIO, was the fact that the AFL Electrical Workers and the Carpenters Union both sought to impose upon them Class B memberships. The workers in these industries were asked to accept an inferior status, like poor relations, under which about all they could do was to "pay their dues and keep their mouths shut."

The Electrical Workers offered their Class B members only one vote per local, while Class A locals were given one vote for each member; and the Carpenters Union similarly denied the timber workers any kind of adequate representation in the international.

Both of these groups of workers had enough spirit to refuse such Class B status and they are now organized in powerful CIO industrial unions, the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers and the International Woodworkers of America.

TELL OF PROGRESS

The progress of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee is outlined in a recent letter addressed by the Chairman to all CIO organizations. After referring to all the new charters which have been issued in different states, it states:

"It is apparent that this new program of the CIO has met with the approval of affiliated organizations and representatives throughout the Congress of Industrial Organizations, and we are most grateful for the splendid cooperation which we have received from them.

"It is our opinion and belief that this enthusiasm and interest will result in our building a formidable organization by the end of the year, and one which will be a credit to, and an important part of, the Congress of Industrial Organizations."

Washington CIO Council Raps Tories

Tacoma, Wash., Sept. 23—Declaring that there "must be no compromise with reaction" under the guise of a national emergency, delegates to the second annual convention of the Washington Industrial Union Council called for the completion of the New Deal's program under President Roosevelt.

The 222 delegates, representing many thousands of workers in this northwestern state, emphatically endorsed a statement by Secretary-Treasurer Eugene Dennett that "we join millions of other working people throughout this nation in endorsing President Lewis' demand that labor have a full share in positions on high councils of government."

They called upon Attorney-General Frank Murphy to launch a probe of soaring food prices as one way of curbing profiteering in industry, and passed a resolution embargoing shipments of war materials to aggressors, with special emphasis on Japan.

SUPPORT FARMERS, JOBLESS

Helping to build the anti-reactionary front in this country, the convention criticized Congress for scuttling the WPA program, and backed Washington farm organization campaigns against the power monopoly and for cost-of-production for their farm products.

Other resolutions called for extension of the Food Stamp plan, now successfully operating in Seattle, condemned persecution of Harry Bridges, West Coast CIO director, and called for the removal of R. P. Bonham, immigration director in Seatle whose name figured prominently at Bridges hearings.

President Richard Francis, CIO regional director in Seatle, and Secretary Eugene Dennett were both re-elected.

BACK CANDIDATES

Cleveland — Cleveland's Labor's Non-Partisan League has endorsed 24 candidates for city council in the coming election. No endorsement was made in the mayoralty contest.

Sen. Bulow Criticized For Speech

Sioux Fall, S. Dak., Sept. 23—Senator W. J. Bulow of South Dakota, who palmed off on a Chamber of Commerce luncheon here a word picture of CIO President Lewis as "the most dangerous man in America," was attacked today by union leaders here as a traitor to the cause of liberalism.

W. F. Reden, secretary of the Allied Trades Local Industrial Union 844, charged that Bulow ran for office as a New Dealer, only to side with the extreme reactionaries when he won the election.

Bulow, apparently overcome by his own oratory, told the local businessmen that Lewis would "out-Hitler Hitler" if he had a chance, and finished off with a dissertation on "labor racketeers who come into peaceful communities and foment strikes.'"

"I challenge Senator Bulow to show one instance where the CIO in Sioux Falls has ever been guilty of any misdemeanor or any infraction of the law," Reden said.

Advises New Deal Against 'Appeasement'

DAYTON, Ohio, Sept. 24—Addressing a public open meeting here to dedicate the new headquarters of Local 801, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers of America, CIO, Int'l. Sec.-Treas. Julius Emspak, singled out for special praise "the foresight shown by our CIO president, John L. Lewis, in his stirring Labor Day speech on the subject of labor and world peace."

Emspak said his union is backing the New Deal "just as long as it remains the New Deal—which means, just as long as it maintains and extends its program of friendly aid to the common people, and to labor and its organization.

"We must all view with apprehension any current tendencies, which can be noted in certain segments of the administration to 'appease' the worst enemies of labor and to compromise the interests of the working men and women in a situation where no compromise is needed.

"Labor has no 'stake' of any kind in war," said Emspak, who stopped here en route to the national CIO Convention in San Francisco. "Labor's stake is in peace and only in peace. When Pres. Lewis voiced these misgivings about what he described as attempts 'to create the illusion that when War breaks in Europe, the United States in some mysterious way will forthwith be involved,' he was voicing the deepest and sincerest feelings of the whole labor movement.

"Our membership showed in its convention resolution that while it will not condone 'shirking of our moral obligations,' we energetically oppose any involvement in foreign wars."

Practically Unanimous

BESSEMER, Ala., Sept. 23—314-2!

That was the result of a National Labor Relations Board election here as the CIO Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers proved their right to represent employes at the Sloss-Sheffield red ore mine in this city.

The election put an end to corporation efforts to perpetuate a company union type of set-up and called the company's hand on its persistent refusal to recognize the union.

When the CIO group asked for a contract some months ago, the management used its "agreement" with an employe representation plan as an out. But the union victory in the NLRB poll knocked the stuffing out of that argument.

Western Union Co. Tied Up In Knots By 'Frisco Strike

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 23.—The San Francisco Board of Supervisors today called upon the officials of the Western Union Telegraph Company to negotiate with the American Communications Association, CIO, which is conducting a strike against the company. The strike has been on since September 7.

Market Street, the main stem of this city, was taken over today by the strikers who paraded to the City Hall behind a brass band to present their case to the Board of Supervisors.

All 34 branch offices of the company are closed down tight by the strike, the CIO union announced.

10 PER CENT OF TRAFFIC

"Only a handful of company officials and strikebreakers remain to make a pathetic effort to work circuits in the main office, and less than 10 per cent of the normal traffic is being moved," it was said at union headquarters here.

"Attempts by the company to wheedle strikers back to work have failed miserably. The company has offered strikers with previous ratings of $85 an increase up to $125 if they would return to work. There were no takers. The strikebreaking offer was spurned by the strikers who are out to win their demands.

The union is asking recognition of the ACA as sole collective bargaining agency, protection against loss of jobs through mechanization, wage increases, a shorter work week and full enforcement of the Wage Hour Act.

The strike started September 7 by a walkout of all the messengers. Two days later adult workers joined the strike after a four-hour meeting.

The strike has been marked by the usual violent methods employed by union-busting employers. Last Saturday, when 15 striking messengers entered the main office of the company and blew a whistle, they were set upon by Pinkerton thugs and beaten.

Attempting to turn public opinion against the strikers, the company immediately charged that the "loyal workers" had been attacked by the striking messengers.

PUBLIC SUPPORT

The public, however, continues to support the valiant strikers. CIO and AFL unions are giving financial and physical aid to the strike. Reports that arms, ammunition and tear gas had been delivered to the main office of the company Sept. 15 was enough to win the full support of Mr. and Mrs. John Public to the striking workers.

Mass picket lines have been established around the main office of the company and unionists from all over the San Francisco area are doing picket duty. Last Saturday's picket line found Harry Bridges, West Coast CIO director and president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, leading a contingent of longshoremen in front of the building.

An appeal to all unionists to support the strike financially has been issued by Mervyn Rathborne, president of ACA, who is at the scene of the strike. All contributions should be sent to ACA Strike Committee, ACA, Local 30, 268 Market Street, San Francisco, Calif.

San Francisco—New California head of Labor's Non-Partisan League is Hugh Wilkins of Los Angeles, succeeding A. F. Gaynor of the railway brotherhoods, who resigned because of the pressure of other work.

Seamen Push Fight For Bonuses, Insurance; Rap U. S. Commission

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23.—Action on the demands of the Natl. Maritime Union, CIO, for adequate war risk bonus and insurance for seamen sailing into belligerent waters moved ahead today with offers of settlement from the American Merchant Marine Institute, shipowners group, and an intervention by the U. S. Maritime Government Commission.

The shipowners' offer, involving a 25 per cent increase in monthly wages, up to $150 in compensation for personal property loss, and payment of full wages and bonus in the event of loss or internment of a ship, was submitted to the NMU Negotiating Committee and adopted as a temporary basis of settlement after prolonged discusssion. The Negotiating Committee recommended acceptance by the NMU membership.

This offer, tendered after the U. S. Maritime Commission made public a similar set of conditions for war risk compensation, was described as "temporary," and accepted as "the first concrete offer the shipowners have made after three weeks of negotiations."

INTERVENTION

At the same time, NMU leaders characterized the announcement of terms by the U. S. Maritime Commission as a direct intervention on the side of the shipowners. All during the three weeks of negotiations with the private shipowners, they pointed out, the Commission refused to announce its terms for war risk payment, claiming that the question was an affair between the NMU and the private owners, that its hands were tied by Congress, etc.

Now, NMU officials assert, the Commission comes forward with an offer below the legitimate demands of the seamen, which the private shipowners immediately seize as the basis for their offer to the NMU Negotiating Committee.

PRESS CONGRESS

The Commission's offer, NMU officials add, omits any reference to the question of life insurance for seamen, one of the demands put forward by the union. NMU plans now call for pressure at the present emergency session of Congress for a bill providing adequate insurance.

While accepting the shipowners' offer as a temporary basis, NMU officials pointed out that they would continue to negotiate until all demands were met satisfactorily.

Charges against 61 seamen for refusing to sail under foreign articles without adequate compensation will be dropped, the union announced, as a result of an agreement with the Bureau of Navigation and Inspection of the U. S. Commerce Dept.

Delegates All Set For CIO Convention

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23—A steady trek of union leaders towards San Francisco will be starting in the next few days as the date for the CIO's second annual convention draws near.

The convention itself will open at 10.00 A. M. on October 10, though the general executive board—on which all international unions and organizing committees are represented—will have held sessions the previous week.

The sessions will be held in Polk Hall in the San Francisco Municipal Auditorium, while convention headquarters will be located in the Hotel Whitcomb.

CREDENTIALS RECEIVED

Large numbers of delegates' credentials have already been received in Washington, and a considerable quantity of resolutions for consideration by the convention.

Whether the number of delegates will be as large as at Pittsburgh last year has not yet been determined, but many councils and local industrial unions which were not represented last year—largely from the Pacific coast and other western states—will send delegates to the San Francisco meeting.

FIVE YEARS AGO

The Golden Gate City was last host to a major labor convention in 1934, when the AFL met there. It was at that time that the question of organizing the nation's unorganized workers into industrial unions became the all-important issue in the federation. Promises to organize some of these non-union workers were made at the 1934 meeting by Green and his lieutenants — but their failure to do so led to the acrimonious debates at the 1935 Atlantic City convention and the eventual establishment of the CIO.

Armour Agrees To Negotiate

Washington, Sept. 23—Action of Armour and Co. officials in agreeing to negotiate today with representatives of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee has averted an industry-wide strike, Van A. Bittner, PWOC chairman, told the press here after a series of meetings with U. S. Labor Department officials and with Secretary Frances Perkins.

The agreement to negotiate in three main Armour plants—31st Street, Chicago; Indianapolis and Kansas City—came after two days of conferences by PWOC officials with the Secretary of Labor, in which they reaffirmed the union's stand that failure to negotiate would cause a nation-wide Armour strike.

STALLING ENDS

Armour officers, informed of the union's stand by the Labor Department, agreed to talk business with the union after many weeks of stalling and other delaying maneuvers.

The PWOC has an overwhelming majority of the workers in Armour's plants organized, and has been certified as sole collective bargaining agency in 17 of the major Armour units. In addition, it has won close to 50 contracts from other meat packing concerns throughout the country.

'S(m)oak The Poor!'

MADISON, WISC., Sept. 23—(FP)—Wisconsin consumers have begun paying a 2c sales tax on cigarettes.

The workingman's smoke was described as a luxury by Gov. Julius Heil, Republican, in advocating the tax, but an amendment to the bill to tax cigars costing 10c or more, offered by Andrew Biemiller, Socialist legislator, was shouted down by the conservative coalition.

Heil smokes 50c Corona-Coronas.

Earlier in the session Heil sponsored a bill to tax beverages containing a syrup—children's soda pop, for example—but exempted from taxation were champagne and the sodas that are mixed with Scotch and Bourbon. Heil was later persuaded to abandon this bill.

Ask War Insurance

CONFERRING WITH UNION MEMBERS, Pres. Joseph Curran of the National Maritime Union, CIO, discusses seamen's demands for war bonuses and adequate war risk insurance for crews entering the danger areas. Steamship companies, holding out against the workers' demands, have been unable to round up crews for voyages. Hearings are being held by the Bureau of Maritime Inspection and Navigation in New York.

Ask Place For Labor On War Board

New York, Sept. 23—President Roosevelt has been asked by the New York Joint Council of the United Office and Professional Workers to add representatives of labor and consumer interests to the recently created War Resources Board.

In a letter to the President, signed by Louis Lehman, Council secretary, the union called attention to the fact that as now composed, the Board represents those who would ordinarily profit most in case the United States were drawn into war.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II September 25, 1939 No. 39

Look Beyond the Headlines

A recent headline in the New York Times reads as follows: "CIO Unions Lag In SLRB Elections. Lost More Often Than They Won In First 8 Months Of 1939, Record Shows."

Anyone who read no further than this headline would have got the impression that the CIO was doing badly as compared with AFL and independent unions.

But if he took the trouble to read carefully the figures given in the news item which followed, he would have found that the very opposite was the case.

The figures of that State Labor Relations Board quoted in this same item show that in elections in which CIO and AFL competed, the CIO won seven victories as against only one for the AFL.

They also show that the CIO led in the total number of workers' votes cast for it. CIO unions received 6,628 votes in the 58 elections in which they participated; independents received 5,849 votes in 46 elections; while AFL unions, although they participated in as many as 103 elections, received a total of only 3,734 votes.

While the CIO thus led in New York State, its record here is far excelled by its record in the country as a whole. Election results reported by the National Labor Relations Board have for a long time shown the CIO far ahead, and increasingly far ahead, both in the number of elections won and still more in number of workers' votes cast for it.

Yet we don't seem to remember any headlines in most of the daily papers playing up CIO victories in these far wider and more significant election trends. Which only goes to show that if all you know is what you read in the business-controlled papers, you won't know half the truth about labor.

Classes in Craft Unions

The old crack about there being "no classes in America, outside of the public schools" might be amended by adding the words, "and AFL craft unions."

For craft leaders have for some time been busily engaged in trying to create class distinctions within their own organizations.

The AFL Carpenters and Electrical Workers, for instance, some time ago created divisions between a supposed ruling class of skilled craftsmen and full members who were allowed a vote once in a long while, and a subject class of Class B members who were given little or no representation in the affairs of the organization.

The lumber workers and the radio and electrical manufacturing workers, however, didn't care much about being Class B subjects in AFL craft unions, when they could be free citizens with full and equal rights in CIO industrial unions of their own. Hence the rise of the International Woodworkers of America and the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers of the CIO.

Now that the CIO has entered the construction industry, the AFL building crafts are seeking to appeal to the unorganized construction workers by offering them Class B membership, with lower wages, longer hours and fewer union rights than Class A members.

Once more, it is not difficult to predict that the construction workers as free Americans will reject such servile status and prefer the full citizenship and equal union rights offered them by the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee of the CIO.

Day Dreams

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

War Planners

WASHINGTON is full of sinister rumors and reports about what is to happen to labor in the event of the United States becoming involved in war.

Some of these are merely wishful thinking on the part of certain interested parties; some are trial balloons to test how people will react to various proposals, and others are based on plans which are being actively promoted.

But all of these rumors and reports are sinister in their implications.

They are sinister, in the first place, because they reflect the wishes and intentions of interests which may seek to push the United States into war, for their own special advantage.

They are sinister because all of them envisage varying degrees of servitude for labor, curtailing the workers' civil and legislative rights and binding them to a war chariot which others will drive.

Finally, they are sinister because all of the plans rumored and reported have been prepared without consultation with labor, and on the assumption that labor must like them or lump them.

Their Big Idea

The general idea which emerges from the various plans advanced by tory and industrial interests is that control over labor affairs should be vested in special boards which would include big industrialists but would give no representation to labor.

They would like to curtail or scrap all existing legislation dealing with the right to organize, mediation of labor disputes and the protection of working conditions, and to supersede such democratic measures by dictatorial regimentation from above.

Wishful Dreamers

All such plans represent the wish-fulfillment dreams of tory financiers and industrialists, who think of war as an opportunity to make great profit for themselves and to "put labor in its place."

Like the undertaker who married a midwife, "to get them coming and going," these gentlemen have golden dreams of exploiting half the American workers at home while the other half fight and die for their profits abroad.

While American labor is being stirred to fight for democracy in the abstract, they dream of destroying democracy in every concrete form in the United States.

Reckoning Without Labor

The only hitch in all these carefully-laid schemes of the war-planners is that they have reckoned without their host.

They have proceeded on the false assumption of the jingle, that:

"The masses are asses,
"Who do as they're told;
"They're ridden to market
"And traded for gold."

The war-planners have sought to dispose of labor without reckoning with labor as an organized force with ideas and plans of its own.

Labor's Ideas

American labor, however, has some very definite and deeply-rooted ideas of its own on the whole subject under discussion.

It is also sufficiently organized and vocal to be able to express these ideas in such a way as to wake the tory war-planners from most of their dreams.

In the first place, American labor as one of the largest segments of American democracy is vitally concerned with the welfare of our country and the preservation of its democratic institutions.

It not only expects, but it demands as its democratic right, a voice proportionate with its numbers in determining the major policies of this country.

It is not willing to delegate this right to any minority of financiers and industrialists who are so eager to lay down the law.

United Against War

In the second place, American labor is united in its opposition to any involvement of the United States in the European war.

It looks with justified suspicion at the clamorous scheming of war-mongers who seek to profit from the calamities they would provoke.

Finally, if the uncertain state of world affairs demands that plans must be made for a possible emergency of national defense, American labor demands that these plans include provisions for adequate labor representation on all emergency bodies; for the preservation of labor and social legislation, and for the safeguarding of democracy in the United States.

Rhode Island Unions Fight Profiteering

Providence, R. I., Sept. 23—CIO unions in every important Rhode Island community today are setting up committees to investigate food profiteering, and are planning a conference with Gov. William Vanderbilt to determine methods of coping with the situation.

"Profiteering does away with the benefits of high wages for workers,'" Joseph Mayo, CIO sub-regional director, declared. "Labor in America does not want any war profiteers. Labor in America wants no war or any part of war."

FIVE CONTRACTS

San Francisco—Five concerns have signed contracts with the Filling Station Employes Union, CIO affiliate.

Missouri Council Formed

Jefferson City, Mo., Sept. 23 — A CIO State Council for Missouri was formed at a constitutional convention held here September 16-17, attended by delegates from scores of CIO locals in the coal, steel, glass, auto, shoe, metal and other industries.

Delmond Garst of St. Louis, regional director for the United Automobile Workers, was unanimously elected president. D. H. Watkins, Excelsior Spring, was chosen as vice-president, and James T. Nash, CIO field representative in St. Louis, was elected secretary-treasurer.

HARMONIOUS SESSIONS

Principal speakers at the convention were Paul Fuller, CIO regional director in southern Ohio, and Ray Edmundson, president of District 12, United Mine Workers. John Doherty, CIO regional director in St. Louis, presided at the sessions, which were extremely harmonious.

Delegates adopted a constitution to govern the Missouri Industrial Union Council, and passed several resolutions bearing upon the coming Presidential election and the question of America's stand on neutrality in the present war situation.

President Roosevelt was called upon "to again carry the banner of the New Deal to victory in the 1940 elections," and his program on lifting the arms embargo was unanimously endorsed.

Big Aircraft Firm Accepts Board Order

Washington, Sept 23—Thoughts of juicy profits to be reaped in the boom in the aircraft industry, may account for the meekness with which the Douglas Aircraft Company, Inc., Santa Monica, California, today suddenly ended its long fight against the Douglas local of the United Automobile Workers.

At any rate, the company — which has been thriving on war orders—has consented to a court decree enforcing an order of the National Labor Relations Board to stop fighting the CIO Union, and to throw over a company dominated union.

The case began in 1937 when the UAW filed charges of anti-union practices against Douglas and accused the concern of dominating the Aircraft Workers Union, a so-called independent group, set up after a strike at the Santa Monica factory in February and March, 1937.

Under the consent decree, in addition to refraining from discrimination against the UAW and from recognition of the company union, Douglas agreed to reinstate Harlin Tanner, an employe, discharged for joining the UAW, and to pay $650 to 11 other workers for time lost between their discharge and their final reinstatement.

'Scabs' Can't Win

BROWN CITY, Mich., Sept. 23—"Scabs" can't win, not even at baseball. A team with that name tailed the local softball league this season, coming in far beyond its three rivals, the No-Accounts, the Hoboes and the Killers.

Sidney Hillman — A Great American

By John L. Lewis

(The president of the CIO reviews in these columns a new biography of the head of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers—"Sidney Hillman" by George Soule. MacMillan Co., New York, $2.50).

It is hard on the author of a book about Sidney Hillman to have me comment on it. That is because in a good many years of close association with the man I have grown to know him and to feel a respect and affection for him that no author could easily express in a book.

Nevertheless, I feel Mr. George Soule has written a good book about Mr. Hillman. It gives a sense of the greatness of the man. Sidney Hillman is one of the great Americans of this generation. To tell the reasons why was the task Mr. Soule took upon himself.

He has pointed out emphatically, and I would agree, that it has been one of the great qualities of Sidney Hillman that never has he separated the interests of himself as a man from the interests of his union. The rise of Sidney Hillman and the rise of the Amalgamted Clothing Workers of America is one and the same story.

'Success' Story

The author is right again when he says that Sidney Hillman "represents something essentially American, the best in the American spirit." It seems to me that this man's life is a typical American success story. But it is the story of that kind of success that is far greater and more important than the achievement of those who have sought their success in terms of personal fortune. Sidney Hillman's success is written in terms of dollars and cents, but not for himself. His success is measured by dollars and cents of hundreds of thousands of Americans who work for their living. His success is engraved forever in the lives of American workers, constituting a monument more lasting than any of granite.

Of necessity the book has treated in a few paragraphs episodes in the history of American labor and of Hillman which in themselves deserve volumes to recount. This man was, after all, the driving force behind many of the measures which are attributed to the New Deal.

If it had not been for him, there would probably have been no Fair Labor Standards Act. His union pioneered, under his leadership, in the establishment of employment offices and unemployment insurance long before he and others prevailed upon the U. S. Government to establish such systems upon a national basis. The Amalgamated established, under his leadership, a pioneering venture in housing for workers, a function now taken up by the U. S. Government. Each of these achievements and Sidney Hillman's relation to them are worthy of a volume.

Chaos Cleaned Out

Even so, the extent of Sidney Hillman's achievements must be measured first in terms of the union which claims him. The early history of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers is strewn with obstacles of the most heartbreaking kind. When the young man, Sidney Hillman, sat at a bench in the workshops of a big Chicago clothing firm, the men's clothing industry was in chaos.

Cut-throat competition was the order of the day. Terrible seasonal variations annually threw workers out upon the streets for many bitter months. Most of the wages were fantastically low. The hours the clothing workers labored were terrible to think of. The union in the industry was narrow and ineffective, ridden by the same reactionary officialdom that still prevails in the councils of the American Federation of Labor. The workers were gathered from the four corners of the earth, speaking a babel of languages, divided, unhappy, hopeless. Out of these things Sidney Hillman and his people created one of the world's greatest labor unions, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

To do it they had to stabilize an industry and reform its production methods. They had to fight long and bitter strikes, faced on one side by anti-union employers and on the other by the unfair tactics of reactionary AFL officials who preferred to have no union in the industry if they could not control it. They had to carry their people through depressions, through the searing fires of unemployment. Yet today there stands the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America with a record of constructive, peaceful relationship to the industry and economic and social benefits to its members that is unexampled in history.

Monuments

The CIO and the great Textile Workers Union of America are further monuments in the labor movement to Sidney Hillman. If I were to criticize Mr. Soule's book, I would say that he told too little about the part that Hillman played in the creation of the CIO and of the Textile Workers Union of America. Those are achievements which in no man's life should be passed over with a few paragraphs. In this class also is that feat of negotiation and statesmanship that was accomplished when Sidney Hillman and Philip Murray went to help the United Automobile Workers bring peace and progress to their union.

Mr. Soule devotes a chapter to discussion of the personal qualities which have made Sidney Hillman what he is. This chapter constitutes high praise indeed. Were I to write it, my endeavor would have been only to make it more fulsome.

It is a happy thing that this book has been written because it makes available to all Americans, and especially to members of organized labor, the history of a man whose life can only inspire them to greater efforts on behalf of the thing we call American democracy. With that in mind I would commend this volume for all to read.

Propose CIO Ladies Group

New York, Sept. 23 — A proposal to form a permanent organization of CIO women for active participation in labor and civic affairs was made by Miss Kathryn Lewis, daughter of CIO President John L. Lewis, at a luncheon given in her honor at the Capitol Hotel here.

Some 200 active trade union women attended, including Mrs. Bessie Hillman, wife of Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

Mrs. Hillman is educational director of the Laundry Workers Union, an affiliate of the ACW.

The women trade unionists voted to take action on Miss Lewis' suggestion.

"DON'T LOSE RIGHTS!"

Urging women to take a more active interest in public affairs, Miss Lewis warned of the possibility of America being drawn into the war. She declared that it was the duty of women as citizens to take a definite stand on the war issue.

"I appeal to you not to take your rights for granted," she said. "If you do, you may lose them. If we want to keep our rights we must continue to exercise them as citizens."

RESPONSIBILITIES

Mrs. Hillman also stressed the need for women at this time particularly to "assume greater responsibilities than ever before."

Miss Ruth Young, educational director of the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, presided at the luncheon, and Dorothy Kenyon, Municipal Court Justice in New York, greeted those present.

James B. Carey, president of the UERMW, and CIO Regional Director Allan Haywood were the two male representatives of the CIO present at the gathering. Carey who is secretary of the CIO, told the women that they deserve their place in the sun but they would have "to fight for that place themselves—it cannot be made for them by men."

Haywood pledged the support of the CIO in developing a movement for a more active role for women, and said that a CIO State Women's Auxiliary would be organized in New York.

N. Y. Convention Postponed

New York, Sept. 23—Date of the annual convention of the New York State CIO Industrial Union Council has been postponed from October 27-28 until November 17-18, Council President Allan Haywood announced this week.

AFL Brewery Union Supports Wagner Act

NEW YORK, Sept. 23—(FP) —A resolution "to vigorously support the principles of the National Labor Relations Act and oppose all efforts to undermine or destroy it" was adopted by the United Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers, AFL, at its triennial convention here.

The resolution puts the union in sharp conflict with the AFL Executive Council on the Wagner Act issue.

CIO Auto Union Shows Its Strength

Election Victories Embarrass Coughlin, AFL 'Organizers'

By R. J. THOMAS
President, United Automobile Workers, CIO

DETROIT, Sept. 23—The preponderance of war news that jams the press these days has obscured the details of one of the biggest labor stories of the year, second only to the winning of the union shop by half million of the United Mine Workers of America.

That unpublished story is the re-emergence to a position of secure strength and unquestioned labor leadership in the auto industry, of the United Automobile Workers of America, CIO.

The story is all the more remarkable because less than six months ago the UAW-CIO had its energies dissipated and its resources endangered by a bitter internal fight.

During the last few weeks the returns have been coming in on Labor Board elections, the first plebiscites of the auto workers in more than two years. Six elections have brought six victories, by ever-increasing majorities, for the UAW-CIO. The workers at the Briggs Body in Detroit and Evansville, Indiana, hold the record thus far with a 13-to-1 victory for the CIO over the AFL.

Here is the way the score stands to date:

COMPANY	CIO	AFL
Packard	6090	1547
Motor Products	2033	188
Bundy Tubing	360	293
Mich. Steel Casting	111	68
Brewster Aircraft	680	241
Briggs Body	13,301	1052

The largest election, to be held among 55,000 Chrysler Corporation employes on September 27, is still ahead but there is no doubt of the outcome. Meanwhile, the UAW-CIO has petitions for elections among three other auto companies on file with the NLRB.

The result of the polls has thrown the remnants of the AFL group into hasty retreat on all fronts.

MARTIN ALIBIS

The day before the Briggs election, Homer Martin, who carries the title of "president" of the AFL faction, asked to have his name removed from the Briggs ballots. He stated at the same time also that he would not take part in the Chrysler elections, giving as his alibi the unfounded charge that the Detroit office of the NLRB is so biased in favor of the CIO that no fair election is possible.

How false this charge is may be seen from these facts: in all five of the elections prior to the Briggs poll, AFL watchers and canvassers certified the honesty of the election and the count; in the Briggs election, from which AFL agents were absent, the company certified the returns and election as fair and honest; and in the Brewster Aircraft poll, which was held in New York, the AFL went down to defeat just the same.

R. J. THOMAS

In the elections held in the Detroit areas, the auto workers performed a service for all Americans who believe in democracy, which is another angle that has not received its proper share of public notice. From one viewpoint, the elections were a test of what influence Father Coughlin has among Detroit auto workers, his chief and closest audience.

LITTLE AFL STRENGTH

The AFL opposition to the CIO locals in the polls was negligible, being limited largely to the appearance in the city of 30 AFL "crack" organizers (three of whom were arested by Detroit police for carrying guns and other concealed weapons). Father Coughlin and his supporters carried the ball for the AFL in daily broadcasts and in the columns of his paper. They argued and pleaded nightly for votes for the AFL. The returns, as can be seen from the above, were a tremendous turn-down for Coughlin in his home bailiwick.

Now Coughlin states publicly that he has never "taken sides" in internal auto union affairs, although there is a thick file of recent issues of the Coughlin publication to refute him.

AFFIDAVIT

Coughlin's sudden conversion to "neutrality" came by way of reply to references to him in a sensational affidavit by one Harry A. Elder, of St. Louis, who was Martin's bodyguard in the recent tumultuous months.

Elder links Martin and Coughlin and would-be Fascist leader Gerald L. K. Smith, and Martin and Harry Bennett in a series of unsavory relationships.

Anxious as the UAW-CIO has been to obtain peaceful adjustments of its differences with employers, it has nevertheless been forced, in some cases, to strike and to take to the picket lines. The first test came last June when, after a strike, the Briggs management, employing 21,000 workers, was forced to concede the UAW-CIO Briggs local sole bargaining rights, as well as some 20 other important contract improvements.

Most important of all was the UAW-CIO's successful five-weeks strike in behalf of General Motors tool and die makers, maintenance and engineering workers. The strike, as is known, brought the UAW-CIO exclusive bargaining committees in 42 GM plants, thus sealing the doom of the AFL in the largest of the auto companies.

STRIKE STRATEGY

The strategy of this strike has not yet been appreciated. The UAW-CIO called out less than 8,000 skilled key-men at a crucial point in GM's 1940 tool and die program. By not directly involving the more than 100,000 GM production workers in Michigan, the union did not interfere with their right to collect unemployment insurance, and such payments were made despite frantic arguments and pressure by GM.

Within the last fortnight, the UAW-CIO has also carried through successful strikes in Indiana, one against the Bendix Products Company, at South Bend, and the other against Warne Gear, at Muncie. Meanwhile, for the last six months, scores of contracts have been renewed or signed for the first time without strikes, and the list of UAW-CIO model contracts grows longer and longer.

NO "WILDCATS"

One fact stands out which is particularly satisfactory to the members and leaders of the UAW-CIO: for almost nine months now we have not had a single unauthorized strike in the industry.

This has been accomplished, not by threats or browbeating of the membership when they had legitimate grievances, but by seeing to it that the officials and staff of the union moved hastily and effectively to win adjustment of those grievances.

Through all this period of stabilization and renewed growth of the auto workers union, probably our greatest single element of strength has been our affiliation with the CIO.

Affiliation and loyalty to the CIO, represented directly by the advice and help of CIO Vice-presidents Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman, decided the issue against Martin and the AFL. Close cooperation with the CIO has since given the auto workers assurance that the UAW-CIO is devoted to the single task of serving the auto workers without regard to outside interests.

The year 1937 brought the lightning growth of the new CIO unions. The last two years have tested the ability of these organizations to survive. As far as the UAW-CIO is concerned, we have come through that test with flying colors.

State, County Union Lists Important Gains

By ALEXANDER TAYLOR

New York, Sept. 23. — In fighting trim after a strenuous tussel with the political spoilsmen in Pennsylvania, and flushed with victory after winning nearly two million dollars' additional increment pay for New York City employes, the two-year-old State County & Municipal Workers of America will hold its first annual convention here at Manhattan Center, on September 27-30.

Chartered two years ago in July by the CIO, as a handful of locals numbering only a few thousand members, it revolted from the deadly embrace of the American Federation of Labor, the SCMWA will go into its first convention with well over two hundred locals in 24 states, and with its membership rolls around the 50,000 mark.

The tremendous spurt in the SCMWA's growth after joining the CIO is shown by the fact that during the first three months under the CIO banner it had chartered 99 locals in 14 states, from West Virginia to California and from Alabama to Minnesota. That scorching pace has continued unabated. The AFL's crippling influence had previously made itself felt in a miserable failure to do any real organizing, in the grabbing off of locals by non-government-service craft union, and in the rest of the AFL's well-known bag of obstructionist tricks.

But seeing the rapid growth and victorious campaigning of the new SCMWA, one after the other of the remaining AFL locals, which had not joined the revolt at first, broke away and joined hands with the husky CIO youngster. One of the first cases of this kind was that of the great Los Angeles County Hospital, where a splendid organization of many hundreds of members had been blighted almost unto death by AFL mishandling. One of the latest examples is in the street-cleaning division of Buffalo, where an AFL chapter of several hundred members has just revolted to SCMWA after it had been subjected to what it regarded as a violation of union democracy and a raid on its treasury.

ABRAM FLAXER
President, State, County & Municipal Workers.

BACK MERIT SYSTEM

An outstanding feature of the SCMWA program is the furtherance of civil service status and the merit system in the public service, which places it squarely in alliance with the good-government forces everywhere. So long as the public service is based on the discredited spoils system, SCMWA believes, just so long will the jobs of public servants be insecure. Thus a basic demand of the government workers—Job security—dovetails into the public demand for a government service hired upon a merit basis on the civil-service principle, and therefore not a catspaw of politicians which wastes taxpayers' money.

Because of this identity of the staff interest and the public interest in good government, SCMWA has from the beginning understood the need for vigorous participation in politics—not the behind-the-scenes ball-playing of the old-type "staff association," which inevitably finds itself the tail to some politician's kite, but forthright public campaigning on issues and platforms, educating whole communities to the principle that only progressive government can be clean government, and that liberal, pro-labor candidates are the only ones who can be trusted to institute honest and efficient government.

Where reactionary city and state administrations have come into power, as in Ohio, Minnesota, Michigan, and Pennsylvania, they have, of course, tried to let the SCMWA feel the lash of their whip. But a vigorous counter-attack has been able to stave off the attack, as in Pennsylvania, where political dismissals by the James administration were checked and reinstatements won after a great public campaign.

8-POINT PROGRAM

Basic tenets of the SCMWA program include: (1) permanent tenure, with dismissals only for just cause and reviewable by a hearings board which includes SCMWA representatives; (2) a "career service" in the public service so that all government employes have the opportunity, through competitive examinations, of being promoted to the highest jobs in the service; (3) regular salary increases within each job classification; (4) adequate retirement pensions for all public employes; (5) a minimum wage of $1200 a year; (6) five-day week, six-hour day, and ample paid vacations; (7) recognized grievance machinery; (8) establishment of these principles by law, and not by administrative discretion.

HENRY WENNING
Secretary-Treasurer, State, County & Municipal Workers.

A young organization, born in the sudden upsurge of organization that followed the national swing to the New Deal, SCMWA is led by officers who are also young, products of that same awakening.

Abram Flaxer, president, and Henry W. Wenning, secretary-treasurer, are both on the sunny side of 35, and both came from the ranks of the government service. Appointed to their offices by the CIO, they will bring to their organization's first annual convention a report which will record both a rich record of SCMWA achievement and a need for further growth to meet adequately the needs of the government workers in the states, cities and counties of the nation.

The convention will adopt a national constitution, elect a slate of national officers, and work out a program for the future.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, this is a group of strikers! Accompanied by some fancy banjo playing, the boys and girls sing "We'll have a barrel of fun" between picket line shifts at Armour's plant in West Fargo, N. Dakota. Walkout started when the big meat packing firm fired two members of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee and instituted the speed-up. Strikers say they'll hold out until Armour signs a contract.

Pay Law Enforcement Due to Improve; Legal Suits Advised

(This article was prepared by the Wage-Hour Bureau of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and the Textile Workers Union, CIO, which maintains offices in the Earle Building, Washington, D. C.)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23—With the recent addition of 38 litigation lawyers to the previous staff of seven, the Administration is expecting to get down seriously to the business of enforcing the Wage and Hour Law.

At present complaints are coming in at the rate of about 250 per week. Settlement of complaints through court action is at the rate of about four a week with about four times as many being closed by negotiation or otherwise. The result to date has been an accumulated back-log of over 10,000 complaints.

It is hoped that this increase in the litigation section together with the addition of about 100 inspectors by Oct. 1 will improve the situation.

WORKERS' LAW SUITS

It is doubtful, however, whether with the limited funds provided by the "whirling dervishes" of the last session of Congress, any great improvement in this picture can be expected. The workers themselves will have to act if the law is to be properly enforced.

This can be done by a more general use of employe suits as provided under the law by means of which employes may recover double the wages due. All court costs in such cases, including the employes' lawyer's fee must be paid by the employer.

To date the Wage and Hour Division has taken court action on 75 complaints, and has settled by negotiation over 200. Injunctions to restrain violators have been granted in 35 cases. Fines totaling $71,000 have been paid by 24 employers who pleaded guilty to criminal charges.

A $7,500 fine, the largest yet, was imposed last week on the Fownes Bros Co., Inc., of Amsterdam and Gloversville, N. Y., on a plea of guilty to charges of failure to pay the minimum wage and overtime to 600 employes, falsification of records, and the shipment of goods produced in violation of the law. The Lawrence Hat Company of Chicopee, Mass., was fined $6,000 when it entered a plea of guilty to faking its books and failing to pay the required wage.

The Camilla Hosiery Co. of Camilla, Ga., was convicted on criminal charges for paying less than the minimum and keeping false records of hours worked and wages paid. Part of the fine was suspended on condition that the company make up back wages to its employes.

In the first case of this kind, the Consolidated Trimming Corp. of New York City was forced to pay $5,000 last week in back wages to the employes of another company from whom they had purchased goods produced in violation of the law. Criminal charges are being brought against Mr. Harry Edelman, the contractor producing these goods, whose employes were paid from four to 11 cents per hour.

A similar suit is being fought by the Montgomery Ward mail order house. This company refused to permit the Administrator to examine its books to see whether the goods they were selling were produced in violation of the law. The company claims that this is an unconstitutional search and seizure. Argument on this case is set for November 8.

14c AN HOUR

Over $6,000 in back wages was ordered paid to the employes of the Earl J. Scott Company of Indianapolis, Ind., in settlement of a complaint filed against this company. Some workers were paid as low as 14 cents per hour.

The Diamond Mop Company of New Orleans thought it could beat the law by setting up a dummy company, the Squeez-Ezy Mop Selling Corp. The fact that this new corporation was chartered on October 24, 1938, the day that the Wage and Hour Law went into effect, was a dead give-away.

Upon investigation it was found that both companies had the same officers and that it was merely a subterfuge to escape payment of the minimum wage. Both companies were charged with failure to pay the minimum wage and for shipping "hot goods."

Analysis of the complaints received so far shows that about one-third report violations of the hours provisions, about one-quarter complain of minimum wage violations.

Get your copy of the CIO pamphlet, "Your Rights Under the Wage and Hour Law," and printed forms for the filing of complaints by writing to the

CIO Wage-Hour Bureau
1034 Earle Building
Washington, D. C.

Write for details on the filing of employe suits.

Hosiery Workers Warned of War 'Scare' Dangers

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23.—Determination that the United States shall keep out of war and that American workers' wages shall not be outstripped by war-inspired price increases were expressed by all speakers at the 28th convention of the CIO American Federation of Hosiery Workers, in session at the Park Central Hotel here.

The convention was addressed by Sidney Hillman, head of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and chairman of the executive council of the Textile Workers Union, with which the hosiery workers are affiliated.

"What must be the position and program of American labor in the face of the new world and national situation which confronts us today?" Hillman asked.

'LABOR HATES WAR'

"American labor hates war. American labor hopes, expects and will bend its every effort to prevent our nation's involvement in war. American labor will resolutely oppose American participation in war or any action which might lead to war, except only as a last measure to preserve our people and our institutions against foreign domination."

The war abroad, he continued, makes it all the more imperative American workers guard their recently-won gains against those who would utilize the war issue to deprive them both of their organization rights and their wage standards.

"American labor must demand and receive wage increases which keep pace with price increases and the growing profits of industry," Hillman declared. The workers of this country, he added, must continue to resist attacks upon the Wage-Hour law, the Wagner Act and other "legislative guarantees which assist labor in its struggle against exploitation.

COMPLETE OUR TASKS

"Above all, we must complete the task of organizing the unorganized. This is our primary obligation, not alone to the workers but to all the American people for whom a strong, united and constructive labor movement is the best guarantee against reactionary threats at home and from abroad. . ."

President Emil Rieve of the AFHW, who also heads the Textile Workers Union, took a similar stand, warning the convention delegates that "the natural American abhorrence for the methods of Fascism should not provide the springboard to throw this country into a European war.

"We cannot, and dare not, allow for the same solution of the unemployment problem in this country as the Fascist countries of Europe have forced upon that continent," Rieve stated.

"The regimentation of labor into war industries, the conscription of labor into armies and the killing of millions offers no solution."

Rieve's report said that the newly effective minimum wage level of 32½c for seamless workers and 40c for full-fashioned workers should be of great value to the union. He called for strong resistance to reactionary attacks against progressive legislation.

Settle Strike

New York, Sept. 23—A strike called by the United Furniture Workers against the Breakfast Room Furniture Manufacturers' Assemblers' Association was settled this week by the signing of an agreement granting all the union's demands.

About 300 workers involved in the strike have all returned to work under the new contract which calls for wage increases and a week's paid vacation.

Basic Pay In Effect

Washington, Sept. 23 — Eleven months after the wage-hour law came into effect, the first special minimum pay rates for special industry went into operation today.

As a result, full-fashioned hosiery workers may be paid not less than 40c an hour, while employes of firms producing seamless hosiery enjoy a 32½c hourly minimum.

BETWEEN THE LINES

By Cecil Owen

Washington—National unity is a good slogan and one which most Americans endorse wholeheartedly, but labor cannot be blamed for being just a little sceptical.

There was considerable palaver about national unity in 1933-34 when the New Deal first unfolded. The NRA was supposed to represent a united national effort to bring recovery. It held forth benefits for labor, business and consumers.

What happened, however, was that business cooperated only so far as NRA served its ends, while the labor and consumer gains were sabotaged. Just as soon as NRA tried to make good on its pledges to labor, business lost all its enthusiasm for that agency.

WHO'S TALKING

Perhaps what chiefly accounts for labor's crossed-finger attitude on this subject is that the unity talk is coming from those well-known Tory columnists and Big Business spokesmen who have never missed a chance to torpedo laws of benefit to the people.

National unity can only be obtained when special interests recognize the principle of majority rule on which the nation was founded. The plain fact is that a large majority of the people voted for a program of social legislation loosely known as the New Deal. Much of this legislation was years overdue.

NEVER ACCEPTED

Yet this program, endorsed by the majority in two Presidential and at least three Congressional elections, has never been accepted by the minority that is Big Business. The minority are represented in Congress and have ample channels for voicing their views so no rights are denied them. Yet, as in the case of the Wagner Act and the Wage and Hour Act, they have openly defied the law. Their spokesmen have even gone to the length of ignoring United States Supreme Court decisions.

Let's have national unity by all means, but on an honest basis of observance of majority decisions in the true American spirit of fair play. Labor wants no forced unity at the expense of the New Deal. A unity that would mean scrapping the Wagner Act and the Wage and Hour Law would not be unity — it would be surrender.

GARNER EXPOSED

A recent article in the Saturday Evening Post purports to be a boost for John N. Garner's Presidential ambitions. It was printed by this Big Business organ in an effort to offset the expose of Garner by John L. Lewis.

Readers of the article will find, however, that it more than confirms all of Lewis' charges and offers details. The article makes clear that Garner has always been a henchman of the big ranchers and oil interests of Texas. It shows how he has manipulated legislation in Congress from behind-the-scenes and confirms labor's charge that a handful of reactionaries run the House machinery.

'Waste' Seen Threat To U.S. Democracy

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23—American democracy is being placed in jeopardy because of our failure to use the nation's resources for the benefit of all the people.

This is the alarming warning sounded here in a 369-page report issued by the government's National Resources Committee, which has just completed a study on The Structure of American Economy.

Estimating that the depression cost the country some 200 billion dollars over an eight-year period because of idleness of productive men and machines, the committee expresses surprise that a nation which prides itself on administrative, organizational and management efficiency should permit "such tremendous waste of resources" to occur.

"The abundance of natural resources and the continental pioneering that has been necessary for their development may in part account for the past waste," the report says. "With the continent spanned, the frontier shifts from the bringing of new resources into control to the more effective use of resources already controlled.

"Here is the great challenge of today.

MUST FIND SOLUTION

"How long this opportunity will be open to the American democracy involves a serious question. The opportunity for a higher standard of living is so great, the social frustration from the failure to obtain it so real, that other means will undoubtedly be sought if a democratic solution is not worked out.

"The time for finding such a solution is not unlimited."

PLENTIFUL MARKETS

Other points noted by the report:

1. If American consumers had sufficient money income, they would form a market capable of absorbing all the goods produced by American industry.

2. In 1933, 200 of the country's largest corporations controlled about 20 per cent of the national wealth, 49 per cent of the industrial wealth and about 60 per cent of the physical assets of all non-banking corporations.

Transport Union Takes Stand

continued from page one

ganization to the unorganized transportation workers of the nation."

References to the war situation were made by Michael J. Quill, international president of the Transport Workers and a Councilman in the City of New York, and Edwin S. Smith, member of the National Labor Relations Board.

John Santo, international secretary-treasurer, reading the report of the union's officers, warned that the transit workers will not tolerate union-busting under the cloak of "protective legislation" or by government-owned or controlled industry.

Referring to impending merger and unification under municipal ownership of New York City's major rapid transit lines and the recently-enacted state Wicks Bill designed to destroy collective bargaining under the unified system, the report stated:

"Let no one believe that we have weakened one iota in the basic principle enunciated when the first Wicks Bill was introduced; namely, not a job, not an hour's seniority, not a single worker's pension and one of the collective bargaining rights shall be lost as a result of unification."

The TWU has 50,000 members under closed shop contracts in Greater New York.

BROPHY SPEAKS

John Brophy, national CIO director, speaking to the convention Friday, warned against attempts by anti-union forces and their agents to disrupt the unity that had made the CIO and its affiliated unions the strong, successful labor force they constituted today.

"But the enemies of our movement do not rely on frontal attacks alone. Our greatest defense is our industrial unity. If this unity cannot be breached by frontal attack, it remains to try the flank attack, and the attack from within, the attempt to weaken our resistance by agents placed within our own ranks, as spies and disrupters are placed on the flanks and within an opposing army's ranks in time of war.

Loudest and most enthusiastic ovation of the convention followed adoption of a resolution urging the re-election of Quill this November to the City Council in New York.

Advice to Consumers: Wait for Fall in Prices

NEW YORK, Sept. 23—Six points for the nation's consumers to keep in mind about prices were suggested here today by Prof. Colston E. Warne of Amherst College, writing in the current issue of the Consumers Union Reports.

Here's what Prof. Warne advises:

1. Do not stock heavily with foodstuffs at present advanced prices. Remember the large surpluses in many agricultural fields.

2. Don't be rushed into the purchase of mechanical or electrical equipment by the argument that we're headed for inflation right away. Prices can't be kept at high levels in competitive lines until there's "substantial re-employment."

3. Watch the clothing and shoe markets with great care, as dealers are variously situated as far as their inventories and their commitments to sell at certain prices are concerned.

4. Expect price declines in a number of fields in which European countries will be unprepared to take their usual quota of exports.

5. Don't speculate in commodities. You may be burned.

6. Keep an eye out for sudden price rises bearing the marks of manipulation; and give whatever support you can to efforts toward making the government afford protection against price manipulators.

SHORT-TERM ADVICE

"These short-term suggestions," Prof. Warne noted, "should not imply that America is likely to stay exempt for many months from the same inflationary forces which during the last war caused retail prices eventually to go to the high heavens."

Looking back to the last war, he pointed out that from 1914 to 1916 prices stayed fairly even, and that the war boom with its accompanying inflation got under way two years after war broke out.

Of the results of the present conflict, Prof. Warne had this to say: "If the war continues and we ship extensive supplies to France and England, it is likely that we shall have marked inflation even without war. But this time the speed of inflation is apt to be more rapid and its results more devastating."

Funds For Jobless Workers Still In Treasuries

Washington, Sept. 23—For each dollar collected in taxes, state unemployment compensation agencies paid out to jobless workers a mere 58 cents, a survey made by the Social Security Board revealed today.

The report, covering the first half of the year, showed these general figures:

Collected, $440,000,000; paid out, $260,000,000; still in treasuries, $180,000,000.

Joseph Kovner, secretary of the CIO's Social Security Committee, said the statistics back up labor demands that benefit payments under the unemployment compensation acts in practically all the 48 states could be liberalized with no injury to the entire plan.

"In only two places, Alaska and Idaho, have payments exceeded current tax claims," Kovner said, "while in 17 states, less than half of the accumulated funds has been paid out.

"The CIO Social Security Committee will continue to press for improvement of the handling of these funds in order that workers may receive further protection during periods of idleness."

Start Michigan Union Label Drive

R. J. Thomas, United Automobile Workers President, and UAW Board Member Leo LaMotte (fifth from left) get their buttons in the Wayne Co., Mich., CIO Council union label drive now getting under way. Council members Mary Curry and Tom Curtin pin the buttons on. Observers are UAW Secretary-Treasurer Geo. Addes, Board Member Dick Leonard, and state CIO President Adolph Germer.

Nebraska AFL Flays Sen. Burke

Lincoln, Neb., Sept. 23 — Sen. Edward Burke of Nebraska, darling of the National Association of Manufacturers, today received a stinging slap from the Nebraska federation of labor, AFL affiliate.

The labor group, meeting in convention here, expressed approval of the "aims and objectives of the New Deal" and pledged itself to oppose actively renomination of Burke, who slipped into office on a quickly violated platform of adherence to progressive legislation.

During the last session of Congress, Burke was the leading Senate advocate of amending the Wagner Act, differing with AFL top leaders only on the extent to which the labor law should be weakened.

RapSweeping Injunction In Detroit

Detroit, Mich., Sept. 23—A vicious strike-breaking injunction was issued here today against members of District 50, United Mine workers who struck the plant of Frederick Stearns & Co., manufacturers of Astringosol, Trokeys and other drugs, on August 28.

Judge Arthur Wester of the Wayne County Circuit Court granted the company a temporary injunction restraining the 250 strikers from effective prosecution of the walkout. Only two pickets are permitted and they are not allowed to come closer than 20 feet of the entrance.

The strikers are also forbidden to tell the story of the strike near any drug store where Stearns' products are sold.

Lumbermen Get 16 New Contracts

Seattle, Wash., Sept. 23—Contracts with 16 timber operators covering 1,800 workers have been signed in recent weeks, the International Woodworkers of America announced this week.

The agreements which cover all employes in the logging operations of the companies, except supervisors and office employes, provide for an eight-hour day, 40-hour week, time and a half for overtime, preferrential hiring, basic minimum wages and seniority.

The IWA is recognized as sole bargaining agency in all the contracts, which are hailed by the union as marking "a major step in the steady, consistent drive the IWA has made during recent months to organize the unorganized and sign contracts to better wages, hours and working conditions of workers in the lumbering industry."

'OK TO ORGANIZE'

Moline, Ill.—Deere & Co., farm implement makers, followed out the terms of a Labor Board stipulation today by sending notices to its employes that anti-union terms of former "yellow-dog" contracts no longer appl.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 40 — Send form 3578-P to 1106 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. — SEPTEMBER 30, 1939 — Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 — $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

CIO AUTO UNION WINS AT CHRYSLER

AFL Heads Attacked On Policies

Atlantic City, N. J., Sept. 30.—Concluding its second biennial convention here, the CIO Transport Workers Union of America, by acclamation re-elected all of its international officers, including Michael J. Quill, persident; Douglas L. MacMahon vice-president and John Santo, secretary-treasurer.

The elections were held amidst a four-hour demonstration of enthusiasm and approval probably unparalleled in the history of organized labor. The entire TWU international executive board was re-elected. Added to the board was Robert Wihler of Detroit, Mich.

In their four-day session, TWU delegates representing more than 90,000 transit employes, mapped plans for further unionization of transit workers under the CIO banner and took cognizance of the European war situation by resolving that the President and Congress of the United States must keep America out of entanglement with European nations and must protect the civil rights of the people at home.

Elmer Brown, president of the New York Typographical Union, largest AFL printing trades local, told the convention of the desire of the AFL rank and file that there soon be created central councils in all cities, consisting of CIO unions, progressive AFL unions and other legitimate labor organizations.

Expect 500 Delegates At Ohio Meet

Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 30 — Between 500 and 600 delegates from CIO locals, councils and joint boards are expected to attend the 1939 convention of the Ohio Industrial Union Council, which opens here at the Neil House September 29, Ted. F. Silvey, secretary-treasurer of the Council announced today. The convention will last three days.

John Owens, Council president, will preside at all sessions. Speakers who will address the convention include Sherman Dalrymple, president of the United Rubber Workers; R. J. Thomas, president of the United Automobile Workers; and E. L. Oliver, executive vice-president of Labor's Non-Partisan League.

WEST COAST HEAT WAVE, which almost ruined thermometers, didn't dent the American Communications Assn. strike against Western Union Telegraph Co. in San Francisco. Messenger boys stopped only long enough to cool off with some iced coffee before going back to the picket lines. The strike, involving several hundreds, tied up the company's business. *(See Story Page Three)*

Canadian Auto Union Fights Tory Drive

WINDSOR, Ontario, Sept. 30—Canadian CIO auto workers today called upon all labor forces throughout the Dominions to stand guard lest democratic gains be snatched away during wartime.

The resolution said that these "democratic privileges . . . are now, apparently, about to be placed in jeopardy."

Labor, it warned, is being placed in a position "rapidly becoming unbearable unless alleviating measures are adopted forthwith." The resolution, which was passed by the District Council of the United Automobile Workers, spoke of "encroachment" on living standards "by reason of the increased cost of living and the apparent encroachment of their personal democratic liberties through legislation or contemplated legislation."

Denounce Profiteers

Trenton, Nova Scotia, Sept. 30—War profiteers were denounced in a resolution passed unanimously by Local 1231, Steel Workers Organizing Committee, CIO, at a meeting held here at which figures were quoted to show that staple commodities had already risen 10 per cent, not counting the special taxes levied by the government to pay the cost of the war.

This spread was called excessive and unwarranted by the local, which proposed that labor be represented on committees set up in each town to survey wholesale and retail prices.

Wins Over 80% Of Total Vote; Seek New Pact

(See Story and Tabulation of Votes on Page Three)

DETROIT, Sept. 30 — Fifty thousand employes of the Chrysler Motors Co., voting in the largest National Labor Relations Board election ever held, showed a sweeping 81% preference for the United Automobile Workers, final returns from the 13 elections showed today.

The voting record:

UAW-CIO	40,564
AFL	4,744
Neither	4,426

In trouncing Homer Martin's AFL union by this thumping 9-1 margin, the CIO auto workers fully justified their claims of leadership in the industry and gave another blow to the AFL's already badly-dented boasts.

All major Chrysler plants went CIO by tremendous majorities. In four Detroit elections, the UAW-CIO rolled up 6,087 votes, while the AFL was able to muster only 224. At the main Dodge plant, the CIO won by an 18-1 margin, with 18,000 votes involved; and at the Los Angeles plant, the AFL could claim only 5 votes out of 600.

The two elections lost by the CIO union were in Kokomo, where a majority voted for no union, and at Evansville, Ind., where the AFL outfit won a 2-vote majority.

Pres. R. J. Thomas, pleased that the voting had borne out his predictions, said immediate steps would be taken to negotiate "a new and satisfactory" contract with the Chrysler Corp.

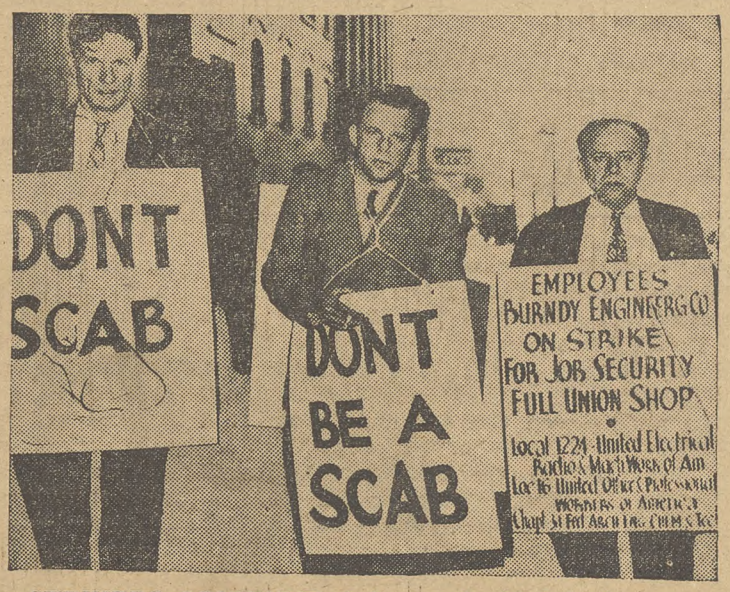
Shoe Union, Three Councils Convene

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30—A CIO international union—the United Shoe Workers—and three state industrial union councils are holding conventions this weekend and during next week.

The USWA meeting opens in Rochester, N. Y., on October 2 with several hundred delegates expected. Ohio's Industrial Union Council convention opened in Columbus yesterday, while the Wisconsin CIO meet convened in Racine on the same day. California's Industrial Union Council meets in San Francisco on October 6.

Several prominent speakers are scheduled to address the shoe union sessions — Deputy Wage-Hour Administrator Paul Sifton, Mary Anderson, head of the Dept. of Labor Women's Bureau and Walter Smethurst, executive assistant to CIO Pres. Lewis.

Principal issues before the shoe union delegates will be the problem of lifting wages to meet rising living costs, and of fighting the plan of the German Bata Shoe Co. to open an American plant paying starvation wages to imported workers unaccustomed to American standards.



STRIKERS CONTINUE their month-old fight for a contract at the Burndy Engineering Co. in New York City and for rehiring of several dismissed workers. The three CIO unions involved: Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists & Technicians; the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers; and the United Office & Professional Workers.

Clothing Workers May Seek Wage Rate Revision

NEW YORK, Sept. 30. — Notice was served on organized clothing manufacturers this week that the Amalgamated Clothing Workers reserves the right to request an upward revision in wages for 150,000 workers in the men's and boys' clothing industry, in the face of rising living costs precipitated by the European war.

Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated, advised the manufacturers, who represent 90 per cent of the industry, that the union would hold its demand pending further study of upward trends in prices in American industry generally, as well as in the men's clothing industry, but he urged them to make no commitments to retailers for the coming season without a proviso for an increase in labor costs.

Unilateral action by any section of the clothing industry has always been frowned upon by the union, Hillman said, as it was held that the greatest good for all elements could be achieved only by joint action. He pointed to the union's 25-year record in this direction, stressing its stabilization program of the past six months, in which enlightened employers participated.

Indication that the Amalgamated was seriously considering an upward revision in wages in men's clothing followed a 7½ per cent wage increase it obtained for 40,000 shirt makers and a 10 per cent increase for 15,000 pants makers.

The ACW's position in the face of rising living costs was approved by the union's scale committee, which met in the national office, and was ratified at a meeting of New York shop chairmen, at which President Hillman spoke.

Ask Votes In 9 Steel Plants

Pittsburgh, Pa., Sept. 30—A petition for an election in the nine plants of the Crucible Steel Company of America has been filed with the National Labor Relations Board, Clinton S. Golden, regional director of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, announced today.

Golden said the election was asked because Crucible Steel has refused to recognize the SWOC as sole bargaining agency, although it signed a contract in 1937 which expired in 1938, and has since been continued on a day-by-day basis.

In a letter to Raoul Desvernine, president of Crucible Steel, Golden asked a conference to negotiate a new contract, to be held not later than October 10.

Contract Brings Pay Increases

Providence, R. I., Sept. 30—Wage increases and improved working conditions were won in a contract signed between the United Baking Powder Workers, CIO, and the Rumford Chemical Works of East Providence, it was announced today by Joseph Mayo, state CIO director.

The agreement, which covers 100 employes, also carries a clause under which further pay increases may be negotiated if deemed advisable.

Davis Named To Succeed Frank Miley

Morgantown, W. Va., Sept. 30.—Fremont Davis, former secretary-treasurer of District 31, United Mine Workers, has been chosen to serve as District President, to succeed Frank Miley, former district head, who died recently of a heart attack.

Davis, who has been active in UMW affairs for many years, served as secretary-treasurer from 1926 to the present time.

Four-Day Strike Lifts Wages

Eau Claire, Wis., Sept. 30—CIO unionists at the Refrigerator Industries, Inc., here required only four days to bring the management to terms.

A strike of that duration won a new contract, featuring the preferential shop.

Success was due to a large extent to the cooperation of the Eau Claire CIO Council, which mobilized powerful support for the strikers, members of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee. Other gains won included the 40-hour week and a 5c-an-hour wage increase.

Armour Parleys Get Under Way In Three Cities

CHICAGO, Sept. 30—Long delayed contract negotiations by Armour and Co. with the CIO Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee began here, in Kansas City and Indianapolis with an important concession by the company and an assurance to Labor Secretary Perkins that Armour was "sincere" in its desire to reach an agreement.

The concession came with a company agreement to assign responsible national officials from headquarters to talk with the union, eliminating the previous trick of "buck-passing" on the part of local superintendents.

"Two Armour vice-presidents heard what Miss Perkins had to say and then decided that it would be wisest to see things the way the union does, and that is to sign contracts," PWOC Director Don Harris said after the latest visit by PWOC officials, led by Chairman Van A. Bittner, to Washington.

THE REAL THING

"Although we do not have too much confidence in this company's promises," Harris added, "nevertheless it looks like the real thing this time because conciliators from the Labor Dept. will attend all negotiations. Equally important is the fact that a third party, the government, will put its signature to the contracts when they are negotiated."

Assistant Director Henry Johnson laid the change of heart by Armour and Co., which has been using stalling tactics on the union's demands for a contract for months, to four basic reasons.

First in importance was the strength of the PWOC, which was "prepared for a 100 per cent shutdown of all Armour operations." That, plus universal CIO support, aroused public opinion in favor of PWOC, and the intervention of the U. S. government, "was a clear warning to the company that strikebreaking is an impossibility," he said.

Pontiac CIO Goes To Bat For Teachers

By SWANSON C. SHIELDS

Pontiac, Mich., Oct. 1—In a move that won them friends from many professional and civic groups, the CIO unions in Pontiac recently launched a drive against salary reductions for local school teachers.

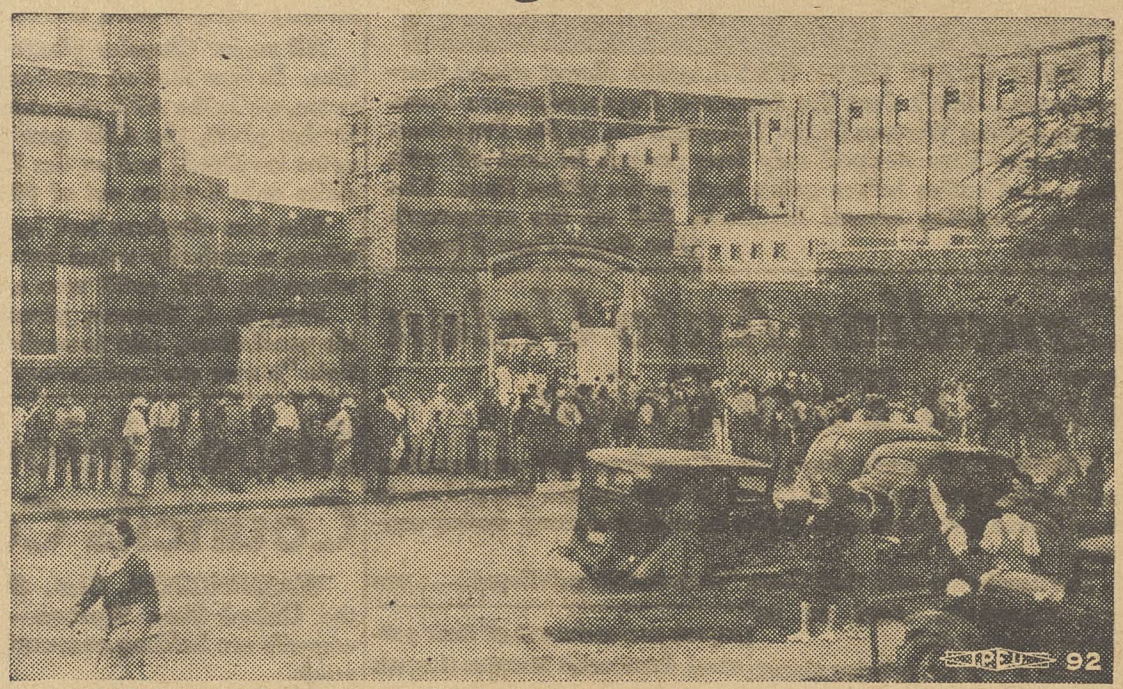
Through the Pontiac CIO Industrial Union Council, over 40,000 workers were mobilized for a fight "to protect the teachers from physical starvation and the students from mental starvation."

Even the local newspapers, notorious for their anti-labor slants, carried items that one of the most forceful speakers at a Board of Education meeting protesting salary cuts was Tucker P. Smith, executive secretary of the Pontiac CIO Council.

"Labor has an important stake in education," Smith declared, in pointing out that not only does labor build and operate the schools, but it is "the sons and daughters of working people that make up the class-rooms."

Cleansed of the disruptive Martin element, the CIO forces here have been frowing both in membership and effectiveness. The CIO here has taken the lead in fighting retrenchments in other municipal services, such as relief and WPA.

Holding the Line



STRIKING MEMBERS of the CIO Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee completely closed the huge Ottumwa, Ia., plant of the Morrell Packing Co. when the management arbitrarily fired 15 workers for alleged infraction of rules. The plant stayed closed until the men were reinstated. Fifteen "loyal workers" stayed in the plant, which normally employs 2400.

A Spotlight On The Special Interests

"THE PRESSURE BOYS, The Inside Story of Lobbying In America," by Kenneth G. Crawford. Julian Messner, Inc., publishers. $3.00.

By GARDNER JACKSON

Kenneth G. Crawford, brilliant and conscientious correspondent for the New York Evening Post, tells in his new book the disturbing story of why our government too much of the time does not operate in the public interest. The story is particularly pertinent in a crisis such as that in which the world now finds itself.

For labor and those thoughtful citizens who see in an expanding labor movement the chief hope for retaining the democratic processes in this country, Mr. Crawford has drawn in smooth-running prose a sharply-etched picture of the factors labor must overcome if it is to survive.

This picture appears not only in those chapters dealing directly with labor — "The Labor Front," "Finks, Spies and Girdler," and "Un-American Activities." It is implicit in all the other chapters detailing episode after episode of selfish property and money interests seeking to have their way in Washington and frequently succeeding.

NAMES NAMES

Mr. Crawford names names, places, dates, amounts of money and females involved in these episodes. He pulls no punches at any point in the book. Parading across his pages are political figures, men and women of finance and industry, publishers and public relations artificers whose names have become familiar to most of the American public through constant mention in the press.

Toughened by greed and self-seeking must be the hides of these individuals if the facts about their efforts to corrupt the making and administration of laws as set forth painstakingly but lustily by Mr. Crawford do not get under their skins. My prediction is that there will be yowls of pain if this volume gets the circulation it deserves.

THE BIG PARADE

Donald Richberg, the "glamorous" Katherine Connor, Democratic National Committeewoman from Kentucky; Tom Girdler and his Hills and Knowltons, George Sokolskys and Sam Joneses; Senator Millard Tydings and his self-serving skullduggeries; the Liberty Leaguers and their DuPonts; the sentimental Jo Tumulty and his sugar papas; the ineffable Martin Dies and his John P. Freys and J. B. Matthewses; Evelyn Walker Robert, "by all odds the best-looking blonde in Washington society," and her hubby "Chip;" Carl Byoir and his Chester Wrights; Senator Bennett Clark and his Listerine — these and scores of others, with an illuminating array of incident and money facts attached to each, provide the subject matter for the most exciting reading turned up from the Nation's Capitol since before the New Deal gave them their stage.

In his chapter entitled, "The Sutlers," Mr. Crawford performs a special service by going back to study the influence of the lobbyests in dragging this country into the Great War.

He describes his book in the foreword as "the unrepressed personal bias of a professionally impartial observer with no political affiliations and no doctrinaire axes to grind." It is the kind of "bias" which every trade union local in the country should read and all citizens concerned with the fate of our country.

Union Leaders Head Towards San Francisco

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—Leaders of the CIO's powerful international unions and organizing committees were San Francisco-bound today, while hundreds of delegates to the convention opening Oct. 10 are preparing to leave for the West Coast city next week.

The CIO's executive board meets Oct. 5, and more than 42 union presidents and CIO headquarter staff officials will be on hand for the sessions.

'Frisco will indeed be a CIO city from Oct. 5 on. California's Industrial Union Council will meet here on Oct. 6, 7 and 8, in the same Polk Hall where the national convention will be held two days later.

Final details for the convention program will be worked out at the executive board meeting.

Local union officials are making plans for a big public mass meeting at which Pres. John L. Lewis and other national leaders will speak. No definite arrangements have yet been completed, however.

Presidents of a number of international unions with substantial membership groups on the West Coast have made plans for meetings with these union locals both before and after the convention. Pres. R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers, Pres. Lewis Merrill of the United Office & Professional Workers and Pres. Lewis A. Berne of the Federation of Architects, Chemists, Engineers & Technicians are among those planning to combine the convention with visits to affiliated locals.

Back Liberal For Mayor In 'Frisco

San Francisco, Sept. 30. — All labor and progressive groups in this city today started putting their shoulder to the municipal campaign wheel in a determined effort to unseat Mayor Rossi in the next city elections.

Just before flying back to Washington for the special session of Congress, Rep. Franck Havenner, Democrat, filed papers for the mayoralty contest.

The Congressman is endorsed by Labor's Non-Partisan League and by CIO and AFL unions. All these groups will wage an active fight for Havenner and against Rossi, who has constantly served big business and actively opposed the city's labor movement. He won the enmity of the maritime workers during the 1934 strike and has done nothing during the intervening years to change their opinion of him.

"There can be no security for labor unless it has confidence in the city's chief executive," declared State Senator John Shelley, head of the city AFL group and a leader in the local Labor's Non-Partisan League.

See AFL Final Split With Typos

Washington, Sept. 30 — Indications that the AFL will expel or suspend the Intl. Typographical Union were noted today when an ITU check for monthly dues was returned by AFL Secretary-Treasurer Frank Morrison.

The AFL executive council previously voted to accept no further dues from the ITU until it paid a special assessment levied to fight the CIO.

In the September issue of The Bulletin, issued monthly from the office of ITU President Claude M. Baker, an unsigned statement referring to the return of the ITU's check for payment of the August per capita tax on 78,498 members says:

"Thus after four years of continued controversy, affiliation with the American Federation of Labor apparently has been severed."

At its convention held last month in Fort Worth, the ITU delegates again voted, as they had at the previous convention, to refuse to pay the special assessment.

Automobile Union Wins Biggest Board Poll In Chrysler Plants

By EDWARD LEVINSON

DETROIT, Sept. 30.—The United Automobile Workers CIO, swept through this week to an overwhelming victory in the largest employe representation election ever held by the National Labor Relations Board.

The UAW-CIO won majorities in 11 of 13 bargaining units into which the Labor Board has divided the Chrysler Corporation, third largest auto company in the country.

RESULTS OF THE VOTES:

PLANT	CIO	AFL
Dodge	17,654	837
Jefferson-Kurcheval	7,209	391
Dodge Forge	1,065	33
Dodge Truck	1,523	38
Amplex	156	3
Plymouth	5,585	2,771
Highland Park	1,917	96
De Soto	1,582	57
Marysville	519	30
Kokomo, Ind.	173	17 (a)
New Castle, Ind.	2,277	60 (b)
Evansville, Ind.	307	355
Los Angeles	585	5
TOTAL	40,564	4,744

(a) Neither union received 343 votes, a majority.
(b) A non-AFL company union received 722 votes.

'END OF AFL'

"The result of the Chrysler poll," said R. J. Thomas, international president of the UAW-CIO, "finishes the destructive efforts of the AFL in the auto industry. It establishes the UAW-CIO as the unquestioned spokesman of the auto workers."

One result of the election gives the UAW-CIO sole bargaining rights in the 11 Chrysler plants.

"Our victory in Chrysler is our greatest and most important triumph since the 1937 strike, which established our union in the auto industry," Thomas continued. "We have shown that despite the heaviest pressure of the AFL in combination with the Chrysler corporation, the workers want the CIO to speak for them. We have answered our enemies and the doubters on the issue of who speaks for the Chrysler workers."

Richard T. Frankensteen, director of the Chrysler department of the UAW-CIO, said that the election result would be interpreted as instructions to the UAW-CIO to negotiate, at once, a "new and improved Chrysler agreement."

The significance of the election for the 57,000 Chrysler work-

Continued on Page Five

'Frisco Wire Strike Still Going Strong

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 30.—Delay by the National Labor Relations Board in handing down a decision on the case filed against the Western Union Telegraph Company by the American Communication Association, CIO, is being used as a basis for refusal by WU officials to negotiate with their striking employes, Mervyn Rathborne, ACA president, said this week.

A Board trial examiner recommended nearly a year ago, Rathborne said, that the company be ordered to abolish the Association of Western Union Employes as being dominated illegally, and that its contract be cancelled. The recommendation was based on a five-week hearing in New York City during the summer of 1938. So far the Board has not acted on the examiner's report.

Meanwhile the ACA strike against Western Union which started Sept. 7, is holding firm, with the strikers receiving aid and support from numerous West Coast unions, both CIO and AFL. A 24-hour picket line is being maintained in front of the main company offices, and enthusiastic meetings and parades are being held.

Last week the San Francisco Board of Supervisors recommended that WU officials meet with strikers to draft a working agreement, but the company ignored the request.

War Bonus Victory Spurs Negotiations For Maritime Pact

NEW YORK, Sept. 30.—Contract renewal negotiations between the CIO Natl. Maritime Union and the shipowners, begun early this week, got under way with a union victory on the war risk bonus issue and a preliminary basis of six points for the talks.

The bonus victory, won last week, gave the CIO seamen and other unlicensed marine workers a 25 per cent increase, property indemnity up to $150, transportation back to the U. S. from lost ships, and continuing wages for internment on all ships entering war zones.

The six points of negotiations were worked out in a preliminary meeting as follows:

Halting of discrimination against active union members, increased use of union hiring halls, overtime for holiday and week-end work on coastwise ships, wage increases of $10, general overtime increase from 70 to 80 cents per hour and definite rules for war risk bonus payment.

The present contract, which expires September 30, covers 19 to 44 shipowners in the American Merchant Marine Institute and three lines not belonging to the employers' association.

UNITY RE-ESTABLISHED

In announcing the six-point basis for renewal talks, the union negotiating committee declared that greater unity and the exposure of employer subsidized disrupters and spies would make for many improvements in the renewed agreement.

"At the time the present agreement was negotiated," the committee said, "there was a smattering of internal dissension within the union, created, it was learned later, by a group subsidized by certain ship operators.

"This group has been since exposed and eliminated. Most of the offensive features of the present contract, therefore, are expected to be replaced by more agreeable ones."

Negotiators for the union are Howard McKenzie, chairman; Ted Lewis, Jack Paone, Bernard Lynch and James Purcell.

Transit Union Convenes

SECOND CONVENTION of the CIO Transport Workers Union revealed big gains and plans for future organizing activities. In upper left are officers of the union grouped around the speakers' table; at right, some of the several hundred delegates who attended the four-day sessions at Atlantic City, N. J.

War Board To Go, Says F. D. R.

(By Federated Press)

Washington, Sept. 30.—Dissolution within a short time of the War Resources Board, bitterly attacked by organized labor because of the failure to include labor representatives was announced here by Pres. Roosevelt.

In response to a press conference question, the President said the work of the War Resources Board would be completed within the next 10 days by the filing of its report, that he would thank them for a very fine job and that the board would then disband.

His remark that the board would disband caused some surprise as it was generally assumed that the board would continue in existence, becoming a War Industries Board in the event the U. S. becomes involved in war.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II October 2, 1939 No. 40

Inspiring Victories

The spectacular victory of the CIO United Automobile Workers Union in the Chrysler Co. election is a good omen for the whole of the CIO on the eve of its second national convention.

The auto workers turned out by tens of thousands, in the largest Labor Board election ever held, to register their preference for representation by the CIO union. The majority for the CIO as against the AFL was as much as nine to one.

The Chrysler victory followed a whole series of CIO election victories in the Briggs, Packard, Motor Products and other large automobile plants.

Not only in the automobile industry, but in dozens of other industries as well, the trend of all recent elections has been emphatically toward the CIO.

In the past year, the CIO has won far more elections than AFL or independent unions, and it has polled many more workers' votes than all other unions combined. And the tendency has progressively increased in favor of the CIO.

The coming San Francisco convention of the CIO will review this and other evidence which proves that the majority of American workers prefer the modern and progressive type of industrial organization offered by the CIO.

The recent victories will lend new impetus and new enthusiasm to the big forward drive of union organization which will be planned at the convention.

A Catspaw Commission

Collective bargaining is a democratic procedure which has been repeatedly approved by Congress, is embodied into law and is part of the public policy of the United States.

But there is one government body, namely the U. S. Maritime Commission, which has presumed to differ with and oppose this public policy.

This Commission seems deliberately to have set out to break down collective bargaining in the maritime industry.

It has instigated and upheld the refusal of government-controlled companies to bargain with the maritime unions, and it has made a number of attempts to destroy the union hiring hall system established by the unions through collective bargaining.

The Maritime Commission is now accused by the National Maritime Union of acting as a catspaw for private shipowners in the current dispute over war risk compensation. In the midst of negotiations, it decreed rates on its ships far lower than the union's demands, thus supporting the shipowners' resistance to adequate compensation.

The NMU as a result is calling for a Congressional investigation of the anti-labor practices of the Maritime Commission.

The least that can be expected of a government agency is that it itself comply with the letter and the spirit of the laws enacted by Congress, and it is high time that a stop be put to the Maritime Commission's campaign against labor unionism and collective bargaining.

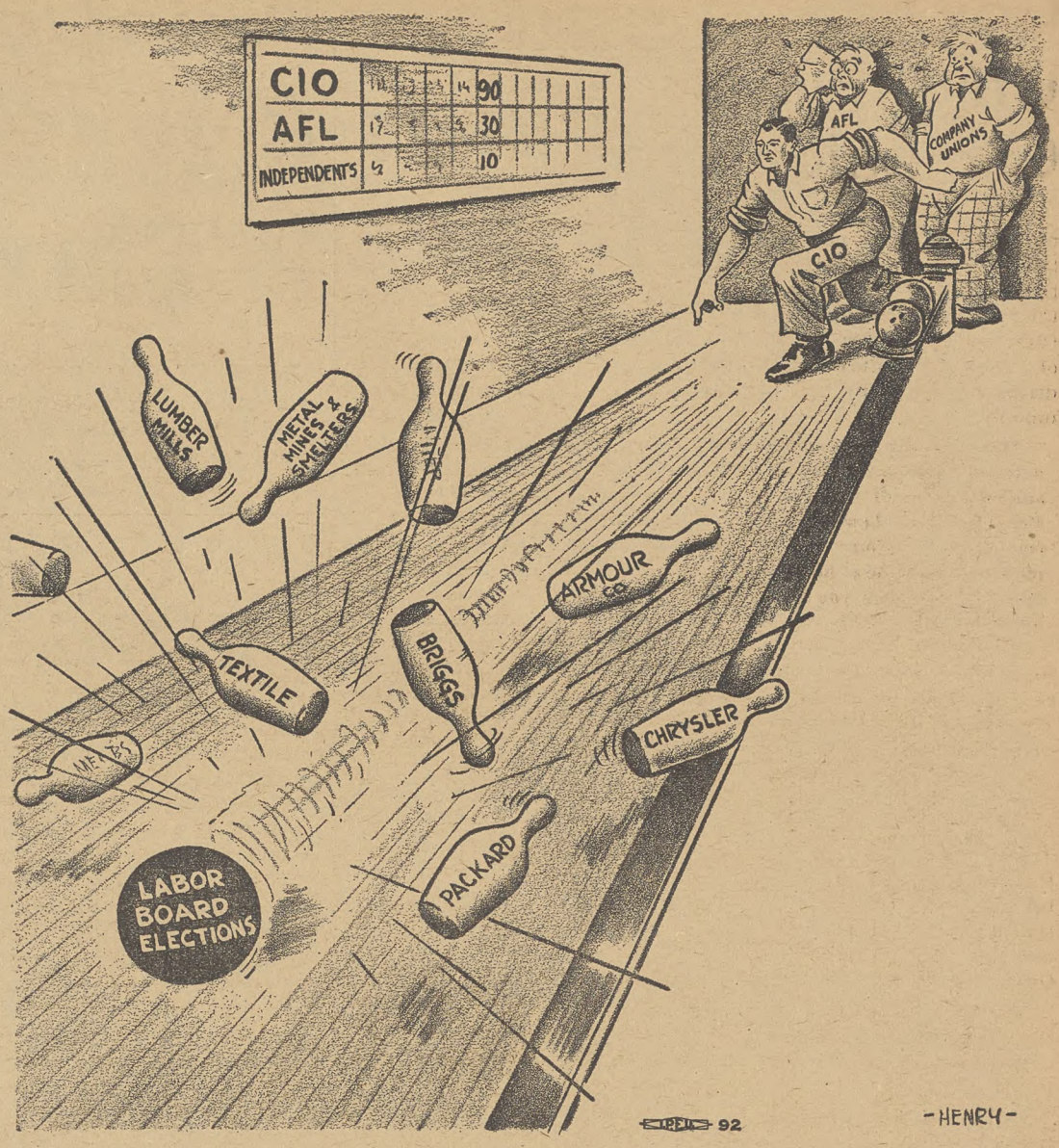
Paper Says Bridges' Foes Came Out Second Best

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Sept. 30. — The stoolpigeon witnesses trotted out at the Harry Bridges deportation hearing in San Francisco failed to make much of an impression on the Montgomery Advertiser, which discussed the issues involved in a recent editorial.

"If there are any Californians who know of an actual infringement of law by Bridges," the paper declared, "it would be well for them to come forward right now and present their case to a proper court.

"Those who have just finished trying to assail him have come off second best."

The editorial charged that the "California interests which instigated the hearings were not particularly interested in political philosophy, but felt it as good a way as any. Bridges offended them by being a very capable labor organizer."



The Winner!

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Democracy Preferred

THE automobile workers never do things by halves; they seem to go out for the record in whatever they undertake.

The speed with which the CIO United Automobile Workers union was organized a year or two ago broke all records in the history of the labor movement.

Hundreds of workers never before organized joined the union in the space of a few months.

And now that the auto workers are called upon to vote in Labor Board elections, they are not content just to roll up safe majorities for the union of their choice, but are breaking all records again.

In the biggest elections ever held, the auto workers are doing the spectacular thing once more, by rolling up the largest majorities ever recorded.

The majorities for the CIO are so huge and so overwhelming that they bury once and for all the hopes of AFL and company disrupters to turn the auto workers away from the modern, democratic industrial unionism of the CIO.

When Mussolini Meets

When Mussolini holds a cabinet meeting, he is said to place himself in a belligerent posture in the middle of a three-sided tailor-shop mirror.

The Duce can then turn to War Minister Mussolini on his right, or Navy Chief Mussolini on his left, or stick out his jaw at Secretary of the Interior Mussolini in front of him.

By a little adjustment of the mirrors, Prime Minister Mussolini can have a whole series of Mussolinis with and without portfolio nodding their heads or shaking them vigorously whenever he does.

Such cabinet meetings are reliably reported to result most satisfactorily for Mussolini, with consistently unanimous votes for the policies which he advocates.

Mirror Illusions

Enlarging upon this principle, the AFL officialdom this year, it is reported, is holding its annual convention in the Hall of Mirrors of a midwestern hotel.

If the mirrors are rightly placed, Big Bill Hutcheson and the other half-dozen big shots whose votes count more than those of all the other delegates combined will be able to see their nods and shakes of the head duplicated many times.

This will doubtless create an atmosphere as democratic as that of a Mussolini cabinet meeting. And with a little liquid assistance, the assembled international officials and business agents will be able to look around at their reflections and imagine their number multiplied into quite a host of labor.

Class B Members

Most of the AFL bosses, like Mussolini, get their mandates for the policies they advocate by going into a huddle with themselves.

Holding no conventions of their unions for decades at a time, they have little difficulty in obtaining from themselves a unanimous "Aye" vote, since those opposed are given no opportunity to say their "Nay."

Against the evil day when they might be compelled to hold a union convention, many of the AFL craft bosses have in recent years devised an almost foolproof system.

The AFL Electrical Workers, Carpenters and a number of other building crafts now nave Class B locals, whose members are to all intents and purposes disfranchised.

The original idea was to put new members into such voteless Class B locals, to prevent any sudden influx from dislodging or disturbing the existing leadership.

But now there are reports of even old locals being reduced to Class B status. If this process is continued, many of the AFL craft bosses will be able to "regularize" their dictatorships, by reserving Class A membership for themselves and making all the rest of the members voteless Class B subjects.

39 Years Without Convention

The AFL Tobacco Workers International Union has recently furnished a choice illustration of the "democracy" prevailing in the Federation.

For 39 years this organization has held no convention, its officials preferring to officiate without advice from the rank and file.

In recent years, however, some of the locals of this AFL union have had the audacity to ask for a convention. Upon being turned down, one of them went to court and obtained an order requiring the holding of a convention.

The latest word is that the international officials are appealing to a higher court to set aside this order—and it looks as if they'll be able to round out their 40th year without a convention.

* * *

The above are just a few among many reasons why the automobile workers and so many other groups of workers are giving such huge majorities to the CIO, when they have a chance to vote between it and the AFL.

In so doing, they are expressing their preference for vigorous, modern, democratic industrial unionism, as against craft division and decadent dictatorship.

Gov't Union Plans Campaign

New York, Sept. 30.—Greeted by national leaders in public affairs, the labor movement delegates to the first convention of the State, County and Municipal Workers, CIO, set themselves to the task of charting future organizing drives for their fast-growing union.

"You and the men and women whom you represent have achieved splendid results," CIO Pres. John L. Lewis wired the convention. "You have been pioneers in a new field, but in only a short time you have won over much of this territory."

Other greetings came from Pres. Roosevelt and Mrs. Roosevelt, Sec. of the Interior Ickes, and CIO Vice-Presidents Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman.

OFFICERS REPORT

The officers' report, submitted by Pres. Abram Flaxer and Sec.-Treas. Henry Wenning, discussed the growth of the union since its beginning in 1937 and revealed that it now has about 50,000 members in 231 locals spread out through 25 states.

"No advance towards war" was the keynote of the officers' suggested platform for the immediate future.

"War, with all its horrors," the report continued, is already having repercussions in this country. Pointing to quick-rising food prices, the officers called for "effective measures" by the labor movement to "curb the greed of war profiteers.

PROTECT SECURITY

"The spectre of war must not wrest from us those things for which we have fought so well . . . For his own security, the government worker must bend his every effort to see to it that there is no advance war and no retreat in legislation that will ensure and extend social services to the people of this country."

LIST PLATFORM

The SCMWA program calls for a $1,200 annual minimum wage for government officials, plus annual increases within each classification and opportunity to compete for promotion to higher ratings. It calls for greater democracy in public labor relations policies and demands the removal of the "semi-citizen" status of government workers, barred as they are at the present time from enjoying the benefits of Wagner Act, wage-hour and social security legislation.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF MARCH 3, 1933

Of THE CIO NEWS published weekly at at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for October 1, 1939.

State of Washington, D. C. ss.
County of

Before me, a notary public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Len De Caux, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Editor of THE CIO NEWS and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 411, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, Congress of Industrial Organizations, 1106 Conn. Ave., N. W., Washington D. C.

Editor, Len DeCaux, 1106 Conn. Ave., N. W., Wash., D. C.

2. That the owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.)

Congress of Industrial Organizations—John L. Lewis, President; Philip Murray, Vice President; Sidney Hillman, Vice President; James B. Carey, Secretary.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state)

None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

(Signed) LEN DE CAUX.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 20th day of September, 1939.

(Signed) EDWARD G. ROTHROCK.
(SEAL)
(My commission expires July 15, 1940.)

A. D. Lewis Cites Gains Of Drive

New York, Sept. 30. — "It is doubtful, at least to my mind, that the employes of the construction industry will agree to a Class B status" as suggested by certain AFL building trades union chieftains, Chairman A. D. Lewis of the CIO United Construction Workers Organizing Committee declared today.

Addressing convention delegates of the State, County & Municipal Workers in the Court of States at the World's Fair, Lewis pointed out that only one-half a million of the construction industry's three million workers are "in any kind of an organization," and for that reason "we can see the necessity for a modern organization such as has been set up by the Executive Officers of the CIO."

Enthusiastic reactions to the announcement of the CIO drive, which has already led to the chartering of 48 local construction unions, is proof, Lewis asserted, that the industry's workers are "anxious to join a modern type of organization that will relieve them of the many evils that have beset the industry in the past — high dues and exorbitant initiation fees."

COMPLIMENTS SCMWA

SCMWA delegates were complimented for their achievements during the two years the union was organized under CIO auspices.

"I confidently predict that it will press on from this point to cover the workers employed in all political subdivisions of this great country," he declared.

The time will soon come, Lewis predicted, when all government workers will be able to say:

"I have the right and am unafraid to express my opinions regarding the manner in which my government shall be operated. I have the right and am unafraid to express my opinions as to whom I shall vote for in the coming elections. I am as free as any man in the expression of my opinions, because I belong to the State, County & Municipal Workers."

Auto Union Sweeps Chrysler Poll; To Seek New Contract

Continued from page three

ers is the fact that their collective bargaining rights are restored. When Homer Martin was expelled from the UAW-CIO last Spring, he presented the Chrysler corporation with a demand for recognition.

Given an easy alibi by the AFL, the corporation said it did not know whom to deal with and would therefore recognize neither union. Bargaining was stymied for almost six months, and the best the UAW-CIO could do was win monthly extensions of the old agreement.

The UAW-CIO petition for the election asked that the employer unit be the basis. Apparently attempting to appease the AFL, the Labor Board ordered elections on plant units. President Thomas will petition at once, since the UAW-CIO has won in all plants, for a reversal of the NLRB decision.

The UAW-CIO triumph in Chrysler is the latest of six straight election NLRB victories for the union, President Thomas pointed out. Three weeks ago, Briggs Local 212, UAW-CIO, won a 3-to-1 victory over the AFL. Previous to that, the UAW-CIO won polls in the Packard, Motor Products, Michigan Steel Casting, Brewster Aeronautical and Dundy Tubing companies.

Demoralized by its constant thumping defeats at the hand of the auto workers, the AFL this week withdrew its petition for an election among workers at the Motors Metal Manufacturing Co., Detroit. As a result, the corporation has granted the UAW-CIO sole bargaining rights.

The UAW-CIO has a petition pending for an immediate poll in the Kelsey-Hayes Wheel plant, Detroit. The AFL refused to put in an appearance at NLRB hearings on the petition. An election has also been requested in the Detroit Midland Steel plant.

There are also 43 GM plants in which the UAW-CIO has the only bargaining committees.

HOT CAMPAIGN WAGED

The Chrysler victory was aided by a streamlined election campaign put on by the UAW-CIO and its Chrysler department. Union leaders were on the air every night for a week in radio broadcasts.

A series of three broadcasts presented, in play form, the history of the UAW-CIO and its difficulties with the AFL. Members of the union acted the roles of John L. Lewis, William Green, William S. Knudsen, Governor Frank Murphy and others who have played parts in the history of auto unionism.

Never, since the great 1937 victories, has enthusiasm for the UAW-CIO run so high among the auto workers. In a larger sense the Chrysler vote was a vote on the work of the CIO. The result is an overwhelming endorsement and vote of loyalty for the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Architects To Study Labor Set-up

Washington Sept. 30.—A proposal that the nation's architects study labor relations in the building industry with the consideration that the "whole procedure of building is one process in which many contribute, rather than as a series of separate contributions to a large whole," won unanimous acceptance at the convention of the American Institute of Architects, in session here.

The resolution, offered by Robert Kohn, suggested that some type of relationship involving "not only . . . labor with labor, but the architects with labor" should be found which would lend itself to the industry, which was viewed as integral process.

Kohn's suggestion followed discussion of the effects of craft unionism on the building industry, a problem which Kohn said the architects cannot afford to neglect.

The AFL buildings trade unions have recently been under government investigation and public criticism because of charges of racketeering, jurisdictional disputes and high initiation fees, all tending to weaken the entire industry.

CIO Backs Auto Union Request

Washington, Sept. 30. — CIO intervention in behalf of the United Automobile Workers, seeking employer-wide certification in Briggs Manufacturing Co. plants, was asked of the National Labor Relations Board today.

The UAW's petition was filed by Pres. R. J. Thomas, who said that on the basis of recent Labor Board votes in which the CIO union emerged an overwhelming victor, the UAW is "clearly entitled to certification as sole collective bargaining agent in all Briggs plants."

IMPORTANT ISSUE

The CIO request to intervene in the case was explained by Lee Pressman, general counsel, as based on the desire to "present to the Board its views on the importance of this issue in order to promote collective bargining and the purposes of the Wagner Act.

Discuss Farm Prices

PRICE LEVELS of farm products came in for discussion as Sec. of Agriculture Henry Wallace called together his new Agriculture Advisory Council to discuss new developments arising out of the war situation. Chairman Van A. Bittner of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee represents the CIO on the board.

Ohio Valley Unions Discuss Plans

Cincinnati, Sept. 30—Over 100 delegates from dozens of important unions discussed new problems and organizing plans at the CIO Ohio River Valley Conference here.

Paul W. Fuller, CIO regional director, was chairman of the meeting. Reports were heard from Lee Hall, CIO representative in the paper industry, who urged cooperation in organizing that field; George Moses of the Inland Boatmen's division of the National Maritime Union; T. Louis Majors of the steel union and Jack Kroll of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

Secretary David MacDonald of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee was guest speaker. He listed recent gains in the nation's No. 1 industry and urged the various union leaders to fight to protect labor's gains in the months ahead.

Resolutions backed the CIO drive in the construction industry, pledged support to the wage-hour act, National Labor Relations Act, and the Wagner Health Bill, and listed a program of opposition to profiteering, to encroachments on democratic rights and for greater internal security in the United States.

Glass Union Wins Company Wide Bargaining Rights; Leiserson Dissents

By HOLLACE RANSDELL

Washington, Sept. 30.—The Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company this week was ordered by a majority decision of the National Labor Relations Board to bargain collectively upon request with the Federation of Flat Glass Workers, CIO, as representative of its employes in all of the six plants comprising the firm's flat glass division.

The Board's decision followed an earlier ruling that the appropriate bargaining unit should consist of the flat glass division, including the Crystal City, Missouri plant—largest in the divisoin — and held that the company's refusal to bargain with the FFGW on division-wide basis was an unfair labor practice.

The company had refused to include the Crystal City plant in its agreement with the CIO union, on the basis that it recognized the Crystal City Glass Workers' Union, a so-called "independent," as the bargaining agency. The Board charged that this union was dominated by the company and ordered it abolished on September 22, 1938. The Board's order was upheld by the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals on January 14, 1939.

LEISERSON IN MINORITY

William M. Leiserson dissented from the majority decision on the basis that past contracts between the company and the union did not include Crystal City and that as no poll had been held there, a bargaining agency was "imposed" upon them. Evidence, however, had shown the "independent" was dominated by plant officials.

53 REHIRED

Washington—The National Labor Relations Board has ordered the Majestic Flour Mills, Aurora, Mo., to rehire 53 workers whom it locked out in August, 1935.

Lewis' Labor Day Speech Available

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30—Transcriptions of Pres. John L. Lewis' Labor Day address, which was broadcast on a coast to coast network of the Natl. Broadcasting Co., have been made and are available at the National Office of the CIO.

Local unions desiring to play this transcription should write to the Publicity Dept., CIO, 1106 Connecticut Ave., NW, Washington, D. C.

Swarm of Fake Unions Knocked

Washington, Sept. 30 — Nine company unions maintained by the Corning Glass Works at its Macbeth-Evans Division, Charleroi, Pennsylvania, were ordered abolished this week by the National Labor Relations Board.

The company was also ordered to reimburse its employes for all dues or assessments deducted from wages by check-off, to cancel its contracts with the nine departmental labor groups, and to stop interfering with the right of its employes to choose their own union agency.

Fourteen shipping and trucking department employes fired in August 1937, were ordered reinstated with back pay.

The Corning company which acquired the Macbeth-Evans Glass Co. in December 1936, directed the formation of six of the nine company unions, the Board found, while the other three were formed at meetings held in the plant during working hours with the permission of foremen.

McKeown New Hosiery Union Head

New York, Sept. 30 — Resolutions demanding a curb on war profiteers and condemning the Dies Committee for its attacks on labor were passed in the closing sessions of the 28th convention of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers held here last week.

Alexander McKeown of Philadelphia was elected president of the Federation to replace Emil Rieve, who resigned to give his full time to the Textile Workers Union of America of which he is president. The hosiery federation is affiliated with the TWUA.

SUGGESTS RAISES

In his closing speech, Rieve said that as soon as practical, the union should reopen its wage clause for pay increases to keep pace with the rising cost of living, and should be prepared to meet demands of manufacturers for a revision downward in the wage scale for work on synthetic yarns, which he said have improved much lately, and will probably replace silk.

The newly elected president McKeown, is a pioneer in the hosiery union and has worked closely with retiring president Rieve for many years, at one time being employed on the same loom with him. He was formerly president of District 1 in the Philadelphia area, and at the time of his election as president was first vice-president of the Federation.

Labor and the *Law*

By Lee Pressman

CIO General Counsel

The Labor Board's recent decision in the Pittsburgh Plate Glass case is one of deep importance to organized labor. The Federation of Glass Workers (CIO) over a period of years organized into the union an overwhelming majority of the employes of the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company. This company operates seven plants.

In a previous order the Board had designated all of the plants of the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co., including Crystal City, Mo., as the appropriate bargaining unit and certified the Federation as the union having a majority of all the employes. Upon the company's refusal to bargain with the Federation for the Crystal City plant the Federation filed unfair labor charges against the company. The Board in its present decision reaffirmed its previous order that all the plants of the company constituted a single bargaining unit and held that the company committed an unfair labor practice in refusing to bargain with the Federation for its employes at its Crystal City plant. Dr. Leiserson entered a dissent against the majority opinion.

The issue presented in this case is simple and clear. The purpose and intent of the National Labor Relations Act require that the unit designated by the Labor Board for collective bargaining should be one that grants the maximum economic strength to the union for the purpose of engaging collective bargaining with the company.

No one can deny that in this specific case the labor policy as to wages, hours and conditions of employment for the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company are not controlled or rest in the discretion of the management of any particular plant but is definitely in the hands of the President and Board of Directors of the company. In other words, as far as management is concerned its economic strength for collective bargaining stems from its very centralized control.

ACT WOULD BE FRUSTRATED

If the union representing a majority of the employes of that company is to be decentralized in its collective bargaining by being compelled to negotiate with separate plant managers, the purpose of the Labor Act is being frustrated.

The only argument that is offered in the dissenting opinion of Dr. Leiserson is that the employes in the Crystal City plant are not being afforded an opportunity to designate their bargaining representatives because admittedly a majority of the employes in that plant were not members of the Federation of Glass Workers Union. But this point evades the basic issue involved in determining the appropriate bargaining unit under the National Labor Relations Act.

There is no question that the Federation represented a majority of all the employes throughout all the plants. Carrying Dr. Leiserson's argument one step further, it would mean that wherever a minority in any appropriate bargaining unit did not care for the bargaining representatives, it would have the right to exclude itself from the bargaining unit.

Unfortunately, the Labor Board has not carried into effect the full meaning of its decision. The same principle of assuring to the workers the strongest possible collective bargaining strength should apply in the cases where craft unions seek to carve up an industrial unit. If a majority of the employes of any industrial unit desire a particular bargaining agency craft units should not be carved out. The Labor Board in so doing, is decreasing the economic strength for collective bargaining of all the employes in the industrial unit.

The decision in the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company case may reflect a renewed appreciation on the part of the Labor Board as to what its function is in administering the Act, namely, to really afford the workers an opportunity to choose the type of union which can meet management on an equal basis for collective bargaining.

The Wildcat and the Union

A Story

By TOM LAWRENCE

I'll say this for Jonesy — he did get both of us jobs on an oil-drilling outfit at Casper, Wyoming. He took me out to the new oilfield at Cow Creek and got us on as roughnecks, and from then on while the job lasted we looked at each other across the drillpipe on the working floor of the derrick.

It sure was a laugh to work across from Jonesy. There is something funny about two guys like Jonesy and me doing the same kind of job. He used to drill geysers, the fellows say. He's old as a buckpole fence and his wife is fat, and they got five (count 'em) kids.

Well, this was my first job, and I had never been married any either, until Kitty said yes to this job at six bucks a day. I was a hothead, and since it was my first real job, I thought it ought to be union. You see, I was raised on that idea by my Pa, who was a carpenter once. I didn't talk union at first. I was so het up, I couldn't tell what was right or wrong about the job.

Most of the crews stayed at Sunset, which is a little town near where the field was. Jonesy had a big house and a barn to fill with his kids, and I got a little place next door. I am still glad there was a strong chickenwire fence in between us. Jonesy's kids were kind of like Jonesy. They were old hands at making a racket.

Right away Kitty and I started paying on a Chevvy, so I wouldn't have to sponge off the other fellows for a ride to the lease. I told Kitty that having a car was like equipment for the job, and other things would have to wait till later.

Lots of Fun

It was a lot of fun. Getting a check with a long line of stuckout numbers. Stopped in and had beer on the way home sometimes. Going to all the dances with Kitty exactly like you want it when you first get married. It was even fun going around in the car on Saturdays and paying the bills. And coming home from night shift after a night's work, you could eat a breakfast six times bigger than if you'd just got up.

We worked seven days a week and that was tough after awhile. Never a day off. I started talking to the fellows about how a union would change that, but Jonesy says: "You got paid for every day, ain't you? What's the matter with this job?" I guess by now Jonesy and the rest of them know what.

Six bucks a day. After three or four months I was still wondering if we had any use for a union. You get to ache for a day off. The most time we ever had off, was for 36 hours, when we had long shift.

And sick leave maybe. I busted my ankle and had to go back with it bound up busted. The State would have given me half wages but the job wouldn't have been there if I'd stayed home like Kitty wanted. You should have seen the look on the foreman's face when I busted it. "You hillbilly," he says, "can't you stay on your feet?"

Nothing much seemed wrong with that job — while it lasted After seven months, this wildcat well was getting down about five thousand feet, and there was signs of oil. But everybody went around all red and sicklooking, like they had TB. Jonesy was awful glum on the way home to breakfast, and they were only half as noisy next door as usual. I was going kind of crazy myself. I told Kitty it was because we would know pretty soon, and if we didn't strike oil we would be out of our jobs. But I didn't know the half of it.

All the time I was coming home like a happy pigeon, Jonesy and the rest had begun to think where they'd get their next job. I didn't know, like they did, that the Company had brought in another wildcat up North, and they had sealed it up. For reserves.

And then we struck it. Jonesy yalped like it was his own well. "I always brung them in before," he says. He says it over and over like he was braggin about a sixth kid or something. Yeah. And the same day the Company had us seal it up, and our job was over.

It was a pretty nice job at six bucks. Do you need a union for a job like that? We talked about it some, that last day. Jonesy wasn't telling me to shut up or I'd lose my job. We figured it out. One thing was all we needed—so we could hold onto a job that's a job, not a disappearing act every six months.

Making Millions

The Company was always drilling wells — and making millions —all over the country. Well, they could drill all over the country with us. Make it a steady union job. Six bucks a day. You see?

Losing a job wasn't so good for a guy like Jonesy, with his Mrs. and five (count 'em) kids. I told Kitty when I came home the last day, think how bad it is for Jonesy and all the noise over there.

"Well, what are we going to do?" said Kitty.

"We ain't going to keep our trap shut after this," I said. "One word I ain't going to keep [illegible] of my teeth is 'union'."

Your WPA Job

By Ralph Hetzel

CIO UNEMPLOYMENT DIRECTOR

(WASTED MANPOWER, By Corrington Gill. Norton Publishers, New York. $2.75).

Corrington Gill, Assistant Commissioner of the WPA has just written a book which is the best available statement of the unemployed problem and of what this administration has tried to do about it. If there is any material which should be required reading for those in charge of unemployment and welfare programs, this is the book.

Mr. Gill writes in a very straight forward and simple way. He avoids writing political speeches or high-flown abstractions. He tells the facts as he sees them. He tells things that CIO people will want to know. We do not care to read heart-breaking stories of the suffering of WPA workers and unemployed. We know about those things because we meet them every day. What we want to know is what are the facts, what has been done about it, what can be done about it.

DISCUSSES FACTS

Mr. Gill's book starts out by telling how much unemployment there is and what kind, and what it is caused by. He discusses very simply and briefly the worthwhile parts of the theories about what causes unemployment. Labor people will probably agree in great part with Mr. Gill's point of view about the causes of depression. He does put less emphasis than does labor upon the central importance of purchasing power. But he certainly does not slight the subject. He is properly contemptuous of those theorists who say that everything will adjust itself properly in the long run, quoting Mr. J. M. Keynes as saying that **"in the long run** we are all dead."

One of the most insistent problems that faces labor is that of unemployment rising out of the replacement of men by machines. To this subject Mr. Gill devotes a whole chapter. He reacts to the suggestion that in the long run there is no technological unemployment much as labor did. He says the knowledge that this might be so "offers the unemployed neither spiritual consolation nor material assistance. The all important problem is to obtain jobs quickly."

USEFUL FIGURES

The part of Mr. Gill's book which deals with the causes and extent of unemployment is concluded with a study of the actual figures on unemployment for the past ten years. It is probably the most straight-forward and useful statement about the number of unemployed and what these figures actually mean that can be found anywhere. There are in the libraries shelves of volumes about the number of unemployed, but they all boil down to the fact that nobody really knows how many unemployed there are or who is unemployed. All that is useful to the layman in these volumes Mr. Gill has summed up in a chapter of twenty-five pages.

For those who have not followed the picture day by day since 1933, it is most confusing to enter into the small wilderness of agencies which have been and are now set up to deal with relief and unemployment. For such readers Gill's discussion of the whole attack in this country upon unemployment and relief since 1933 is a very helpful and illuminating statement.

A SAD STORY

In many ways though it is a sad story because it is strewn with evidences of failure to meet the problem of unemployment full on and courageously. On the other hand it is a story in which there are many elements of courage and real pioneering spirit. The history of the WPA is, after all, the history of a pioneer experiment, the greatness of which will be better realized long after the politicians have finished howling about it.

Some profoundly important principles on unemployment have been established by the federal government and the fact that these principles have not been carried out in practice cannot wholly dim the advance which they mark in the national thinking about unemployment.

Mr. Gill devotes only one chapter to telling what he thinks ought to be done in the future about unemployment. In that chapter he outlines the kind of program which can be quite accurately described as the best kind of what is called a New Deal program. From that chapter, one can get a fairly clear picture of what a real New Deal program might be if its execution were unhampered by hesitancy politics, and reaction. In many ways it is a sensible picture.

LABOR'S ROLE

In one fundamental, however, it seems to be lacking, and that is in the recognition of the role which organized labor must play in the establishment of a sound economic program in this country. Perhaps Mr. Gill could not say what he thought about the part which he thought organized labor must play. The fact is that any discussion of unemployment cannot be fully realistic unless it discusses the fact that organized labor above all other forces in the country must bear the brunt of any drive to put into effect such a program as Mr. Gill has outlined.

No such program can ever be realized or enforced without the vigorous support of a powerful organized labor movement.

CIO President Lewis repeated a challenge on Labor Day that he has made several times before. He said "America's number one basic problem is productive work for its population." Mr. Gill's book does much to illuminate the real significance of that challenge.

It is a book that no one whose duty it is to concern himself about the problem of unemployment in the United States can afford to neglect.

Textile Contract Aids 3,000

Boston, Mass., Sept. 30 — More than 3000 workers are covered by an agreement signed today between the Textile Workers Union of America and the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company for the Pequot Mills in Salem and the Danvers Bleachery in Peabody, Mass.

The CIO union is recognized as sole bargaining agency for all the company's employes in the contract which runs for one year. Other terms provide a 40-hour week, time and a half for overtime, seniority rights, grievance and arbitration machinery and no strikes or lockouts during the duration of the agreement.

Packinghouse Workers Issue New Pamphlet

Chicago, Sept. 16—Speeches of President John L. Lewis, Bishop Bernard J. Sheil and Alderman Wm. A. Rowan at the national policy convention of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, held here this summer, have been printed in a new pamphlet just released by the union.

The speeches are not printed in full, but significant quotations from each are given.

Copies of the pamphlet can be secured from the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, 205 W. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill. Price, 1c each.

Canadian Steel Unions Fight War Profiteering

TORONTO, Ont., Sept. 30. — Anxious over soaring prices which have eaten deeply into the static wage levels of employes, officers of SWOC Toronto lodges have asked the federal government to take measures to "guarantee the right of employes to bargain collectively with their employers for higher wages as the cost of living continues to rise."

The SWOC executives met to pledge "cooperation with the government in its measures to protect the nation against fascist aggression."

The steel union leaders, however, urged the government to make this cooperation possible to the "fullest degree by taking measures to guarantee labor rights."

WORKERS MUST PAY

"We will do our share," said the message to the Ottawa government, "but the war budget taxes places the major burden of paying for the war on the backs of those least able to pay while the corporation interests are granted many privileges and exemptions."

Canada's war-time parliament in an emergency session authorized the government to spend **$100,000,000 for war needs. The** government will raise this money by special taxation which includes coffee, tea, tobacco and other staples.

Labor circles estimate that prices of food commodities have risen by 15 to 20 per cent in the past two weeks while wages have remained static. This situation, fraught with profiteering, is working considerable hardship on the wage workers.

RAP BIG BUSINESS

The SWOC leaders hit big business circles who were said to have refused to tender for government orders at a set profit of 5 per cent. Transport Minister Howe was said to have stated that despite all appeals to patriotism not one Canadian manufacturer would accept a contract from the government unless the 5 per cent profit limitation was abolished.

Under these circumstances the government was said to have capitulated. Its taxation on big business only applies to excess profits. The little fellow and on the man on the street, however, felt the effect of soaring prices in the first days of the war.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Sept. 30.—While he sat talking with three companions in a parked car, Phil Carey, 27-year-old official of the National Maritime Union in the Gulf District was suddenly attacked by three unidentified men and murdered. Two of the men approached Carey and began beating him in the face with heavy chains. As he rose from his seat crying, "don't do it, Scotty!" the third shot him in the back. The men fled in a black car.

Members of the NMU here believe that Carey's murder is the result of an exposure of spies within the union and the expulsion of those implicated. A new committee was elected in the Gulf district during the national convention held in New Orleans some weeks ago. The day before he was murdered, Carey was threatened by one of the members of the expelled committee.

One of the 11 children in an Irish family, Carey went to sea after his third year in high school, and had been long a tireless union worker. He was elected from the Steamship Uruguay to the New Orleans convention and was chosen by the delegates to serve on the new Gulf District Committee which replaced the ousted committee.

Labor Candidate Elected

FORT SMITH, Ark., Sept. 30—(FP)—Lyman Mikel, caked by labor, was elected to the State Senate in special elections here, defeating the incumbent, Paul Gutensohn, who had been appointed by Gov. Bailey to fill a vacancy.

The new State Senator is the son of Elmer Mikel, long-time secretary of District 21 of the United Mine Workers.

Suggest Settlement Of Board Cases In Crisis Period

NEW YORK, Sept. 30.—An open bid for settlement of more than 30 cases still pending before the National Labor Relations Board was made this week by the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, CIO, on the basis that the war situation in Europe makes it "greatly to the interest of both management and labor in the United States to establish harmonious and stable collective bargaining arrangements."

In a letter sent out to the companies involved in the cases, James J. Matles, director of organization for the union, urged that company, union and NLRB representatives "meet soon in joint conference for the purpose of settling pending litigation."

The UERMW already has agreements with firms manufacturing nearly three-fourths of all Federal Government purchases of electrical goods, Matles stated, which "now enjoy smooth production and complete harmony with their employes."

COMPANIES SCATTERED

Companies to which the letter was sent are scattered through New York and other eastern states and the middle west, and include such well-known concerns as Radio Corporation of America, Emerson, Stromberg-Carlson, Westinghouse, National Cash Register, and others.

Four-fifths of all electrical goods manufactured in the United States are covered by agreements with the CIO union, it was stated at union headquarters.

West Coast Longshore Talks Adjourned After 2 Weeks; OK Pact Extension

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 29.—Negotiations between the International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union and the Waterfront Employers Association for a revised contract which have been held continuously for the past two weeks, have adjourned for the time being.

The Maritime Labor Board is acting as mediator in the conferences at which the union and the employers are seeking to reach an agreement on changes to be made in the contract expiring September 30.

So far the desired amendments submitted by the ILWU have been met by the association with a flat rejection, or with the reply that they will be taken under consideration, reports Rosco G. Craycraft, secretary of the union committee.

Both sides have agreed to an extension of the September 30th contract pending the outcome of negotiations. This was rejected by the association when it was first proposed by the union, but was agreed to later.

ASKED INCREASES

In a draft proposal submitted to the employers' group on August 3, the union asked for a wage increase to compensate workers for increased efficiency in methods of operation and increased cost of living, calling attention to the fact that present rates were established in 1934.

Other demands were for a straight six-hour day instead of the present practice of working six hours within an eight-hour period; clarification of amount of benefits workers should receive from introduction of labor-saving devices, and elimination of penalties on locals or individual longshoremen for work stoppages over which the union has no control.

SHUTDOWN WAS THEATENED

The employers replied with a proposal to make no changes in the contract, and implied a threat to shut down steamship services on the West Coast when the contract terminated September 30 if the proposal was rejected.

Then the ILWU committee refused to accept and, on August 12, withdrew from negotiations, the employers wrote to the union proposing a number of amendments and requested that they be submitted to Dean Wayne L. Morse for immediate arbitration. Among the amendments proposed by the employers were a reduction in wages and a lengthening of working hours from six to eight.

LABOR BOARD HELPS

These proposals were flatly rejected by the union and an offer to continue negotiations for a fair settlement of the dispute were made. Early this month the Maritime Labor Board offered its services as mediator. Again the union accepted the offer, while the employers replied that they would accept it only on condition that the union agree in advance to a blanket arbitration of all issues in dispute.

After more prolonged arguments, the employers finally agreed to meet with the union with the Maritime Board acting as mediator, in another attempt to draw up a revised contract.

'NO PROGRESS'

After two weeks of continuous negotiations, the ILWU committee reported last week that no progress had been made and that the employers were definitely stalling negotiations. The meeting adjourned with the understanding that the employers were to draft a summary of their proposals and then notify the Maritime Board, after which negotiations would be resumed.

Wire Firm Rapped In Board Order

Dixon, Ill., Sept. 30 — An order against the Reynolds Wire Company for discriminating against the CIO union in the plant, was recommended to the National Labor Relations Board in a report filed by the Board's trial examiner, the Steel Workers Organizing Committee announced today.

The report also recommended that the firm be ordered to stop dominating and supporting the Reynolds Wire Employes Association, and offer reinstatement with back pay to George Carlson, recording secretary of the SWOC local, whom the union charged was fired because of his union activity.

Southwestern CIO Meets Despite Heat

Los Angeles, Sept. 30—Blistering heat failed to stop the third quarterly conference of the Southern California CIO.

Two hundred delegates from scores of unions met under the trees in a park overlooking the Pacific Ocean and discussed problems facing the unions in this area.

Speakers included Congressman Lee Geyer, liberal Democrat; Theodore Dreiser, noted author, and Carey McWilliams, head of the State Department of Housing and Immigration.

McWilliams, author of a recent book on California farm problems, described how the reactionary Associated Farmers organization controls police forces in a number of the state's communities, and warned that it is endeavoring to defeat all progressive forces in the region.

Renew Contract

Indianapolis, Ind., Sept. 30—Renewal for the third time of a contract between the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, CIO, and the Rockwood Manufacturing Company here was announced today by James Robb, CIO regional director. The agreement runs for a year and provides a 2½c hourly pay increase.

Order 11 Rehired In Richmond

Richmond, Va., Sept. 30 — Eleven workers of the Planters Manufacturing Company here were ordered reinstated with a total of more than $5,100 back pay in a decision issued by the National Labor Relations Board, Ray Thomason, CIO regional director, announced this week.

The company was one of a number of plants in the South paying wages of 10 and 15 cents an hour before the Wage-Hour law went into effect.

The NLRB also ordered an election in the plant, which Thomason said the CIO union was confident of winning.

File $100,000 Suit For Loss Of Liberties

HUNTINGTON PARK, Calif., Sept. 30.—Officials of this Los Angeles suburb are learning that violations of civil liberties are apt to be costly.

Striking members of the Los Angeles Newspaper Guild have sued Mayor Elmer Cox and Police Chief W. Hulquist, as well as Publisher Max Ward of the Huntington Park Bulletin for $100,000, charging conspiracy to deprive the unionists of their fundamental civil rights.

The suit asserts that the city officials refused to issue the strikers a permit for a sound truck and then arrested the strikers when they tried to tell their story to the public.

Court Report Bares Giant AFL Vote Tampering Deal

NEW YORK, Sept. 30. — One of the biggest jobs of vote tampering in AFL history—whereby thousands of nay votes became thousands of ayes—has come to light in a report prepared here by a court referee appointed to investigate charges against AFL Carpenters union president, Wm. L. Hutcheson, by New York Local 2090.

The report deals with a union-wide referendum held in 1937, the results of which were contested at the time by Local 2090 and other Carpenters affiliates. It shows that the vote on two of the most important provisions was deliberately reversed by the Hutcheson - appointed tabulating committee.

The two provisions strengthening the autocratic group of Czar Hutcheson on the union by providing severe penalties against any member "preaching, advocating or counseling disorder, dissension or disobedience" of union authority, and by forcing new members to swear they would never join "any revolutionary organization." Both were obviously intended to terrorize the rank and file, as Hutcheson attempted to intimidate them into voting for Tory Landon in the 1936 Presidential compaign.

According to the report 13 locals voted 3636 against the two propositions, 76 for. The Hutcheson tabulating committee made this 3654 for, 185 against—almost an exact reversal.

Local 2090 was promptly expelled by boss Hutcheson for its charges. Now it is seeking an injunction to restore its charter, stating that members have lost jobs as the result of the Hutcheson blackslist.

3 Textile Mills Must Bargain

Washington, Sept. 23—Three textile mills in Georgia were ordered by the National Labor Relations Board this week to bargain collectively with the Textile Workers Union of America, CIO, and to stop interfering with their employes' rights to belong to the union of their choice.

The companies involved were the Scottsdale Mills, Scottsdale, Ga., and the Whittier Mills Co. and Silver Lake Co., Chattahoochee. The Board held that the textile concerns' failure to inform or consult with the union on wage reductions, constituted a refusal to bargain.

Akron Street Scene

PICKETS PLUS BALLOONS help keep Akron, Ohio, aware of the CIO strike against the Akron Dry Goods Co., one of the city's big stores. United Retail and Wholesale Employes have been fighting for a contract and an end to discrimination for six months.

200 Strike In Cleveland Parts Plant

Cleveland, Ohio, Sept. 30. — Bosses of the Bishop & Babcock Co., manufacturers of automobile accessories, were greeted by a singing, cheering picket line of more than 200 workers when they entered the plant one morning last week. The strike was called by Local 217, United Automobile Workers, CIO, after the management had refused to grant a pay increase.

A six-point grievance list drawn up by the union asks for a 15c hourly increase; a 65c minimum rate for women, 75c for men on piece work; timing of piece rates to permit workers to earn at least 20 per cent above their day rates; improved seniority rights; preferential shop, and minimum hiring rates for beginners of 45c an hour for women and 50c for men, with a 2½c increase at the end of three months, and a 5c increase at the end of six months.

The present strike is the second called against the company since was organized two years ago.

CIO Official Named To California Office

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 30. — Germain Bulcke, president of Local 1-10 of the Intl. Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union, was named today to the state Fish and Game Commission by Gov. Olson.

Besides administering laws on fishing for sport, the commission also holds jurisdiction over commercial fishing, a large industry whose workers are almost entirely members of CIO unions.

Bulcke was named to a position on the state San Francisco port authority soon after Olson took office, but reactionary opposition from shipowners and farm factory groups prevented his appointment from going into effect.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 41 | Send form 3578-P to 1106 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. | OCTOBER 9, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

CIO BOARD MEETS IN SAN FRANCISCO

Textile Union Moves To Win Wage Increases

NEW YORK, Oct. 7.—Notice that it would request an immediate and substantial wage increase for more than 200,000 textile workers was served this week on the leading manufacturers in the synthetic yarn and the woolen and worsted industry by the Textile Workers Union of America. The CIO union has contractual relations with most of the important mills in the country.

The TWUA executive council voted at its first session held at the Hotel Plymouth here, to ask for immediate conferences with American Woolen Co., Princeton Worsted, Berkshire Woolen, Kent Manufacturing, and the Arlington, Uxbridge, Stevens and Pacific Mills, in the woolen and worsted industry. In the rayon industry, the union will ask to meet with the American Viscose, Bemberg, and other outstanding firms.

Emil Rieve, TWUA president, said the union will ask for prompt restoration of wage cuts given during the 1938 recession, as well as for advances justified by the rise in prices. Declaring that the union had accepted reductions during the depression without attempting to dislocate the industry, Rieve said that the woolen and worsted industry must be prepared to share the benefits of the present upward movement.

STRIKES NOT NECESSARY

Appropriate collective bargaining machinery now operating in the industry, he pointed out, should assure the manufacturers that no recourse to strikes will be necessary if the mills "desire to be reasonable."

President Rieve also stated that the request for an upward revision in the woolen and worsted industry will be supplemented by similar request in the cotton and other branches of the textile industry, covering 1,250,000 organized and unorganized workers. He noted that as a result of the enactment of the 32½ cents minimum wage in the textile industry set under the Wage-Hour Act, pay will be raised on October 24 for about 175,000 cotton textile workers.

LIVING COSTS UP

"In order to maintain an adequate differential between skilled and unskilled workers," Rieve said, "there must be a higher wage level above the minimum for the skilled branches of the industry, if fair employers are to maintain their competitive position."

Undue price advances in consumers' goods have and are continuing to increase the cost of living, the union's executive council stated. "The rising cost of living means a real reduction in the buying power of labor, and wage increases must balance this development," it declared.

PRES. JOHN L. LEWIS, who on Tuesday morning will report on the year's CIO activities to several hundred delegates at the second annual convention in San Francisco.

PARLEY STARTS

Baltimore—Discussions on contract points have started between the Steel Workers Organizing Committee and the Maryland Bolt & Nut Co.

CIO Victory at Chrysler

Officials of the United Automobile Workers, elated over the 9 to 1 vote polled for the CIO in the recent Chrysler election, shown above. Left to right: C. G. Edelen, president of Plymouth Local 51; Leo LaMotte, regional director; Richard Frankensteen, Chrysler director; Pat Quinn, president of the Dodge Local 3; O. E. Zimmerman, president of Truck Local 140, and William Jenkins, UAW Local 490.

Below are auto workers from the Plymouth division of Chrysler Corp. entering the NLRB election tent to cast their votes.

Union Heads Prepare For Convention

(See Story, Page Three)

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 7—As delegates gather from all over the country for the national convention of the CIO which opens here October 10, the executive board has been meeting since Oct. 5, to plan the program and expedite the convention proceedings.

Reports of CIO international officials show the tremendous progress being made by CIO unions. R. J. Thomas, president of the United Automobile Workers, reported on the filing of a petition for a Labor Board election to determine representation for some 130,000 workers in 60 General Motors plants.

Samuel Wolchok, president of the United Retail and Wholesale Employes Union, told of the signing of a closed shop pact in New York with the Saks Company, covering 650 workers.

CIO "Going Concern", Says President Lewis

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 7. — Reports at the CIO convention opening Oct. 10 will show that the CIO "is a going concern, that it has made marked progress despite severe economic conditions," John L. Lewis, CIO president, told newspapermen here in a preliminary press conference.

"More than ever the CIO has established itself and has become an influential factor in national affairs," Lewis said. "Plans will be laid at the convention for active organizing efforts in various industries.

"As employment increases, there will be greater opportunity to enroll new members in the CIO. Obviously men cannot be organized in idle factories, but as employment rises, CIO enrollment will rise in direct ratio."

ON LIVING COSTS

Turning to cost of living problems raised by sharp price increases in recent weeks, Lewis declared that the convention would go into this situation and would recommend remedial action.

"In many industrial areas where price hysteria was high," he said, "merchants marked up prices over and above replacement costs — in some instances up to 40 or 50 per cent. Of course this was unwarwanted. Certainly there are ample supplies of all commodities in the nation."

Lewis said that he "was glad to be in San Francisco again" and looked forward to his stay during the convention. He indicated that the convention might be concluded by the weekend of Oct. 15.

Asked by reporters about the European war and the neutrality revision debate in Congress, Pres. Lewis withheld comment "until the convention has had time to crystallize its views" on these subjects.

Department Store Signs

New York, Oct. 7—Lane, Bryant & Co., big women's department store, has signed its first contract with the United Retail and Wholesale Employes of America.

Unions, Councils Hold Meetings

Shoe Workers Demand Increases

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Oct. 7—Wage increases to offset the rising costs of living and protection of wage standards and working conditions of the American shoe worker from the low-wage feudalistic policies of the Bata Shoe Company were demanded at the convention of the United Shoe Workers of America, CIO, meeting here.

Both Powers Hapgood, National Director, and Frank McGrath, General Organizer, in their reports to the delegates proposed action to develop an effective program looking to wage increases in all districts and sections of the industry.

Secretary-Treasurer Mitchell revealed to the delegates that Senator Wagner wired officials of the USWA that he had taken their protest against the granting of a permit to the Bata Shoe Company to import alien shoe workers, "directly to Secretary of Labor Perkins."

He promised the union officials to cooperate further in any way possible.

SMETHURST SPEAKS

Walter Smethurst, Executive Assistant to John L. Lewis, told the delegates last night. "We can feel the surge of greater organizational efforts throughout the country." He predicted that the CIO is heading into a period of major expansion. Stressing the importance of political activity of labor, Smethurst said that it is "surprising the respect that politicians have for the workers when they are organized."

"There will be a renewal of this opposition with the convening of the next Congress. We must therefore give greater attention to our political possibilities."

Ohio Valley CIO Confab

UNIONS IN THE OHIO RIVER VALLEY sent representatives to Cincinnati recently for a conference to discuss regional problems. Shown addressing the meeting is Sec. David J. McDonald of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee. Others at the speakers' table include Harry Doll; T. Louis Majors; Lee Hall, CIO director in Cleveland; Paul W. Fuller, regional director in Cincinnati, and Mrs. Fuller, secretary of the meeting.

Ohio Convention Delegates Hail Owens' Attack on War-Mongers

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Oct. 7—A warning that the American people want no war and want no war profiteering was sounded in the keynote speech to the annual convention of the Ohio Industrial Union Council, by Pres. John Owens.

The council executive won resounding cheers when he told the more than 350 delegates, who represented almost every CIO union, that: "We might as well serve notice now that if our wage standards will only purchase 50 per cent of our necessities, we will not stand for artificial purchasing power. We will demand higher wages."

Owens was sharply critical of the war makers, adding:

"The best blood in every nation will be spilled because we have not yet developed intelligence enough to solve our economic existence in any other way than wiping out millions of men."

"We want to resolve as parents, citizens and producers that no American life will be sacrificed to preserve some ideology predicated on preserving the resources of the wealthy in other parts of the world," he continued

Pres. Owens, who also heads the Ohio district of the United Mine Workers, was re-elected to his office, as was Sec.-Treas. Ted Silvey.

Delegates in large numbers were sent by miners, steel workers, rubber workers, shoe workers, aluminum workers and gas, coke and chemical workers in this heavily-industrialized state.

MANY SPEAKERS

Heads of two CIO international unions—Pres. Sherman Dalrymple of the United Rubber Workers and Pres. R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers; E. L. Oliver, executive vice-president of Labor's Non-Partisan League; and Len DeCaux, editor of The CIO NEWS, addressed the delegates during the three-day session.

"The CIO has come unscathed through a period of depresion, unemployment and virulent attacks on both the industrial and legislative fields," DeCaux noted in his speech.

"It has not only maintained but increased its membership, has prevented the wrecking of the Wagner Act and every one of its unions has successfully beaten off the attacks of disruption and dualism launched by the AFL and anti-union employers.

"Election figures for the past year show that the CIO has won many more elections than either AFL or independent unions, and has received more workers' votes than all other unions combined."

He urged building the labor press and support for The CIO NEWS as methods of counteracting the propaganda campaigns launched against the CIO."

CRITICIZE GOVERNOR

A high point of the convention came in the form of a report from a delegation which had asked Governor Bricker, Republican, to call a special session of the state legislature to cope with Ohio's serious relief problem.

Jack Kroll of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, who headed the delegation, reported the governor had termed the calling of the legislature a "useless" proposal.

"We pleaded with the governor in behalf of hungry people who face a black winter and told him there would be hunger riots," Kroll said. In Toledo, all relief payments stopped September 16.

Re-Elected

Pres. John Owens of the Ohio CIO Industrial Union Council, who was re-elected to office at the council's convention in Columbus, last week-end.

State, County Union Elects Officers

By ALEXANDER TAYLOR

New York, Oct. 7—Confirming the judgment of such CIO leaders as A. D. Lewis, chairman of the United Construction Workers' Organizing Committee, James B. Carey, national CIO secretary and president of the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, and Michael J. Quill, president of the Transport Workers Union, the delegates to the First National Convention of the State, County & Municipal Workers of America unanimously elected Abram Flaxer and Henry W. Wenning, president and secretary-treasurer, respectively.

Flaxer and Wenning were incumbents in these offices as CIO appointees, and received the warm praise of A. D. Lewis, Carey and Quill in speeches made at the convention. The elections were the first held under the new SCMWA constitution, adopted at the convention to replace the "Policies and Principles" which had been the basic law of the SCMWA since it was chartered by the CIO in July, 1937.

A national organizing drive in private as well as public hospitals was approved by the convention in a resolution asking the CIO to grant formally the jurisdiction in the private hospital field. The SCMWA has already organized certain private as well as public hospitals, and bases its claim to jurisdiction on the fact that today private hospitals are largely supported by public funds.

Moreover, the resolution pointed out, the field is almost totally unorganized, with the workers, many of whom receive as little as $20 per month plus miserable maintenance, eager for unionism. Better pay and conditions for hospital workers, the union pointed out, will eliminate the present disastrous labor turnover of 300 to 400 per cent a year, which makes it almost impossible to serve public health needs with a stable, experienced personnel.

At Ohio Convention

Posed between President John Owens (standing) and Secretary Ted F. Silvey of the Ohio CIO Council, is Delegate Lena Buck from Retail Employes, Local 201, on strike at Akron, following acceptances of her report to the convention. Miss Buck was secretary of the Officers' Reports Committee. The convention was held in Columbus the weekend of October 1.

Unity Keynote Of Sessions in Wisconsin

RACINE, Wis., Oct. 7—Delegates to the second convention of the Wisconsin Industrial Union Council returned to their homes today after having worked out an internal unity program aimed at increasing the power and influence of CIO unions throughout the state.

The convention, which met for three days in this city, elected new officers and adopted resolutions aimed at protecting America from war and American democratic rights from possible Tory onslaughts.

Unanimously elected to the council presidency was Harvey Kitzman, president of the auto workers local at the J. I. Case plant here and head of the tri-state district council of the United Automobile Workers. Named secretary was Walter Burke, 28-year-old representative of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee in Fond Du Lac.

Both men were nominated for office by their predecessors, retiring President Emil Costello and Secretary-Treasurer Gunnar Mickelsen.

NEW OFFICERS PRAISED

Costello was greeted with loud cheers when he concluded his opening address to the convention with the prediction that "when we emerge from this convention, newly unified and solidified, we of the CIO will speak as one person. Victory for us in the economic and political fields depends upon it."

Choice of the new state CIO officials won general acclaim from speakers, as did the work of Costello and Mickelson in paving the way for election of officials representing two of the state's largest CIO unions.

Guest speakers at the convention included President R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers, George A. Nelson of the Farmers Union and Len DeCaux, editor of the CIO NEWS.

The UAW leader said peace will come to the American labor movement when the AFL leadership is prepared to take back into "a unified organization all the workers who have been organized by the CIO."

AUTO AND RETAIL UNION HEADS TELL BOARD OF GAINS WON

AFL Splitters Smash Unity Of Canadian Labor Movement

(Special to The CIO NEWS)

LONDON, Ont., Oct. 7.—Browbeaten and intimidated delegates to the 55th convention of the Trades and Labor Congress voted today 230 to 97 to approve the executive council's suspension of the CIO unions from the ranks of the Congress.

The roll call vote was preceded by a heated three-hour debate in which most of the 26 delegates who took the floor protested against the expulsion of the industrial unions and warned that the split, engineered by agents of the AFL executive council, would harm Canadian labor, particularly when the country is at war.

Delegates of at least five central labor bodies, the Canadian Seamen's Union and the Textile Workers Union, voted unanimously against the ouster. Prominent against the expulsion were a number of delegates from the Brotherhood of Railroad Carmen locals, Maintenance of Way men, Brotherhood of Railroad Clerks, Jewelry Workers, restaurant workers, garment workers, street railway men and carpenters.

There were no delegates from the CIO unions, since they were debarred from attending the convention. Delegates of the garment workers abstained from voting.

The debate began when the resolutions committee brought in a recommendation that the CIO unions be expelled, despite the fact that there were 42 resolutions urging the reinstatement of CIO unions and only one urging their expulsion.

As soon as the convention began agents of various AFL international unions called caucuses of their respective delegations and ordered them to vote for the expulsion. Those who dissented were given hints that their positions in their unions or in their employment might be jeopardized. Many of the rank and file delegates who wanted to vote for unity as they did in the past three conventions were thus intimidated.

A sensation was created by one delegate when he quoted a letter from the convention arrangements committee addressed to certain manufacturers. A part of that letter revealed who desired the split

Continued on Page Five

Strike Shuts Nash Plant

Kenosha, Wis., Oct. 7—The big plant of the Nash-Kelvinator Co. closed down here as a strike of the CIO United Automobile Workers for a new contract became 100 per cent effective.

The company employs 3,100 workers. Delay in effecting a settlement may result in closing the Seaman Body Co. plant in Milwaukee, which supplies Nash with auto bodies.

Negotiations for a contract to supplant an old working agreement broke off last week and the workers voted to strike. The union is asking a 75c hourly minimum wage and a minimum of 24 hours employment in any scheduled work week.

Brewery, Typo Unions Hit By AFL

Cincinnati, Oct. 7—Carrying out their splitting policy, the AFL's executive council has recommended suspension of still another international union, the industrially-organized brewery workers' union.

The brewery workers have been in a long-time fight with the AFL teamsters over jurisdiction of brewery truck drivers, and early this year took its fight into the courts. The case, which involves a possible injunction against the teamsters, is being argued in the District of Columbia U. S. Court this week.

To be decided during the two-week AFL convention in the "Hall of Mirrors" at a local hotel is the status of the Intl. Typographical Union, which has also been threatened with suspension for its refusal to pay a cent-a-month assessment for fighting the CIO.

Between them, the two unions have a membership of well over 100,000 workers.

Attacks on the CIO and its leadership, continued opposition to the Wagner Act and changes in the make-up of the National Labor Relations Board were also contained in the council report.

Seek Sole Rights at 60 GM Plants

Detroit, Oct. 7—Fresh from its sweeping 9-1 victory over the AFL at Chrysler, the United Automobile Workers, CIO, today turned its attention to General Motors, requesting the nation's largest auto maker to grant it sole bargaining rights for 130,000 workers in 60 GM plants.

Walter Reuther, head of the UAW's General Motors department, said the request had been made because the union has "clear and overwhelming majorities in the plants."

The corporation was asked to "indicate to us whether you will recognize the union as such exclusive representative."

Get Pay Raise

Baltimore, Oct. 7—Close to 500 employes of the Locke Insulator Corp. today won wage increases and sole bargaining rights for their union, the United Brick & Clay Workers, CIO.

The contract, which provides for vacations and extra wages for night work, followed a Labor Board poll won by a 332 to 23 margin.

Convention Coverage

The October 16 issue of The CIO NEWS will carry 12 pages, in order that readers may be kept fully informed of activities of the convention.

Full coverage will be given to the report of Pres. Lewis and to decisions of the delegates during the first few days of the meeting. The CIO NEWS will also carry exclusive pictures of the convention at work.

The October 23 issue will carry stories on the final days of the meeting as well as the texts of important resolutions.

Important Issues Face 2nd CIO Convention

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 7. — How to preserve democratic rights and labor's gains in the United States and Canada during the next critical years will be one of the key discussions among delegates to the second annual convention of the CIO, which opens here Tuesday, Oct. 10.

Questions dealing with representation on war emergency boards, curbing of profiteers and extension of union organizing campaigns to bring benefits to exploited workers will occupy important places on the convention agenda, it is expected.

The general executive board, composed of one representative from each of the CIO's affiliated national and international unions and organizing committee, assembled here for its pre-convention meeting at the Hotel Whitcomb on Thursday, October 5.

California's CIO council opened its convention in Pork Hall at the Civic Auditorium yesterday—the same hall where the national convention will be held starting October 10.

MANY DELEGATES

Delegates, expected to number over 500, were flocking into San Francisco today from all parts of the country, with especially heavy representation from CIO affiliates up and down the West Coast. This is the first visit in recent years of President John L. Lewis to the Pacific Coast, and it is expected that a large number of visitors will be present in Polk Hall to hear his address to the delegates and to observe the convention sessions.

Textile Local Plans Classes

Cumberland, Md., Oct. 7—Plans for an extension educational and recreational program during the winter months have been made by the big Celanese local of the Textile Workers Union of America.

The CIO union won an agreement with the Celanese Corporation recently granting pay increases and other benefits. More than 8,000 workers are employed at the giant plant.

Large numbers of newly recruited active workers, who came to the front during the stoppage of work which preceded the signing of the agreement, have shown much interest in the plans for educational activities and are helping in various ways.

Bowling leagues for both men and women, and a public speaking course, have already been formed, with plans for other sport and cultural activities under way.

'Constitutional' Judge Rules In Wage Law Test

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7—The U. S. Wage-Hour Administration has had its first constitutionality test—and won!

Judge Robert Cooper of the United States Court for the District of Puerto Rico ruled last week that the wage-hour law is a valid and constitutional exercise of the power of Congress to regulate interstate commerce.

His ruling over-rode claims of the Eastern Sugar Associates, a corporation operating in the U. S. possession, that it had been deprived of property or of liberty of contract without due process of law.

Successful outcome of this first test of the law was "gratifying" and should clarify enforcement problems, George A. McNulty, wage-hour chief counsel here, declared. It is not yet known whether the sugar firm—which maintained that its refinery employes were agricultural workers and hence exempted from the law's provisions—will appeal the issue to the U. S. Supreme Court.

The wage-hour administration will round out its first year of active existence on Oct. 24, when, under the terms of the act, minimum wages for the nation's workers will rise to 30 cents an hour and maximum hours will be cut to 42. About two million workers are expected to benefit directly from the changes.

130,000 GM Workers To Vote on CIO

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 7.—The United Automobile Workers, CIO, filed a National Labor Relations Board petition today for the largest collective bargaining election ever held, in 60 plants of the General Motors Corporation throughout the nation. The election, announced by UAW-CIO President R. J. Thomas at the CIO Executive Board session here, will cover more than 130,000 workers.

"The corporation has given its consent to an election," President Thomas said, in announcing filing of the petition. "The AFL previously has given its consent. We want to see whether they will consent now.

"Recent elections in the plants of Chrysler and Briggs have ably demonstrated that the UAW-CIO is the only organization for collective bargaining in these plants. We have won in all Labor Board polls thus far, including Chrysler, Briggs and Packard.

"We take the position that we want the workers to decide by democratic processes which union they want for collective bargaining purposes, and to demonstrate their choice to the management by such polls.

"Before these recent elections the management of Chrysler and General Motors said they did not know what the union was, or which one they should deal with. We will prove to General Motors, as we have proved to the others, which union the workers want in their plants.

"Before the present election Chrysler was the biggest vote held by the National Labor Relations Board. This poll will be even larger."

Retail Contract Gives $100,000 Wage Increase

San Francisco, Oct. 7. — Ratification of a closed shop contract with Saks, 34th St. in New York City, was announced here today by Samuel Wolchok, president of the United Wholesale and Retail Employes, who is here for the National CIO Convention.

President Wolchok said that the contract, in addition to the closed shop feature, included raises totalling close to $100,000 annually for the 650 workers covered; time and a half for overtime and other union benefits. He also stated that Pres. Sidney Hillman of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers would sign the contract in his capacity as chairman of the Department Store Workers Organizing Committee, CIO affiliate formed to organize retail workers throughout the country.

The union has similar contracts with Bloomingdale's, Hearn's, Macy's and other large department stores in New York and other cities.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II OCTOBER 9, 1939 No. 41

Opportunity and Danger

The second constitutional convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations is held at a time of great opportunity and great danger for American labor.

The great opportunity which presents itself is due to the fact that the CIO has developed a stronger and more progressive labor movement than ever existed before.

In most previous periods of business upturn, labor got little more than the crumbs that fell from the rich men's table. Rising prices outstripped rising wages, and the great mass of unorganized workers retained no substantial benefits when depression returned once more.

In 1936 and 1937, however, the door of a new opportunity was opened to millions of workers. The CIO organized them for the first time into strong industrial unions.

As a result, they were able to take greater advantage than ever before, in terms of better wages and conditions, of such business upturn as there was at that time.

More than that, when depression set in toward the close of 1937, the CIO enabled these workers to retain most of these gains through years of acute unemployment. The CIO, for the first time in history, prevented wholesale wage cuts from accompanying a business depression.

So now that there are signs once more of a certain pickup in business, American labor finds itself with a powerful industrial union movement, which has proved its strength in the hardest of times, and is ready to take full advantage for the workers of every opportunity that presents itself for further organization and better conditions.

* * *

Reports to the CIO convention tell how the movement has gained membership and strength throughout a period of sharpest and most concentrated attack.

Not only has the CIO had to withstand the natural ravages of unemployment and depression, but it has also been subjected to strong union-busting drives; to widespread attempts at disruption and dualism by the AFL and anti-union employers; to a legislative campaign against the Wagner Act designed to put industrial unions out of business; and to wholesale propaganda attacks.

The CIO has beaten off every one of these attacks and has come through with flying colors. Its unions are stronger not only numerically but also in the proved and tested loyalty of their members. Labor Board elections show the CIO far outdistancing all other organizations, and the San Francisco convention is expected to give the word for a general advance.

* * *

The great danger that confronts American labor at this time is one that comes from outside, from the new forces set into motion by the European war.

Labor's enemies are hoping to use the talk of a war emergency to distract attention from domestic affairs; to cut real wages through profiteering price increases; and to curtail or abolish labor and social legislation and civil liberties.

As against such plots and plans of labor's enemies, the CIO emphatically opposes the involvement of the United States in the European war; calls for the protection of real wage standards against profiteering; demands adequate labor representation on all emergency bodies; and will defend existing labor and social legislation and democratic liberties against attack on any pretext.

The strength of the CIO, as revealed by its convention, is the best guarantee that American labor can ward off the dangers that confront it and can make good use of the present opportunity for further progress.

The Huddle

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Cross Sections Of The CIO

IT TAKES a trip across the continent to make one fully conscious of the vast extent of North America.

In the same way, one may know all the facts and figures about the CIO and its affiliated unions and councils; but it is necessary to visit many different industrial centers and all kinds of conventions to get a really vivid impression of the magnitude and strength of the movement.

Each union, each city and state industrial union council has a vigorous, pulsating life of its own. But the problems, struggles and triumphs of each are usually considered by the daily press as purely state or local news. So the rest of the movement is little conscious of them, except insofar as the national CIO press can keep it informed.

When the national convention of the CIO is held, however, all of these rivulets and streams of union life converge into one broad and mighty river of labor opinion and purpose, which has its source in the varied experience of millions of unionists in every part of the United States and Canada.

State Conventions

Two state CIO conventions held on the eve of the national convention, in Ohio and Wisconsin, furnished an opportunity to see representative sections of the CIO in action.

Ohio is perhaps the most typical American industrial state. There is hardly a single important industry that does not operate extensively within its borders.

The Ohio CIO therefore represents the most typical cross-section of the whole movement. At its convention were coal miners, clothing workers, steel workers, auto workers, rubber workers, oil workers, glass workers, electrical workers, maritime workers, packinghouse workers, transport workers, textile workers—men and women from America's basic mass production industries.

Coming from cities large and small, the delegates also represented white-collar and manual workers from newspapers, stores, offices, construction jobs and all the miscellaneous establishments that produce the goods and services on which our urban civilization depends.

A New Movement

Significant for a picture of the present labor movement throughout the United States is the fact that in such a typical state, the membership of the CIO far exceeds that of the AFL.

With the exception of coal mining and clohing, nearly every one of the main industries in Ohio was organized for the first time by the CIO. In the old AFL days, the labor movement there consisted of little more than a small nucleus of building, printing and a few other skilled crafts in the bigger cities.

But now a whole new and much more typically American labor movement has come into being through the CIO. Its characteristics, judging from the Ohio convention, are youth, vigor, progressiveness and a most vital and practical spirit of democracy.

Democracy the Keynote

Anyone who has been familiar with the heavy-handed and bureaucratic conduct of most AFL union affairs, and the resultant indifference or listlessness of the delegates that attend their gatherings, is bound to be impressed by the alertness and active participation of the rank and file delegates at CIO conventions.

In Wisconsin, as well as in Ohio, the prevailing note was youthful vigor and enthusiasm, coupled with vitally democratic procedure.

There too, as in Ohio, the delegates in their bearing and behavior, as well as in their speeches, reflected the self-confidence of men and women who have recently succeeded in bringing collective bargaining and union conditions to their industries for the first time in history.

Auto workers, steel workers, electrical workers, rubber workers, farm equipment workers, packinghouse workers, and other mass-production industrial groups, appeared to predominate. But there was also a wide enough representation from nearly all other industries and service groups in the state to make it evident that this convention spoke with authority for most of Wisconsin labor.

Unity Achieved

Particularly noteworthy at the Wisconsin convention was the spirit of internal unity in a state movement which had suffered for some time from the growing pains of factional division.

Nearly every CIO union in the state was represented at the convention and to cement this unity the delegates concentrated on electing a harmony slate and adopting a harmony program acceptable to all parties.

In this spirit, all leaders present subordinated personal considerations to achievement of this main end in a most exemplary fashion, and all minor frictions were finally overwhelmed by a regular floodtide of unity sentiment which swept the convention. The concluding demonstrations and ovations, in which all participated, were among the most enthusiastic ever to occur at a union gathering.

* * *

Anyone fortunate enough to attend these and other CIO conventions in the recent past cannot fail to be impressed by the vigor, the extent, the democracy, the internal solidity and the progressive purposes of the new labor movement, whose common policies will find expression at the second constituitional convention of the whole CIO in San Francisco.

BETWEEN THE LINES

By Cecil Owen

WASHINGTON.—If there is to be any really effective check on profiteering as a consequence of the other fellow's war it is up to labor, farmers and consumers over the nation to get busy.

This is the conclusion that stands out clearly after a checkup here of what Washington proposes to do to prevent high-jacking of the public by profit-hungry business.

Real wages were slashed by one-third in the last war due to unjustified price increases. The government then did not plan ahead on this subject and consumers were among the first victims of war.

Today, the situation differs somewhat in that there are men here who realize the importance of this problem. But when it comes to doing something about it, opinions vary widely.

Attacks on the profiteer are on two fronts here: Legislative and Administrative.

Any immediate legislative remedy against profiteering seems doubtful. Action on the Administrative front appears a little more hopeful.

ADMINISTRATIVE ATTACK

Three government departments, Labor, Agriculture and Justice, are concerned with this problem, but only Justice has a weapon with any real striking power.

Thurman Arnold, in charge of antitrust law enforcement in the Justice Department, is the man behind the gun. Here's what he says:

"We have just gone through a sudden and unjustified rise in prices of food. During this rise the Anti-trust Division found itself on the front line. For the past three weeks we have been receiving complaints at the rate of 250 a day. They have been coming in so fast that it has been impossible to answer them, let alone investigate them."

These complaints, Arnold adds, came from farmers, citizens' groups, trade unions, business men's groups, women's clubs, state and federal officials, Congressmen, retailers, manufacturers, wholesalers and jobless persons. Nearly all appear to be from responsible sources and few can be lightly dismised.

Existence of such wide-spread protest indicates to Washington the gravity of the problem.

LEGAL WEAPON

Under the anti-trust laws, Arnold can move against any price rises that appear to be the result of collusion among business men. If prices on similar articles rise all at once and in stores generally there are grounds for an antitrust law inquiry. Arnold's sleuths are watching for this and are all set to crack down.

The public is warned, however, that anti-trust laws cannot reach al kinds of profiteering and that Arnold is handicapped by a small and already overworked staff. About the best he can do is pick a few glaring cases and make an example of them—if he can prove collusion.

Simply investigation by the Justice Department has a wholesome effect. It is worth noting that four commodities at present the subject of anti-trust law inquiries have not gone up. These are: Steel, newsprint, potash and sulphur.

The two other government agencies concerned with this problem are limited to reporting the facts and warning the public against profiteering. There is no law under which they can prosecute and Washington opinion is doubtful whether an effective anti-profiteering law can be written.

NEED FOR ACTION

Right here is where the people outside of Washington enter the picture. Action by them is imperative if consumers are not to be gouged and labor forced to take a wage cut because of skyrocketing prices of what the workers must buy.

Labor's Non-Partisan League units over the nation are being advised in the curent issue of the League's Organizing Letter to set up consumer committees to tackle profiteering. The Letter sets forth a program of action for these committees.

First step is to investigate prices in each section and to report any profiteering to Washington and to local U. S. District Attorneys for possible anti-trust law action. Local city governments have certain powers to check profiteering and League units are advised to get after local officials. A third angle is to obtain information from government agencies here on supplies and prices generally so it will be possible to know whether any increases are justified or not.

FOOD PRICE SITUATION

On food prices considerable data is available here. An article in the current Consumers' Guide, Agriculture Department publication, tells the story under the heading: "We'll Have Enough Food Next Year."

The article lists food supply data for a number of leading commodities, among them meats, poultry, eggs, dairy products, lard, wheat, rice, fruits, vegetables. Here is their conclusion:

"Housewives have little reason to fear that food supplies this season will be less plentiful than they have been in recent years. Estimates just completed reveal that supplies of most foods for next year will be equal to, or larger than, supplies during the past three years. In some cases they will also exceed the average level of 1925-29."

What this all boils down to is that any unusual price rises are unjustified by the supply situation, but that Washington has only limited power to check profiteering and not much prospect of getting more from Congress right away. Therefore, action by labor and consumers outside Washington is the thing that's needed.

Piano Firm Plays New Tune As Union Wins Poll

New York, Oct. 7—Collective bargaining negotiations between Steinway & Sons, leading piano manufacturers, and Local 102, United Furniture Workers, began this week, the CIO union announced today.

The piano company agreed to negotiate after the union won an election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board among some 725 employes of the company to the tune of a 60-40 margin.

An independent union at Steinway's merged last August with Local 102, and was an important factor in the union's victory.

Use Radio For Alaska Drive

Seattle, Wash., Oct 7—Use of the radio for union organization is to be tried out in southeastern Alaska, the Washington District Council of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific announced here.

A radio station in Ketchikan, Alaska with a suitable frequency and capable of reaching most of the southeast portion of the territory in the daytime, will be used, according to the plan. At night it can be heard all over Alaska. Affiliates of the MFP will be able through this medium to reach workers in the most remote districts, the Council stated.

Conrad Espe, representative of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers, declared radio broadcasting, "will be more effective than a dozen paid organizers, due to the slow means of transportation and communication in the territory." The CIO cannery union, and the United Fishermen & Allied Workers, are both active in the territory as well as unions affiliated with the MFP.

AFL Heads Split Labor In Canada

Continued from Page Three

in the Canadian labor movement. It read:

"Many important matters are on the agenda for deliberation, some of which have been subjects for recent newspaper reference, such as the major issue of confirming the action of our executive in expelling from the organization all Canadian affiliates of the CIO, thereby carrying out our promise to our industrial friends that we would accomplish this fact."

This, delegates showed, was the real reason for the expulsion of the CIO unions to keep a promise to the employers of this nation and not as charged that the CIO unions were dual in character.

Earlier in the day, the convention, by a vote of 163 to 133, decided to expel all CIO affiliates from the central labor bodies throughout Canada.

None of the opponents of the CIO had anything against it when they argued for expulsion. Congress Vice-President P. R. Bengough said: "We have nothing, or very little, against the CIO, only that they became a permanent organization."

Joseph Corbett, general vice-president of the Brotherhood of Rairoad Carmen, paid a tribute to the CIO unions in Canada. He said the CIO unions "had played the game."

"Why throw them out?"

He suggested a referendum vote on the expulsion be held among Congress affiliates to let the membership decide. This suggestion was not accepted by the chairman.

BOARD MEETS

New — The general executove board of the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists & Technicians, met here last week.

The Road to Recovery? Try the 48-Hour Week, Advises Big-Shot Tory!

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7—The U. S. Chamber of Commerce delivered itself today of a program for American labor—a program as attractive as the nearest end of a torpedo.

Speaking on a national radio hook-up, Pres. W. Gibson Carey, Jr., of the Chamber, offered—in the name of "balance, tolerance and more and more good will"—the nation's workers the prospect of the 48-hour week, suggested that we "avoid" raising wages "too rapidly" and tossed off the thought that "we, as a nation, have been sentimentally ridiculous in our cry for more and more leisure."

Plunging into his subject, Carey told his radio audience that "we have our tails in the illusive but attractive circles of purchasing power, shorter hours and higher hourly rates."

"These are all right in their place," Carey condescended to admit, but the "abnormal" emphasis on this sort of "unsound" idea has kept millions jobless, he related.

Increased business, the CofC head promised, will mean lots more jobs for the unemployed—but there's a catch to the offer—provided the skilled work somewhat longer hours.

Offering evidence that the big businessmen haven't retreated from their idea that the wage-hour law ought to be repealed or amended out of existence, Carey declared:

"With machinery to help us, we shall not have to work abnormally long hours," but definitely "there will have to be a relaxation of the control of hours."

From the CofC intellectual grab-bag Carey then proceeded to pull this advice:

"We shall also have to appreciate that the working of certain groups, at, for instance, 48 hours instead of 40, does not necessarily reduce the number of people employed. In many, many instances the exact reverse is the truth!"

Carmody Backs Health Drive

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7—(FP)—Steps toward agreement among all "responsible groups" for a program of health conservation were urged by Federal Works Administrator John M. Carmody in a speech prepared here for delivery at the Texas Public Health Assn.

"We starve one-third of our people, keep them in shacks, dress them in rags and call it democracy," Carmody said. "Let's stop talking so piously and beautifully about democracy and really make it work. . . .

"Let's honestly agree that if we are to go on calling ourselves civilized, decent people, we will have to do more than we have been doing to make democracy work as a scheme of day-to-day living."

CONTINUE WORK

Recalling the work already done by the PWA and WPA, and recounting how that work has been curtailed through lack of funds, Carmody asserted:

"First, we have got to continue in the work we have already started. Second, we have got to expand some of the work—community sanitation, for example, provision of rural health centers, for another example—clinical services, case-finding services and many other similar services. . . .

"Until we have a national movement for the conservation of the health of our people, we will still be nothing but menders and patchers. . . . I wonder if you cannot begin now to bring about an agreement among all responsible groups for a national program of health conservation that will achieve the results we all so earnestly desire."

Hearst Strike Going Strong

Chicago, Oct. 7—American Legionnaires, who took over Chicago for their annual convention, were told plenty about conditions on the Hearst-owned Herald-American by members of the Chicago Newspaper Guild, whose strike is now in its 43rd week.

The Guild sound truck roved the downtown loop area, carrying announcements for the Legion delegates interspersed with pleas not to buy the Hearst paper. While Army planes engaged in maneuvers for the benefit of the crowds, the Guild also took to the skies with airplane advertisements of their strike.

Two pickets in full Legion regalia—President Walter Burson of the Pittsburgh Guild and Louis Larson of the Indianapolis Guild—took their turn in the march around the Hearst building here.

Meanwhile, injunction proceedings are being heard by Judge Lupe. The Guild is asking for vacating of the injunction and of the $500 contempt of court fine handed down recently for alleged violation of the decree.

Strikers' attorneys charge that Hearst is attempting to use the courts as a strikebreaking agency.

New York—(FP)—The Women's Trade Union League School for Workers will open here Oct. 11, for its 17th year with an enrollment of about 300.

SUPPORT CHARGES

Washington—Acting on charges filed by the CIO National Marine Engineers Beneficial Assn., the Labor Board ordered the San Francisco firm of Swayne & Hoyt to disestablish a company union and stop interfering with its employes' rights to organize.

Compensation Laws Weak In Many States

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Oct. 7—Only four states have compulsory workmen's compensation laws, while all those in the different states vary in almost every respect, it was reported at the 26th annual convention of the International Assn. of Industrial Accident Boards and Commissions held here September 25-28.

It was the first time in the history of the organization that labor representatives were invited to attend the convention. Dr. Walter N. Polakov of the United Mine Workers, represented the CIO.

Considerable discussion was aroused in connection with objections raised by the Bar Association to the appearance of laymen before compensation boards. The contending point of view was that experienced laymen can better serve the purpose. The large percentage of enterprises which do not elect to join the compensation fund was also brought under fire.

DISCUSSES STATISTICS

Dr. Polakov in his speech as official observer for the CIO called to the attention of the convention the nature and deficiencies of Government statistics on industrial accidents.

"The Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Bureau of Mines are the two principal sources of digested statistical material," he said. "No statistics can be better than the records upon which they are based. Yet it can be a great deal worse if, in compilation of data, certain means are resorted to in order to obscure the situation.

"Thus our problem falls into two groups: (1) How accurate are the original records and (2) how lucidly and fully are they worked out.

NEED BETTER DATA

"Any statistical data in order to be useful, must be complete, reliable and immediate. Accident statistics fall short on all accounts. They are not complete, they are not trustworthy and, as we all know, they are but ancient history at the date of publication."

In discussing accidents in the bituminous coal industry, Dr. Polakov referred to a "statistical trick" which he said, by considering the number of fatalities in relation to tonnage produced, gave the public the impression that each million tons of coal represents so many graves of coal diggers.

NO IMPROVEMENT

"By this cheap device," he declared, "the true picture is obscured, namely, that fatality rates per million man-hours of exposure is no better today than it was during 1916-20 and in the interim it was much higher."

Such statistics, he maintained, failed to present the true picture of hazards in industry, since "they are incomplete and misleading, chloroform public opinion and obstruct the efforts toward greater safety," and tend to underestimate the scope and volume of compensation work.

Union Upheld In Armour Case

Indianapolis, Oct. 7—The intermediate report on the complaint to the Labor Board by Local 43, Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, against Armour and Co. for anti-union activities at the Indianapolis plant, recommends that Armour stop interfering with union activities.

The Trial Examiner also recommended that Marcelus Tyler, fired for union activity, should be reinstated without loss of seniority and given back pay for time lost.

New CIO Agreement Can Be Opened For Pay Increases

NEW YORK, Oct. 7—Agreement to reopen a new contract for discussion of wage increases if the cost of living rises above a stated level, was reached today by the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers and the Ford Instrument Co., today.

The special provision, by which the union hopes to keep wage rates in line with possible jumps in living costs, reflects the union's current policy on wages, UERMW officials said. The contract provides, they pointed out, that the agreement cannot be reopened for negotiation of wage cuts.

Increases of 7 cents and 10 cents an hour, the 40-hour week, vacations and holidays with pay and wage differentials for the night shifts are also provided.

The company specializes in manufacture of range-finders and other complicated machinery used almost entirely for defensive purposes.

James Lustig, UERMW international representative, and John Ruby, president of Local 425, headed the union's negotiating committee.

Seattle Campaign Planned

Seattle, Wash., Oct. 7—Concentration of their organizational drive on Seattle to spread affiliations into unorganized industries where the CIO has jurisdiction was announced by Paul Stumpf, executive secretary of the Seattle Industrial Union Council yesterday.

Stumpf declared that at a meeting held this week a committee was set up headed by O. M. Orton, vice-president of the International Woodworkers of America. This committee, known as the CIO Organizing Committee will consist of leading representatives from the 16 international unions belonging to the CIO in this district.

Picket Power Plant

CIO MEMBERS IN PONTIAC, MICH., help picket headquarters of the Consumers Power Co., where the Utility Workers Organizing Committee is striking for a contract. Great mass of consumers in the area are backing the strikers.

The Dog That Walked Like A Picket

A True Story

By Horace Bryan

MIKE TAWASHA, the tall, raw-boned police captain of San Antonio's west side squad, was feeling himself quite the thing. The chief would probably promote him for the good job he had done, he thought. He flipped his billy back and forth over his arm as he looked over the scarred ground in front of the Moran Pecan Shelling Shop. Ten minutes before his men had scattered several hundred pickets. Not a worker in sight. The chief's orders kept ringing in his ears.

"Get tough," the chief had told Mike. "Get out the water hose and the tear gas. Use your clubs if necessary. Break up the mobs in front of the plants. Arrest everybody with a CIO sign or button."

Seeing Things?

A sound at the corner of the shop attracted Mike. He reached for his club. A shaggy cur dog appeared around the corner and trotted down in front of the shop. Unseen by the police captain, three Mexican boys in their early teens retreated from the corner and behind a board fence. They peeped through the cracks to see what happened.

Mike peered closer at the dog. Was he seeing things? Had he seen so many CIO signs that he was beginning to see them everywhere he looked—even on dogs' backs! The dog was wearing a sign on its back the length of its body with the letters CIO painted on it roughly in red ink.

Mike was befuddled. Picketing was against the law! So were CIO signs! But could you arrest a dog? Was it unlawful for a dog to walk in front of a pecan shop and carry a CIO sign? Mike would have to consult the chief on this. He ran to his car parked at the curb and sent in the call.

"Chief, the dogs are wearing CIO signs! What'll we do with 'em?" he asked.

"Bring 'em in!" the chief ordered curtly. Mike hurriedly sent the chief's orders out to the men at the other shops.

"Round up all dogs wearing CIO signs," he said.

CIO Everywhere

As Mike stepped out of the car another dog, a Mexican hairless, came trotting down the road. It raised its head, looked at him suspiciously, and then trotted on. There it was again. That CIO he was seeing everywhere. Painted around one eye of the hairless was the letter C, down the nose was the letter I, and around the other eye was the letter O. Back in front of the shop a cat scurried across his path, a large CIO sign on its back.

Mike looked about. Cats and dogs appeared as if by magic from all directions; CIO was everywhere! Mike was perplexed, but he was not one to shirk orders. After all, this was the best chance he had ever had, he thought, to do a big job. Hurriedly he ordered the men:

"Round up all dogs, cats and other animals caught picketing or wearing CIO signs."

To the chief he called, "Send out all extra men and wagons."

One thing the chief did not quite understand the meaning of. Mike had added:

"Send one of the cars by the dog yard and bring all available dog-catching equipment."

All wagons and extra men went speeding to the west side strike zone. The dog catching started in earnest. All caught dogs were piled into the wagons and hauled away. More cats and dogs appeared in their places. Fat cops chased dogs and cats up and down the alleys and streets of the west side. Invariably just as the cops were about to make a catch the pursued animal would run up a tree or duck under a floor. The cops were determined. After them they went. Half a dozen cops chased a billy goat for four blocks before catching him, a large CIO swinging from the rear. All the boys of the neighborhood were close behind.

All available door and window space was crowded with the dark faces of Mexican pecan workers, white teeth gleaming out of them. Shouts of laughter rent the air.

Out of Hand

It was too much for Mike. He rushed to call the chief.

"Situation out of hand," he stammered. "All dogs and cats on west side have gone CIO. Need more men to handle them."

The chief cursed. He could imagine all west San Antonio laughing while his men chased dogs and cats up alleys and trees. That didn't create a lot of respect for law and order he thought.

"Call the boys off and bring 'em in," he ordered Mike.

Mike rounded up the boys, gave them the chief's orders and started his car toward the station. As he passed the Moran shop a large group of pickets who had reassembled jeered at him.

A small Mexican boy in short pants rushed toward his car shouting in broken English:

"Hey, you cops better bring my dog back!"

Workers Urged To Get Security Data

Western Union Horse on Picket Line

Striking WU messenger boys in San Francisco get their idea of bosses across to the public. They are members of the American Communications Association, CIO.

Uncle Sam Finds Peace In Harlan, Drops Cases

VASHINGTON, Oct. 7—(FP)—Charges against 69 persons in Harlan County, Ky., brought by the Department of Justice last year after the Senate Civil Liberties Committee's investigation, were dropped today by the U. S. Government because "industrial peace at last prevails" in the area."

The original charges, brought against 24 mine executives, 23 law enforcement officers and 22 coal companies, contended that the defendants conspired to violate the rights of miners under the Wagner Labor Relations Act. A trial in 1938 resulted in a mistrial when the jury was unable to agree.

Action taken by the Department of Justice followed similar action in Kentucky state courts recently, in which indictments naming 500 persons were dismissed. The cases of these people, most of them members of the United Mine Workers of America, dated from the lockout last spring when the union members resisted attempts to open the mines on an open shop basis. The Kentucky mines subsequently signed the UMW contract.

'CHANGE FOR BETTER'

In papers filed in the Federal District Court in Kentucky, the government contended that a "decided change for the better" followed the 1938 trial and that "the operators and miners made peace and each side after bitter controversy seemed sincerely willing to to work together in harmony."

The department, in ending the case against the operators and their agents, said the Harlan mines "are now reopened, the people are at work. A contract is in full force for a two-year period. Arbitration boards are functioning. The militia has been withdrawn. State prosecutions of the miners is no longer pending.

"Discriminations against the miners and their families have ceased. The right to organize and bargain collectively has been recognized. An impossible and medieval industrial system, which the operators had sworn to perpetuate, is ended.

"The rule of the so-called 'gun thugs' is no more. Since the return of the indictment, death has overtaken several of the ringleaders and others are now incarcerated in state institutions."

Gotham CIO Unions Hold Second Confab On Education

By JOHN MARKEY

NEW YORK, Oct. 7. — The second city-wide CIO Educational Conference to consider ways and means of furthering the educational and cultural work among the local unions of New York City was held here this week.

The very successful conference was held under the auspices of the state committee on Press, Radio and Education of the New York Industrial Union Council.

Thirty-three locals and joint councils were represented by over fifty educational, research and cultural activity directors and persons responsible for organizing such activities in their various unions.

The confab was a busy one, with numerous methods of cooperation and mutual help being put forward for further action by the Conference Continuation Committee.

PROPOSE CIO FORUM

A most important proposal was that for the establishment of a CIO forum where the position of the CIO on vital matters could be authoritatively presented and discussed.

Detailed information on visual aids and movies was discussed, as well as methods of establishing successful circulating libraries in local unions.

Labor legislation and housing was another important point on which the conference recommended that the Continuations Committee provide more detailed information in a bulletin to be issued shortly. The bulletin will present a summary of the conference and give as many suggestions and sources of aid as possible.

This will be the second bulletin issued by the conference. The first, published last spring, dealt with summer sports and recreation facilities.

TO PREPARE DISPLAYS

The conference urged that various locals prepare visual displays to be shown at the coming state convention in November. It is evident from the response to this conference and by the serious discussion and suggestions made that much can be done in the future to further this work and find various ways in which the local unions can be of much help to each other.

Declare 'War' For Higher Pay

Chicago, Oct. 7—Declaration of a "war" for higher wages featured the meeting of the Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee board here.

A four-point program calling for extension of union organization and wage increases, contracts with Intl. Harvester and Deere & Co., and activities to protect New Deal legislation was adopted after reports on the FEWOC's progress and condition.

CIO Committee Cites Report Of 'Mix-Up'

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—The CIO Social Security Committee today advised workers to request the Social Security Board for their pension credit ratings.

The suggestion was made following newspaper reports of a mix-up in the Social Security files. The story, printed in the Washington Merry-Go-Round column, said the Board has failed to credit between five and ten million wage reports of workers in all parts of the country. These people have paid the social security tax on their wages and are entitled to the credits.

The five to 10 million uncredited wage reports represents a loss of millions of dollars in pension wage credits to workers. According to the news story, all wage reports which the Board fails to credit are referred to by the name of "John Doe."

THREE REASONS

The CIO Social Security Committee has learned that there are three chief reasons for the Board's failure to credit workers with the wages they have earned: (1) the huge amount of "red tape" in which the system is involved; (2) the failure of employers to send in correct reports; (3) the laxness of workers in checking on their wage records.

Part of the fault may lie entirely with the employer who has failed to report the wages he has paid to a worker, either because of a desire to "chisel" on the social security taxes, or because he believes that the work done for him is not covered by the Social Security Act. Part of the fault may lie with the worker in not reporting the correct social security number to his employer.

Every worker who has not already done so should make certain that his wage credit record is correct, the CIO committee declared.

FORM CARD AVAILABLE

Form OAR-7004, obtainable from local or regional Social Security Board offices, should be filled out and mailed to the Board in Baltimore, Md., where the wage records are kept.

When the worker receives his statement, he should check to see if it is correct. If he believes that it is not correct, the CIO Social Security Committee advises him to take the following steps:

(1) File a protest by communicating with the Social Security Board or one of its field offices, requesting a wage record protest form.

(2) Fill out the form as fully as you can. If you believe the protest will get you in wrong with your employer, you can ask the Board not to use your name in talking to your employer.

(3) The form will be used as the basis of an investigation. If the results of the investigation are not satisfactory to you, you can ask for a hearing in order to prove your claim to wage credits.

UNIONS SHOULD HELP

Social security committees in all local unions and councils should undertake to assist members and their families in establishing a worker's proper wage credits. In cases where there is a dispute as to whether or not a worker earned a certain amount of wages, union records or contracts can be used to prove a worker's case. Statements of fellow workers may also be useful.

In cases where there is a dispute as to whether or not the worker was in "covered employment," the union social security committee should immediately take part in the case because the decision may affect the status of all workers in the same job, or doing similar work.

If any questions or difficulties arise, communicate with the CIO Social Security Committee, 1106 Connecticut ave., NW, Washington, D. C.

MAY LOSE PENSIONS

A worker not credited with all his wages may not only receive a reduced pension for himself and his family, but he may lose the pension altogether.

Generally speaking, the amount of a pension depends upon the total earnings credited to a worker's account, relative to the number of months elapsing from 1937 to the time he becomes eligible for a pension, or dies.

But to be eligible for a pension, a worker must have to his credit a certain number of "quarters of coverage," a quarter of coverage being a three-month period in which he has received at least $50 in wages. The number of quarters of coverage necessary to get a worker's pension depends upon his age.

For example, workers aged 65 or more before July 1, 1940, need six quarters of coverage to be eligible for a pension; workers reaching age 65 between July 1, 1940 and December 31, 1940 need seven quarters of coverage.

Workers who have less than the required number of quarters of coverage get no pensions under the present social security system.

Rangers Attack Fishermen

Palacious, Tex., Oct. 7—Texas Rangers and police attacked the picket line of 200 shrimp fishermen now in the second month of their strike for 2½ cents a pound and the right to look at the scale when their catch is weighed. The attack took place after discontinuance of a temporary injunction won by the National Maritime Union restraining city authorities from interfering with the picket line.

The Crawford Packing Co. owns the shrimp cannery and pays fishermen one and two cents a pound. Women and children working inside the cannery get 50 and 75 cents a day.

The judge who dissolved the injunction advised NMU organizers to get out of town.

Marine Pact Extended As Parleys Continue

NEW YORK, Oct. 7—Failing to reach an agreement before the expiration on September 30 of the pact between the National Maritime Union and the American Merchant Marine Institute, both sides have agreed to an extension of the present contract for 30 days.

The first snag was struck in the negotiations between the CIO seamen's union and the Institute, when the operators demanded the abolition of the rotary hiring system. Union negotiators, headed by Howard McKenzie, told the operators that rotary hiring was one of the basic demands of the union, and that it would not be given up under any circumstances.

Chief demands of the seamen are for complete union hiring, a closed shop, adjustment of the medical clause and reduction in the number of exempt classifications.

REJECT COUNTER-OFFER

The union's proposal for strengthening the hiring clause and reducing the number of exemptions was met by the operators with a counter proposal to abolish rotary hiring and to give them the right to hire whomever they pleased with the proviso that the men they hire should join by the end of their first trip.

The NMU committee pointed out that the operators' plan of hiring non-union seamen and bringing them into the union would flood the industry, already overcrowded.

"Don't get us wrong," said Commander Robert C. Lee of the operators. "We are anxious to help you in building a strong union."

"We are completely aware of your anxiety to help us build a strong union," Howard McKenzie, chairman of the NMU committee, replied with marked sarcasm. "In fact we know that it is the policy of the Maritime Commission to destroy marine unions. If what you say is true, then you are at variance with the Maritime Commission.

California Council Meets

San Francisco, Oct. 7. — More than 2400 delegates, representing 100,000 plus CIO members in California, assembled today for the annual convention of the state Industrial Union Council, scheduled to run through the week-end before the opening of the national CIO convention in this city.

Principle items on the advance agenda were labor's attitude to the European war, with insistence on America's staying out, maintenance of civil liberties at home, and the question of Proposition No. 1, variously known as "$30 on Thursday" and the "Ham and Eggs" plan.

CIO officials here indicated support for the Proposition, pointing out that it represented a progressive move toward a measure of social and economic security, and contrasted the attitude of the AFL in first endorsing then welching on the question.

Featured speakers at the convention will include Philip Murray, vice-president of the CIO; Harry Bridges, west coast Regional Director, and Alejandro Carillo, a leader of the Mexican Confederation of Labor, (CTM). Philip M. Connolly, Council president, and Louis Goldblatt, state CIO secretary, will preside.

QUILL PICKETS

New York—Pres. Michael Quill of the Transport Workers Union, and a member of the New York City Council, joined the picket line of three CIO unions at the Burndy Engineering Co. in the Bronx. Production workers, office workers and technicians are seeking a new contract.

Pay Up 38%, Hours Cut 30% In CIO Pact

PATERSON, N. J., Oct. 7—CIO action today had won a 30 per cent cut in hours and a 38 per cent increase in pay for 25 hard-driven workers at the Florida Fruit Co., here.

The produce firm, which had previously worked its employes as much as 95 hours a week, agreed to a 65-hour week and a lifting of minimum wages from $13 to $15 a week. The contract was signed by Local 146 of the United Retail and Wholesale Employes.

Citizens Aid WU Strike

San Francisco, Oct. 7—Western Union has given the striking messengers and operators of the American Communications Association 24 hours to come back to work or be fired. ACA has voted to ignore the deadline and is instead intensifying its mass picket lines.

A volunteer citizens' committee has been formed which seeks to assist in obtaining an early and satisfactory adjustment of the strike. The Committee wired National Labor Relations Board Chairman J. Warren Madden urging speedy consideration by the NLRB of a Trial Examiner's report last year that the Association of Western Union Employes be declared a company union.

"Western Union officials are using the Board's delay as an excuse for refusing to negotiate with representatives of its employes," the telegram said.

Messengers of the Red Arrow Bonded Messenger Corporation, whom it is claimed Western Union was using to deliver messages, have also struck.

Miners Weigh Strike Action In Montana

BUTTE, Mont., Oct. 7.—Two last-minute proposals of the powerful Anaconda Copper Mining Co. were under consideration by this city's thousands of metal miners today following threats of a strike to win union demands.

Butte Local 1 of the CIO Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers gained from the company an offer to deal with five-man grievance committees at each mine and a withdrawal of a suggestion for a pay day every two weeks.

Two other points were considered unsatisfactory by the union, however—proposed exemption of shift bosses doing maintenance work from union membership and opposition to the workers' demand for an 8-hour collar-to-collar day.

The Butte local's stand was strengthened by decisions of the Great Falls local and Anaconda Local 117 to sign no agreement until Butte Local 1 and the Butte Engineers Local have reached satisfactory understandings with the multi-million dollar corporation.

Utah Miners Turn Down 25c Raise

Salt Lake City, Utah, Oct. 7—"Thumbs down" on proposed 25c-a-day increases was the answer of the Utah District of the CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers to silver mine operators now bargaining with the union for a new state-wide agreement.

The move to reopen the present state agreement was initiated by the union following an increase in the government price for new-mined silver, which materially lifted profits for Utah operators. Since that time the war boom in metal prices has increased their gains still further and holds promise of more and larger profits.

Under the circumstances, the Utah district took the stand that the quarter-a-day raise offer was woefuly inadequate.

700 Lumbermen Win Seven-Week Strike

ENUMCLAW, Wash., Oct. 7.—A strike called at the White River Lumber Company here over a month ago has ended in a victory for the International Woodworkers of America.

The CIO union won a settlement of the grievances which caused the strike and gained a new contract containing important improvement over the former agreement, IWA officials said today.

About 700 men in the mill and woods operations of the company were affected by the strike, which broke August 23, after months of futile negotiations with company officials over violations of the contract. The White River firm is said to be owned and controlled by the giant Weyerhauser interests.

WIN RECOGNITION

The new contract, signed with IWA Local 157, provides full union recognition, complete seniority rights, 40-hour week, eight-hour day and time and a half for overtime.

Rumors had been circulated in the area to the effect that White River, or Weyerhauser, would never sign an agreement with a CIO affiliate, local officials said, in commenting on the successful conclusion of the strike.

Push Strike Against Food Packers

New York, Oct. 7—Fifty members of the United Retail & Wholesale Employes, CIO, pushed a strike akainst the I. Rokeach food product firm today after refusing management demands for a 25 per cent wage cut, abolition of union conditions and a return to the six-hour week.

Arbitration of the dispute, suggested by the union, was flatly turned down by the company.

The URWE has printed 50,000 leaflets publicizing the strike and is urging New York unionists to place the firm on their unfair list.

Appeal Conviction Of Union Leader

Sioux City, Ia., Oct. 7—Defense attorneys today planned an immediate appeal of the "malicious mischief" sentence handed out by a district court jury to James Porter, representative of the CIO Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee.

The conviction of Porter, who as a result faces a possible five-year term in the state penitentiary, dates from the Swift & Co. strike here last year, during which time local labor-haters sponsored an anti-union campaign.

Porter, one of the strike leaders, was accused of stoning the home of a company union leader who was involved in a back-to-work movement during the four-month walkout. Four other union members await trials on similar charges.

'CIRCUMSTANTIAL'

Defense attorneys, in announcing their appeal plans, said the police testimony used by County Attorney Maurice E. Rawlings to get the conviction was based on circumstantial evidence alone.

Officers testified that tires on Porter's car matched imprints on the street in front of the house which was said to have been the target of rocks and bricks. However, the county attorney failed to introduce pictures of the tire imprints, which he admitted having taken.

Porter is at present PWOC representative in Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas, Colorado and Missouri.

Discuss Organizing CIO Women

Representatives of CIO unions met in New York to plan work among women's auxiliaries. Left to right they are: CIO Director Allan S. Haywood, Kathryn Lewis, President James B. Carey of the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, and Frieda S. Miller, New York industrial commissioner.

CIO Demands: 'Keep Us Out of War'

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II—No. 42 20 Send Form 3578-P to 1106 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. OCTOBER 16, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

ORGANIZE MILLIONS, CONVENTION GOAL

CIO Blasts Labor Board 'Undermining' Of Act's Purposes

(See Story Page 8)

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14.—In resolutions and speeches, the CIO convention today went on record as unanimously condemning National Labor Relations Board policies "which undermine the basic purposes" of the Wagner Act.

Warning of the appeasement policies which the NLRB has been following in regard to big business and the AFL leadership, the resolution warned affiliates to "make a most sparing and considerable use of the Wagner Labor Act in the future."

A half dozen union leaders took the floor to denounce new trends in the board's decisions which have hurt industrial unionism. Vice-President Philip Murray was particularly sharp in his criticism of William Leiserson, newest board member.

WAGE-HOUR ACT HIT

Another resolution criticized the Wage-Hour Administration for being "inefficient and lax in the establishment of industry committees and in any effective enforcement of the legislation." The department of Labor, another convention statement declared, is in need of over-hauling in order that it may gain personnel and funds—as well as sympathy with labor's problems—to do an effective job for the Nation's workers.

Other key resolutions called for continuation at an accelerating pace of unorganized workers; increasing labor participa-

Continued on Page Twelve

Delegates Hail Plans to Push Organizing Drive

(See Stories on Inside Pages)

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 13 — The second annual convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations adjourned today with the 400 delegates cheering plans to meet "the clamors of millions" seeking admission into the labor movement following advice from President John L. Lewis to "get to work" on the tasks that lie ahead.

Moving in streamlined style, the convention, during its four-day sessions, discussed both the need for a nationwide unionization campaign and the increased necessity for protecting American workers from Tory attacks.

In line with this, the delegates passed a carefully-worded resolution demanding that the United States Government avoid involvement in foreign wars, to impose taxes on excess profits and take steps to eliminate profiteering and other forms of exploitation under the cloak of "war emergency" excitement.

BACK NEUTRALITY

President Lewis called upon the delegates to support President Roosevelt's neutrality program, but warned against illusions that wording of the neutrality act will alone keep the country out of war.

Living up to its reputation as the guardian of all workers' rights, the CIO called for speedy and adequate assistance to the ten million jobless. Action by the convention followed a dra-

Continued on Page Twelve

Ovation

San Francisco, Oct. 14.—One of the big ovations of the convention went to Gov. Olson of California at the opening session.

Tall and ruddy, the state's chief executive strode up the aisles between crowds of cheering unionists. The governor received another tribute as he left Polk Hall.

A Peaceful Army Prepares to Advance

CIO CONVENTION DELEGATES LISTENED WITH CLOSE ATTENTION as President John L. Lewis called for an organization campaign that will bring 10,000,000 members into the nation's unions during the next five years. Polk Hall in San Francisco's Municipal Auditorium was jammed to capacity as the CIO leader made his impassioned plea for labor's advance.

A Western Welcome To The National CIO

'60-60' Pension Plan Gets OK Of Convention

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14. — The CIO convention today reiterated its stand for $60 monthly pensions for all persons over 60.

The resolution declared:

"The CIO endorses an old age pension program in cooperation with all progressive and old age groups based upon a flat maximum pension of $60 per month, with supplementary allowances to wives up to a maximum of $90 per month for each married couple, with an age limit of 60 years and eligibility to all persons and administered through a single federal system, and the additional funds for this program should be secured by taxes upon aggregates of wealth and income."

The statement on social security was linked with a number of other resolutions on health, industrial hygiene and unemployment compensation, all of which were passed as a group by the delegates.

"The present dual system" of state and federal pensions and old age insurance "does not take care of our needs in any satisfactory way," the resolution said.

Other sections of the resolution urged expansion of present public assistance to the needy, blind, widows and dependent children; called for federal cash benefits in cases of total or permanent disability as part of the federal old age insurance program; simplification of unemployment benefit laws and increases in the amount paid out.

HEALTH PROGRAM

The delegates called also for a thorough-going federal health program to provide insurance for medical care, free medical treatment for low income groups, cash benefits for temporarily disabled workers, and "the construction of needed hospitals in rural and urban areas throughout the country."

Chicago Guild Plans Hearst Conference

Chicago, Oct. 14—Leaders of the American Newspaper Guild made plans to seek a conference with the national management of the Hearst newspapers, at a meeting of the union's international executive board held here. The CIO union has been on strike against the Chicago Hearst papers for more than 10 months.

The union board also discussed plans for a conference next month of delegates representing Guild units on Hearst papers throughout the country to take up general issues concerning Hearst publications.

'Get Busy', CIO Tells Wage-Hour Division

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14.—The CIO called today "for the vigorous raising" of minimum wage standards in a resolution which criticized the U. S. Wage-Hour Administration for "inefficiency" in handling its industry wage committees and the "failure of the Administration to enforce the provisions of the Act."

A year's experience with the Fair Labor Standards Act have demonstrated three significant facts, the CIO statement declared:

1. Minimum wage and maximum hour standards of the act are insufficient to guarantee a decent national basic wage structure.

2. Appropriations up till now have been inadequate and the Wage-Hour Administration has been "lax . . . in any effective enforcement of the legislation.

3. Principles of wage-hour legislation have not yet been accepted by reactionary employers and Garnerite legislators "who have threatened the very life of the Act with crippling amendments."

Committee Members—

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14. — Members of the convention committees were:

CREDENTIALS

S. H. Dalrymple, Chairman; Reid Robinson, Secretary; Lewis Alan Berne, Paul Fuller, Morris Muster, Grant W. Oakes, George C. Peacock, Merwyn Rathborne, N. A. Zonarich.

RULES AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

Harold Pritchett, Chairman; Austin Hogan, Secretary; Sonia Baltrum, B. Frank Bonnett, John V. Cooney, C. W. Deal, A. H. Esposito, P. T. Fagan, Louis Hollander, John E. Jeffrey, Norman McKenzie, Tony McTeer, Eleanor Nelson, R. E. Reeder.

APPEALS

John Brophy, Chairman; Clinton S. Golden, Secretary; Daniel J. Boyle, Jacob Baker, Abe Chatmen, Richard Frankensteen, P. H. Van Gelder, John C. Lawson, James P. Matles, O. O. Orton, William Peel, Max Ferlow, William Smith, Samuel Wolchok, Martin Wagner.

CONSTITUTION

Thomas Kennedy, Chairman; John Santo, Secretary; George Addes, Thomas Burns, Edward T. Cheyfitz, J. L. Coulter, Ben Gold, Don Harris, Carl Holderman, John T. Jones, Frederick Myers, Lewis Merrill, David J. McDonald, John Owens, Frank Rosenblum, Henry Schmidt.

RESOLUTIONS

Van A. Bittner, Chairman; Lee Pressman, Secretary; Harry Bridges, Philip Connelly, Irwin De Shetler, Julius Emspak, Abram Flaxer, H. C. Fremming, Allan Haywood, Kathryn Lewis, Jacob S. Potofsky, Irving Potash, Walter Reuther, Emil Rieve.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

R. J. Thomas, Chairman; Milton Kaufman, Secretary; Joseph Curran, Roy Donnelly, Frank Grillo, John Green, Donald Henderson, J. F. Jurich, Roy T. Lawrence, Frank McGrath, John O'Leary, Michael Quill, Robert Reeder, Charles Weinstein.

PRESS COMMITTEE

Philip M. Connelly, Chairman; Len De Caux, Secretary; J. B. S. Hardman, Robert L. Cruden, Milton Kaufman, A. G. Delman, Lee Coe, Robert Camozzi, Chas. W. Erwin, W. H. Grattan, Paul Ryan, George Wilson.

Where Delegates Met

CONVENTION DELEGATES divided their time between the Hotel Whitcomb (at right) and Polk Hall in the beautiful Municipal Auditorium (at left). Entrance to the hotel was a mass of flags and "Welcome CIO" banners.

Organize Ten Million Workers, Avoid War, Lewis Urges CIO

CIO Leaders Gather

SEATED ON THE CONVENTION PLATFORM were these leaders of the CIO: Sec. James B. Carey, Director John Brophy, Vice-Pres. Sidney Hillman, Sec.-Treas. Thomas Kennedy of the United Mine Workers, and Vice-Pres. Philip Murray.

'Army of Peace' Must Advance, Delegates Told

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14—In a stirring keynote address to the second convention of the CIO, President John L. Lewis called for the organizing of ten million workers in the next five years as a response to the "millions clamoring for admission to our movement."

"Get to work" at the organizing tasks ahead was Lewis' advice to the more than 400 delegates present in Polk Hall of the Municipal Auditorium.

The CIO leader also called for support of Pres. Roosevelt's neutrality legislative aims, but cautioned that mere change in statutory wording is insufficient to keep the nation out of war—a goal which he coupled with the need for further organization as the two principal tasks of the nation's workers.

(Text of discussion of neutrality is printed on Page 4)

The form of America's neutrality laws will "not be the deciding nor controlling factor in the issues as between peace and war," Lewis declared, speaking slowly to let his words sink in.

"The wording of the neutrality act, the classification of commodities and lethal weapons and the question of credit or non-credit to purchasers are questions, which compared to the issue of peace or war, are of secondary importance.

"War will not come because the Congress may juggle words in the Neutrality Act. War for America will only come as a result of developing circumstances which convince the American people that there is no other alternative.

"The President has both the knowledge and the constitutional power to serve best the interests of the nation in this emergency period, the CIO leader continued.

"No other citizen has knowledge which equals the President's knowledge on the facts which concern the issues of peace, war or neutrality.

"The President's program upon neutrality should be supported by the Congress and by the people, and cavilling should cease."

Labor—upon which "is inflicted most of the agony and tragedy of war"—has a "major stake in this problem," he went on.

"Every citizen," Lewis said, "hopes that a practical formula for peace may soon be found, and likewise our own countrymen will unless the primary basic purpose of our great movement is unceasingly carried out—the organization of the unorganized.

"When they are organized, they hope and believe that President Roosevelt will make available his own great influence in behalf of peace, when conditions warrant and justify his intervention."

DOMESTIC NEEDS

From a discussion of the nation's foreign problems, the CIO president then turned his attention to the immediate, pressing needs of labor at home. Speaking extemporaneously—his discussion of the neutrality had been from a formal text—Lewis recalled that five years ago, during the 1934 AFL convention, "my voice was a feeble voice in this hall."

It might have been compared, he added, "to the voice of Rachel lamenting in the wilderness," but today, I come back to San Francisco and behind me is a mighty army of four million men and women, a greater numerical force than ever followed a conqueror in the pages of history.

ARMY OF PEACE

"Not an army of conquest—an army of peace, the soldiers of peace. The men and women of labor, who ask for rectification of their wrongs. who ask

Continued on Page Six

Stop U. S. Contracts To Law Flouting Firms, Lewis Demands

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14.—Corporations fattening on government contracts while evading and flouting federal laws must be brought up shortly by Congress, John L. Lewis told the CIO convention in supporting a resolution to withdraw federal orders from firms that violate the Wagner Act.

"There is no argument in reason or in logic against this law," Lewis said. "The only reason why it has not passed both houses of Congress is because the corporations don't want it, or because the CIO does want it passed. Certainly the CIO wants this law. I don't know in the AFL leaders ever thought of it. But the men and women of labor who have to pay for war if it comes want it, and the people of America want it."

PASSED THREE TIMES

Pointing out that the law, which only requires beneficiaries of taxpayers' money to obey other federal laws while making enormous profits out of the present emergency, had passed the Senate three times, Lewis asked that CIO affiliates put all possible heat on the lower House when it comes up again.

The present emergency situation, he said, is making a new crop of American millionaires, similar to the crop that came out of the first world war, but let America at least see that they do not flout the law and the labor movement while they make their millions.

"If we're going to produce another crop of millionaires, so be it, if there is no other way," he said. "But if we do, and if the taxpayers are willing to let this crop be raised, let the government see that these corporations out of which will come the new millionaires obey the laws of the Congress of the United States."

Such a law has passed the Senate three times, Lewis explained, only to be held up by reactionaries in the House. "I don't know why Congress or the President tolerate this condition," he said.

"When the President or the CIO called on House leaders to urge action, the greatest barrage of criticism and misrepresentation in decades descended upon him.

"The center of the criticism was the fact that the President of the CIO used the office of the Speaker of the House in urging this bill. Whose office was it? Did it belong to the Bethlehem Steel Corporation? Or to the people of America?"

Such firms as Bethlehem Steel, Electric Boat, Douglas Aircraft, and others, all open violators of the Wagner Act and other U. S. laws, have almost a monopoly of these government contracts, Lewis declared. They are the opponents of this measure, not the people and the workers of America.

Atlas Powder Cited

Washington—The National Labor Relations Board has found that the Atlas Powder Company, Stamford, Conn., hindered the union activities of Dist. 50, United Mine Workers, and has ordered the firm to stop interfering with the self-organization of its employes.

The Board investigation revealed that a company stenographer kept a record of union meetings, that foremen and supervisors went to meetings to discourage attendance by the workers, and that the company interfered with shop gate meetings.

Protect Rights, Defend Gains, Lewis Urges CIO Unions

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14. — Pres. John L. Lewis sounded a warning to the CIO convention that all organized labor must prepare to defend its hard-won gains from tory raids based on the excuse of the European war.

"In this hour of national trial and testing, the CIO is a mighty power for democracy, peace and prosperity," the CIO leader declared in his report, which in its 60 pages covered in detail all phases of the CIO activities during the past 12 months.

Outstanding in this summary of work accomplished was the preservation of progressive legislation despite the attacks of a reactionary Congressional bloc, and the extension of CIO organizing successes which swept past the clamor of the "bankrupt and discredited leadership" of the AFL.

The Wagner Act, the wage-hour law and at least partial preservation of the WPA program were cited by Pres. Lewis as major feathers in the cap of the CIO during the past year.

On the organizational front, definite forward advances were made by the miners, clothing workers, auto, steel, textile, packinghouse and transport workers, he declared, pointing out that "it is impossible to do justice to all the achievements and advances of all the individual CIO unions."

Every one of them, he noted, "has weathered the storm of attack and the difficulties of depression with solid ranks, many membership increases and an imposing list of election victories."

Discussing the additional hazards created for American workers by the European war, Lewis stated a 5-point program for labor:

Continued on Page Eight

Education Committee Suggested

San Francisco, Oct. 14—CIO educational work is urged on all affiliates in Pres. Lewis' convention report, and successful projects of several unions praised.

The report recommends that the executive officers be given authority to set up a national committee to study and to suggest ways of coordinating and extending present actvities.

Pres. Lewis also draws attention to U. S. government camps that can be assured by labor organizations for educational and creational purposes, and briefly describes the camp in Pennsylvania that was used last summer by several national affiliates.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President
Philip Murray ..... Vice-President
Sidney Hillman ..... Vice-President
James B. Carey ..... Secretary
John Brophy ..... Director
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. 11 October 16, 1939 No. 42

LABOR AND THE WAR

By John L. Lewis

We assemble at a time when our nation and peoples of all civilized countries are profoundly concerned with the war in Europe. In many respects this war possesses potentialities that are the most menacing with which modern culture and civilization have ever been confronted. Without question, organized labor and all other Americans are fundamentally and overwhelmingly opposed to any participation in this war on the part of our Government or its military establishment.

The members of the Congress of Industrial Organizations are Americans in principle, in thought and in action. We will at all times give support to our instrumentalities of Government and the political leadership of our country in any crisis or situation which imperils the integrity or existence of the free institutions under our flag.

We do, however, have the firm and unalterable conviction that our nation is not called upon to participate in any manner on one side or the other of a European conflict.

Conceivably, with the maximum employment of modern instrumentalities of warfare by the contending countries in Europe, the civil populations of certain of those countries may be unable to withstand the impact and the ravages of such warfare. Internal confusion and disorder may follow upon such a scale that existing governments may be disestablished and new forms of authority or oppression may appear.

Safety and security for Americans lie in non-participation in this conflict and the addressing of ourselves to the major problems now confronting us in our own internal economy and domestic establishment. Let no one assume, however, that America will not at all times defend its boundaries, its possessions, its government, its citizens and its flag.

The issue of the form of neutrality to be followed by the United States Government during the period of the European war, which is now being debated in the Congress of the United States, will not be the deciding nor controlling factor in the issues as between peace and war.

The wording of the Neutrality Act, the classification of commodities and lethal weapons and the question of credit or non-credit to purchasers are questions, which compared to the issue of peace or war, are of secondary importance. War will not come because the Congress may juggle words in the Neutrality Act. War for America will only come as a result of developing circumstances which convince the American people that there is no other alternative.

If this be true and logic compels the acceptance of the belief, it is then futile and absurd for the Congress of the United States and the population of the entire country to become confused and convulsed in a discussion of the varying definitions of actual or assumed neutrality which emanate from the minds and pens of statesmen of high and low degree. Recognition of these facts by the Congress and by the people will abate much of the confusion and controversy that now exist throughout the country.

After all, the President of the United States is the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, and the republic through its Congress has placed upon him as Chief Executive of the nation greater responsibilities than accrue to any other ruler, king or potentate in Christendom. No other citizen can assume any of the responsibilities of the President. No other citizen has knowledge which equals the President's knowledge on the facts which concern the issues of peace, war or neutrality.

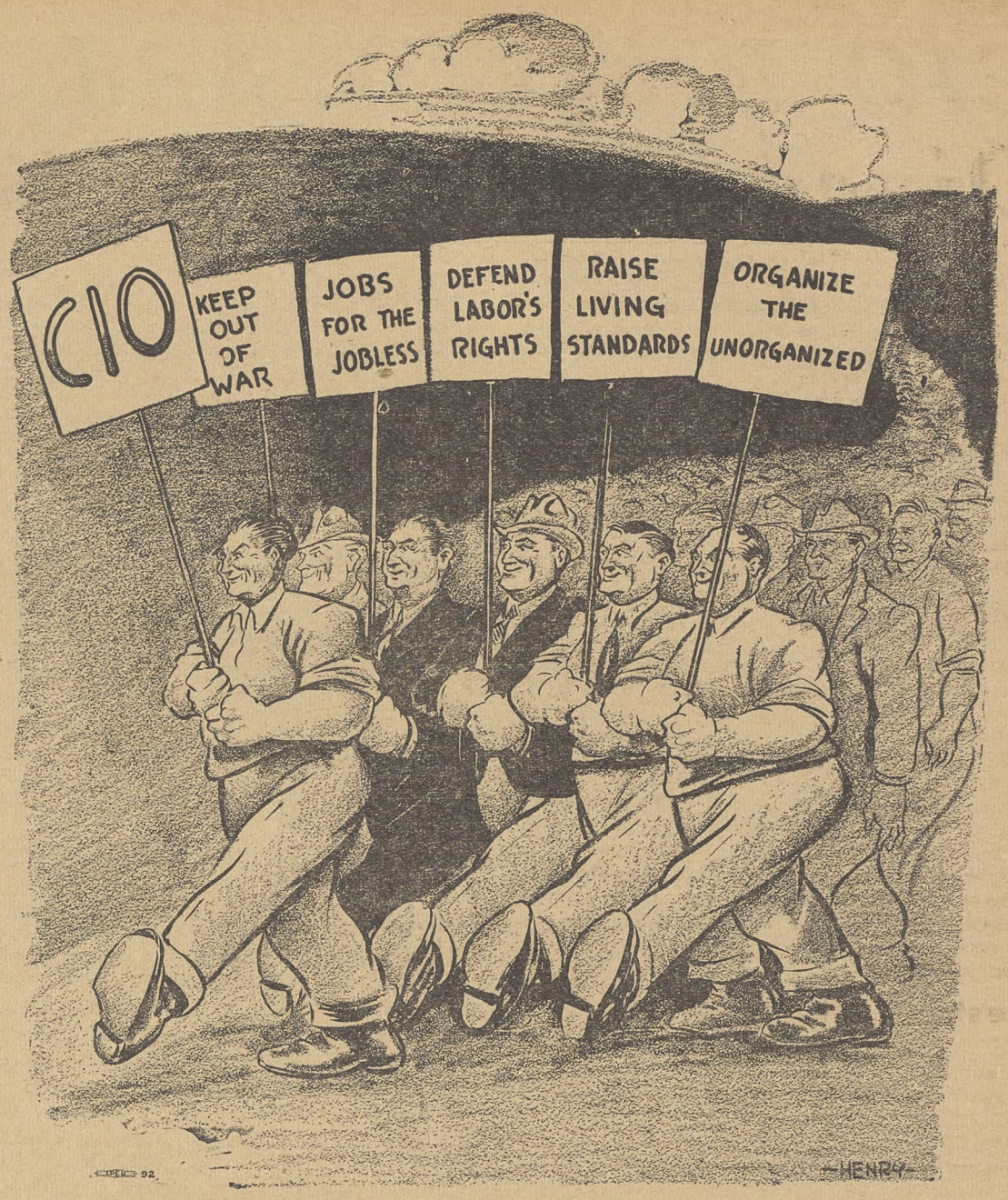
The President's program upon neutrality should be supported by the Congress and by the people, and cavilling should cease.

Labor has a major stake in this problem. In war labor must perform most of the work and do most of the dying. Upon labor always is inflicted most of the agony and tragedy of war. Labor demands and must be accorded its rightful consideration in any emergency which affects national interest.

Labor is not blind to the facts of Europe's problems. It has its own sources of information and does not blindly accept the tortured news stories which flow from the facile pens of governmental censors of belligerent nations.

Every citizen will hope that the present European discussion of a possible peace may eventuate in a practical formula which will achieve the objective before the war assumes more broad and horrible proportions. Likewise our own countrymen will hope and believe that President Roosevelt will make available his own great influence in behalf of peace, when conditions warrant and justify his intervention.

—From Pres. Lewis' opening speech to the CIO Convention.



An Army of Peace

The CIO's Stand On War

San Francisco, Oct. 14—Taking the position that "labor's answer to the tragic war in Europe must be the preservation of peace in the western hemisphere", the CIO convention called for efforts to show the "effectiveness of democratic government in promoting life, liberty and happiness for mankind."

The resolution, one of the first passed by the delegates, warned that the present European conflict may "mark the end of freedom and may destroy civilization on that continent."

"Labor's answer to the tragic war in Europe," the resolution went on, "must be the preservation of peace in the western hemisphere, the protection of our democratic institutions, and the extension of the social and economic gains achieved during the past six years."

PARTIAL TEXT

Remainder of the resolution follows:

RESOLVED, (1) Labor wants no war or any part of it and while countries in Europe are engaged in their barbaric orgies of conquest and aggression as they have been doing for centuries, it must ever be the purpose of the United States to remain out of these wars; and

(2) That the CIO offers its support to President Roosevelt's neutrality policy based upon the cardinal principle of keeping America out of war and calls for further legislation to take the profits out of war business by rigorous taxation of excess profits and surplus incomes; and

DEFEND DEMOCRACY

(3) That this Second Annual Convention of the CIO declares in no equivocal terms that we will defend the free institutions of this Republic, the greatest democracy on earth, under the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, a government of the people, for the people and by the people. It shall ever be our purpose as Americans to defend our country and our free institutions against foreign invasion; and

(4) The CIO will devote itself to continuing the organization of the unorganized American workers, promoting genuine collective bargaining, for the welfare of American labor and the stabilization of industry, and, through the preservation of peace, find a solution of the basic economic ills of this country and bring about a permanent prosperity.

By these efforts we shall prove to the world that the United States is the highest form of democratic government on earth and set the example of the effectiveness of democratic government in promoting life, liberty and happiness for mankind.

Urge Farm, Labor Amity

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14. — Close cooperation between organized labor and working farmers is urged in Pres. Lewis' convention report, and creation of a standing national committee of CIO affiliates for that purpose suggested.

Pres. Lewis, reporting on a study of this field undertaken at the request of the Executive Board, writes: "Results of this survey show favorable possibilities for building a closer amity and cooperative relationship with working farmers whose problems press heavily on them as similar problems press on the industrial workers.

"Such a committee can serve a useful purpose both in bringing a better understanding of our movement to an important section of the population and in aiding them in the solution of economic and social difficulties that affect the welfare of all Americans."

CIO Progress And Problems Discussed By Lewis In Report

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14. — Following is the text of the introduction of the report of Pres. Lewis to the CIO convention:

"The CIO meets for its second convention at a time when the world is in turmoil. Most of Europe is being devastated by the madness of war. Arrogant aggression and inept statesmanship have produced a calamity which has overwhelmed millions of innocent people. This calamity is shaking the old world to its foundations, and its final outcome none can predict.

"In this new world of ours, in the Western Hemisphere, we have a chance to learn from the experience of Europe and to avoid the tragic errors and misguided efforts which have produced such bloody chaos there. The United States has avoided involvement in the European slaughter, but we can continue to escape the misfortunes which have overtaken much of the rest of the world, only if we set our own house in order and build up a bulwark of democratic resistance against all the forces in this country which lead to Fascism and war.

"In this hour of national trial and testing, the CIO is a mighty power for democracy, peace and prosperity. The millions of organized workers banded together in the CIO are the main driving force of the progressive movement of workers, farmers, professional and small business people and of all other liberal elements in the community. They are also the backbone of the resistance to all the forces that threaten our democratic institutions and the liberty and security that Americans hold dear.

Prestige Established

"In the past year, the CIO has established its strength and prestige so firmly that we can now have confidence that all the forces of reaction will not prevail against it.

"The CIO has held its own and maintained its ranks through a long period of bitter unemployment and in face of the most vicious and concentrated attacks of its enemies. More than this, it has not only held its own, but it has also made many organizational advances in industries where it was already established and has pushed forward into new fields.

"The economic strength of the CIO has been reflected in increased political influence, which the CIO has used in recent elections and in the last session of Congress to strike many blows in the cause of liberalism and progress. The CIO has used its political influence to defend existing labor and social legislation; to demand the enactment of new legislation in the interests of labor, the unemployed, the farmers and the great masses of the people; and to protect and expand our democratic liberties.

"Organizationally, the CIO has during the past year beaten off the attacks of disruption and dualism which were directed against every one of its affiliated organizations. These attacks were inspired by anti-Union employers who sought to destroy the new unions of the CIO by devious means after all their frontal attacks had failed. Such employers found a willing tool in the bankrupt and discredited leadership of the American Federation of Labor.

"The AFL leaders gave letters of the marque and reprisal, in the form of charters, to every kind of labor disrupter, to company unions and to every sort of break-away or dual movement they could create.

Submits Report

PROGRESS OF THE CIO during the past year was noted in the 60-page report submitted to the delegates by Pres. Lewis.

These so-called charters were simply a license given to shady elements to privateer against the strong and growing unions of the CIO, and to create whatever disruption they could, without any attempt to organize the unorganized workers.

"But in dealing with the disposing of these many attempts at union disruption, the CIO unions have emerged stronger and more solid than ever before. Their membership have stood the test of internal disruption as well as outside attack and have proved beyond question their loyalty to the CIO."

* * *

Unions Forge Ahead

"The magnificent victory of the United Mine Workers of America in winning the union shop throughout the coal industry has made that organization more powerful than ever before in its history. It has also brought new courage and assurance to all sections of the CIO, as a demonstration of the basic stability and growing strength of the movement.

"The Amalgamated Clothing Workers has also reached the peak of its strength in the past year, with renewed agreements bringing many improvements, with increased membership and with a record of constructive contributions to the welfare of this and the workers employed in it.

"In the automobile industry, where AFL and anti-union employes imagined they could split the workers' ranks by sponsoring the disruptive efforts of Homer Martin, the United Automobile Workers of the CIO has emerged from the conflict with a solid and growing organization, which is fast burying the remains of the Martin clique under an avalanche of votes in Labor Board elections.

"The Steel Workers Organizing Committee, with 602 union contracts and 1,100 lodges throughout the United States and Canada, has also consolidated its strength and made great progress during the past year . . . .

"Notable among the achievements of the newer CIO unions in organizing the unorganized is that of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee. This CIO organization, with scores of agreements already won from independent packers, has been certified as the workers' collective bargaining agent in all the major plants of Armour & Co. and is now approaching the biggest corporations in the industry for the union agreements to which its membership entitles it.

"It is impossible here to do justice to all the achievements and advances of all the individual CIO unions. But every one of them has weathered the storm of attack and the difficulties of depression with solid ranks, many membership increases and an imposing list of election victories, new contracts won and contracts renewed.

"Election results in general demonstrate that the trend of the workers is all toward the CIO In the past year, the CIO has won more elections than any other group and has received more workers' votes than all other unions combined.

Fought Tory Bills

"In the past session of Congress, the CIO led the fight for progressive legislation and was the backbone of the liberal resistance to attacks on existing social legislation. . . .

"In general, the CIO has demonstrated legislatively and politically that it is a truly American and democratic movement which works public-spiritedly for the general welfare of our whole country. Besides its efforts on specifically labor legislation, it has advanced a program for social security for all aged Americans, through pensions of $60 a month at 60; it has shown a similar concern for legislation on behalf of youth; it has supported legislation for the benefit of the farmers, and has cooperated actively with farm organizations wherever possible, as for instance in the dairy farmers' strike in New York State; and it has been the bulwark of resistance to all assaults on our democratic liberties.

"In the last session of Congress, the CIO exposed and fought right down the line against the unholy alliance of Tory Republicans and renegade Democrats, led by Vice-Pres. Garner, a combination which was responsible for all the attacks launched against labor and progressive legislation."

* * *

Position On War

"Many new problems confront our country as a result of the European war. In coping with these problems, your officers have taken the following position:

"1. That organized labor is emphatically opposed to any involvement of the United States in the European war.

"2. That labor demands the right of adequate representation in all governmental boards and agencies set up to cope with the war situation and to mobilize national defense.

"3. That the real wages of American workers must not be allowed to suffer from rising living costs, and that every effort must be made to stop profiteering and to adjust wage levels to rising prices.

"4. That pre-occupation with foreign affairs must not be allowed to detract attention from unemployment and other pressing problems of internal economic insecurity.

"5. That more than usual vigilance must be exercised to guard existing labor and social legislation and democratic rights against curtailment under the pretext of emergency considerations.

"In general, it is our conviction that the greatest contribution that can be made to the cause of democracy, peace and prosperity, is through the building of the progressive labor movement.

"For in proportion as the workers are made articulate though organization, they will make their influence effective for the preservation of democracy, against the danger of war, and for the establishment of internal security which will make our country immune to the horrors which now afflict so much of the rest of the world."

* * *

Results Of War

"When this report was written, there was considerable show of increased economic activity. Such activity has been built in large part upon war and the expectation of war.

"There is a clear prospect of a significant rise in prices and in industrial activity due to the European war. To some extent, labor will benefit from this activity temporarily. There will be more employment, wages will be maintained and employment will be steadier, but these benefits will be temporary and in the large measure, false. For it has always been our experience in wartime, whether that war involved this country or only European nations, that profiteering and monopolies raise prices of the goods that workers must buy, far more rapidly than their wages, so the immediate result for workers is a reduction of their real wages, a reduction of the amount of food and clothing and housing which they can buy."

Highlights of Report

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14. — Highlight flashes from the report of Pres. John L. Lewis to the second convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations:—

THE PLACE OF THE CIO—"In this hour of national trial and testing, the CIO is a mighty power for democracy, peace and prosperity. The millions of organized workers banded together in the CIO are the main driving force of the progressive movement of workers, farmers, professional and small business people and of all other liberal elements in the community. They are also the backbone of the resistance to all the forces that threaten our democratic institutions and the liberty and security that Americans hold dear."

ORGANIZATION — "Election results [in National Labor Relations Board polls] in general demonstrate that the trend of the workers is all towards the CIO. In the past year, the CIO has won more elections than any other group and has received more workers' votes than all other unions combined."

LEGISLATION — "In the past session of Congress, the CIO led the fight for progressive legislation and was the backbone of the liberal resistance to attacks on existing social legislation. . . . The CIO exposed and fought right down the line against the unholy alliance of Tory Republicans and renegade Democrats, led by Vice-Pres. Garner, a combination which was responsible for all the attacks launched against labor and progressive legislation."

LABOR AND THE WAR—". . . Organized labor is emphatically opposed to any involvement of the United States in the European war. . . . In general, it is our conviction that the greatest contribution that can be made to the cause of democracy, peace and prosperity, is through the building of the progressive labor movement."

WAR BOOM—"The illusion of prosperity brought by war is a hateful deception. The rich and privileged profit hugely in a war while labor suffers and its young men are killed."

'ORGANIZE' IS KEYNOTE

Ten Millions In Five Years, Lewis Asks

Continued from page three

for participation in the national bounty, merely on the same plane and to the same degree as their neighbors, their friends, and their fellow citizens."

"Four million men and women," he repeated, with their dependents, account for 20,000,000 of the population.

But, Lewis predicted, "when I come back five years from now, as come back I will, I'll come into San Francisco with at least ten million dues' paying members. And when I do, the voice of labor will be stronger in America. That's not a threat, that's a promise."

WORK TO DO

To reach that goal, the CIO leader advised organization — continuous, enthusiastic, concentrated—will be needed.

"So you've all got your work cut out," he told the delegates, "and all I intend to do during the next year is to unceasingly demand that you organize the unorganized.

"It's all right in our organization of labor to have research departments and legal departments, educational departments and unemployment departments, and various other departments, and we do have them, and they are good ones.

"But don't forget that the organizing department is the most important, and that the other departments can't function very well will perfect their arrangements, they will develop their leaders and their leaders will gain in skill, in wisdom and in judgment, as they gain experience, and they will be able through the succeeding years to make constantly their contribution to the well being of the body politic, social and economic. That's the job of our organization."

DISCUSSES UNITY

Lewis then devoted a brief section of his talk to the subject of labor unity—a subject raised a few minutes previously by Gov. Culbert Olson of California.

The only reason the papers talk about the "necessity for peace in the labor movement" is because there is a CIO, and because the CIO does have strength and power, he said. "If it had only a million members, there wouldn't be anything about it in the papers," Lewis remarked.

Governor Olson, he said, can see in "his mind's eye" benefits to all labor through unity of AFL and CIO.

But, Lewis continued, "the CIO had to be organized and functioning before Governor Olson could come here to make a speech"—in other words, only the formation and existence of the CIO made possible the election of a liberal state executive.

"So organize the unorganized," the CIO president exhorted.

"There are millions clamoring for admission to our movement, as economic conditions permit them to hazard their jobs, or to find ways and means to associate themselves with us."

The influence of the CIO has been felt in Mexico and Latin-America, he noted, and in all those countries, "there is a scurrying and a hurrying and an activity that these men and women loving liberty and desiring participation in the reasonable things of life, are resolved to do in the same manner as they see their brothers and sisters in the North undertaking to impress their philosophy upon the public mind."

Concluding his talk, Lewis said the convention "has work to do" regardless of the European war, because "America must prepare for tomorrow.

BLESSING OF "SECURITY"

"The greatest blessing that can come to our own country and to our own government is to achieve security for the future by making the men and women of labor who have to fight its wars of the future so appreciative of the treatment they get that they will be perfectly willing at any time to work and fight and die, if necessary, to preserve the things for which the American flag stands."

In opening his address, Lewis spoke of the CIO's love and respect for the "free institutions" of America, in "orderly processes" and in "an appeal to the intelligence of men and women, and not in any resort to force."

Founded on these principles, the CIO president asserted, the labor movement is making a contribution "which no man may afford to ignore and no man may assail, lest in the end it be proven that he is a foolish man to either underestimate our influence or to assail the sincerity of our principles or the work of our movement."

PEP UP
MEETINGS
WITH
LABOR MOVIES!
Hundreds of Locals Are Doing It. Why Not You?
• Write For Free Catalog •
GARRISON FILMS
1600 BROADWAY, N. Y. C.

GREETINGS
CONVENTION DELEGATES
from
The Baumgarten Company of Washington
•
We Furnish the *National Office*
UNION MADE
SEALS
Rubber Stamps, Stencils, Badges, Etc.
925 ELEVENTH ST., N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

GREETINGS
CONVENTION DELEGATES
from
CORNELIUS PRINTING COMPANY
Printers for
INTERNATIONAL UNIONS
for More Than Thirty Years
Indianapolis, Ind. **Silver Springs, Md.**

DOES YOUR UNION HAVE A
NEWSPAPER?
DOES IT COST TOO MUCH?
Are Costs So High You Would Like to Have a Newspaper But Can't?

Labor Publications Foundation
was organized to aid unions to publish official organs by lowering costs through co-operative and mass production economies.

★ WEEKLIES, MONTHLIES OR SEMI-MONTHLIES
★ TABLOID OR STANDARD SIZE
★ 4 - 8 - 12 - OR 16 PAGES

Delivered in Bundles or Mailed Direct to Every Member
WITH OR WITHOUT PARTIAL OR COMPLETE
EDITORIAL SERVICE

Labor Publications Foundation Now Serves:

THE CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS	CIO NEWS — National 8-Page Weekly with 15 Different Editions for Affiliated Unions.
TEXTILE WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA (CIO)	TEXTILE LABOR — National 8-Page Monthly
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF HOSIERY WORKERS (CIO)	THE HOSIERY WORKER — National 8-Page Semi-Monthly
UNITED FEDERAL WORKERS OF AMERICA (CIO)	FEDERAL RECORD — National 8-Page Semi-Monthly
WORKERS ALLIANCE	WORK — National 12-Page Semi-Monthly
DELAWARE COUNTY (PA.) CIO UNIONS	LIBERAL PRESS — Local 8-Page Weekly
PHILADELPHIA CIO UNIONS	LABOR RECORD — Local 8-Page Weekly

Labor Publications Foundation is chartered as a non-profit making, non-dividend-paying corporation by the State of Pennsylvania.

Members of its Board of Directors are:

EMIL RIEVE, *President, Textile Workers Union of America.*
ELI L. OLIVER, *Executive Vice Chairman, Labor's Non-Partisan League.*
CARL HOLDERMAN, *Vice President, Textile Workers Union of America and Chairman of Labor's Non-Partisan League of New Jersey.*
ALEX McKEOWN, *President, American Federation of Hosiery Workers.*
WILLIAM SMITH, *Sec'y-Treas., American Federation of Hosiery Workers.*
M. H. GOLDSTEIN, *Council of Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America and Newspaper Guild.*
JOHN W. EDELMAN, *Director of Information U. S. Housing Administration and former Philadelphia Regional Director of C. I. O.*
DAVID S. SCHICK, *Vice President, Newspaper Guild of Philadelphia and Camden.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
Or Advice on Your Press Problems — See or Write
LABOR PUBLICATIONS FOUNDATION
1512 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.
NOTE: Distance from Philadelphia is no bar to effecting economies through Labor Publications' Service!

OF 2nd CIO CONVENTION

Six Vice-Presidents OK'd by Convention

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 13.— Change in the CIO constitution to provide for six vice-presidents, instead of the two former positions, was approved by the convention.

At the same time, the delegates gave their stamp of approval to a plan permitting the general executive board to allot a salary to the CIO secretary when it so sees fit.

Nominations of the officers had not been made when The CIO NEWS went to press. Next week's issue will carry full stories about the final actions of the convention.

Greetings

Convention Delegates

from a

FRIEND

Union Label Campaigns Endorsed

San Francisco, Oct. 14 — A brief review of work already done and recommendations for further progress on the promotion of a CIO union label campaign is given in Pres. Lewis' report to the convention.

The report says:

"Many of the affiliated unions of the CIO carry on extensive work in this field through their own departments.

"The coordination of this work might well be carried on by a self-supporting agency within the CIO directed and supported by those international unions which are engaged in making products for which the use of labels is important."

ROANOKE CERTIFIED

Washington, Oct. 14 — United Furniture Workers, CIO, has been certified by the Natl. Labor Relations Board as sole collective bargaining agency for production and maintenance employes at the Johnson-Carper Furniture Company, Roanoke, Va., after a secret election held August 31.

Host and Guest

WEST COAST CIO LEADER Harry Bridges greets Pres. John L. Lewis. Bridges and George Wilson, head of the San Francisco Industrial Union Council, gave the delegates labor's key to the city.

Lewis Refutes Anti-CIO Slanders

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14.—The resolution of the CIO to stay out of war and to defend American freedom is the answer to those critics who "denounce the CIO and its leadership as representing a philosophy and a concept foreign to America," President Lewis told the convention here.

"I am in complete support of this splendidly phrased document and its splendidly phrased principles," he said in taking the floor to speak on the resolution.

"They are so fine that no one in this country can misunderstand the policy of this organization. It proclaims again what our CIO members have always said—that the CIO is American, that our people are interested in American problems, that they derive their inspiration from American soil and from the American people."

Answering those enemies of the CIO who cry "un-American" at every progressive movement in American life, Lewis turned sharply on them as representatives of "sinister and demagogic forces."

"Our movement and our leaders are the recipients of a great deal of criticism from sinister and demagogic forces" he said. "Again at our convention we will answer these fulminations and these slanders.

"There is no question of what premises this resolution is founded on. The responsibility of peace or war is one this Congress cannot assume—nor any individual. The future will decide whether the American people will have to take up the sword to defend American principles.

"Without question this action should refute and silence those critics who are won to slander the CIO as adhering to a philosophy foreign to Americans. Our movement is committed to no policy or ism that is imported from abroad. Those who say to the contrary are falsifiers."

WHOSE POCKETS —

ARE YOU FILLING? When you buy your clothes do you help pay the wage of a union worker, or do you help swell the profits of a sweatshop boss?

- **The Label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America** will give you the answer. When you don't see the label you know that the garment was probably made by an un-American sweatshop chiseler. When you see the Amalgamated label you know that your money will go into the pockets of union workers, earning union pay, working under union conditions.
- **Demand the union label in the clothes you buy** and insure yourself against sweatshop garments, against sweatshop conditions in industry.

You can find the Amalgamated label in union made suits, overcoats, uniforms, work clothes and overalls, workshirts, dress shirts, underwear, gloves, neckties, sheeplined, leather, and sport coats, children's clothing and wash suits.

ISSUED BY AMALGAMATED WORKERS OF AMERICA — UNION MADE — CA 000000 — COAT — AUTHORITY OF CLOTHING

ISSUED BY AMALGAMATED WORKERS OF AMERICA — UNION MADE — PA000000 — PANTS — AUTHORITY OF CLOTHING

ISSUED BY AMALGAMATED WORKERS OF AMERICA — UNION MADE — VA 000000 — VEST — AUTHORITY OF CLOTHING

UNION MADE

Watermarked

PAPERS

The R. P. Andrews Paper Company have stocked and sold Union Made Papers for over a quarter of a century in Washington, D. C. It has been our policy for these 25 years to maintain a large stock of proven, printable Union Made Papers that insure the utmost satisfaction.

For UNION MADE

- BOND
- BOOK
- COVER
- LEDGER
- MIMEOGRAPH
- ONION SKIN

Call

R.P. Andrews PAPER COMPANY
FIRST & H STREETS SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

BOTTLED IN BOND

RITTENHOUSE

Square STRAIGHT RYE WHISKY

100 PROOF

Made of the finest grain and rye malt. Distilled by experts in one of America's most modern plants. Aged in charred Ozark oak casks.

America is swinging to Rittenhouse—because it's a premium, top quality whisky. Surprisingly low-priced. Ask for it at your favorite bar and package store.

Continental Distilling Corporation, Philadelphia, Pa.

also available in BOURBON

BLACK & DECKER

PORTABLE ELECTRIC TOOLS

Helping Good Mechanics Do Better Work

The BLACK & DECKER Mfg. Co.
TOWSON, MARYLAND, U. S. A.

Protect Rights, Defend Gains, Lewis Urges

Continued from Page Three

WAR PROGRAM

1. Opposition to any involvement in the European war.

2. "Adequate" representatation for labor on all government agencies set up to cope with the war problems.

3. Preservation of labor's real wages, and stern measures against war profiteers.

4. No turning of the government's attention from pressing domestic problems because of the war situation.

5. "More than usual vigilance" to protect civil liberties, social legislation and democratic rights of the people.

The CIO president warned that though war abroad may bring a temporary boom at home, aftereffects of that boom are certain to leave the nation "in worse economic condition" and cause the workers "to suffer worse hardships than before such a boom began."

45 NATIONAL AFFILIATES

Some 45 national and international unions and organizing committees are now affiliated with the CIO, the report showed, as well as 567 local industrial unions and 210 state, county and city industrial union councils. A total of 50 regional and sub-regional officers are maintained in all the major industrial centers of the country.

The CIO president revealed that the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, chartered only recently, is making rapid progress, with "applications for charters being received every day."

DISCUSS LABOR BOARD

Lewis devoted a considerable portion of his report to the Wagner Act and the work of the National Labor Relations Board. He recalled the spirited defense of the Act by the CIO against the onslaughts of the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers, the Chamber of Commerce and the allied top leadership of the AFL, and said that the CIO will be in a position at the opening of the next regular session of Congress to "resume its attack upon the enemies of organized labor."

On the other hand, the report minced no words in its discussion of some phases of the work of the Labor Board, particularly in many of its recent decisions on the setting up of craft units in industrially organized plants, and of plant units where the overwhelming majority of the units in a corporation system are organized by one industrial union.

He cited specifically the Board's ruling in the Chrysler case, where CIO pleas for the establishment of a company-wide bargaining unit were turned down — a decision which Pres. Lewis warned "is fraught with danger" for industrial unionists.

"The purpose of the Act is to promote collective bargaining through the free choice of representatives", the report declared. "But when the Act is so administered as to thwart the development and maintenance of stable industrial relations, then it becomes necessary to consider and weigh carefully whether the benefits of the Act outweigh the dangers which its administration inflicts upon organized labor."

PRAISES LIBERTIES UNIT

Turning his attention to other federal government agencies, Lewis said that the "outstanding achievement of the CIO in connection with the full use of the various federal administrative agencies" was the creation of a civil liberties division in the Department of Justice.

On the other hand, he declared: "One may seek in vain for appointments of representatives of labor to important policy-determining positions in any of the agencies responsible for the administration of the labor or social legislation enacted under the New Deal."

Discussing bills now in the Congressional hopper, Lewis singled out for special praise the LaFollette-Thomas Oppressive Labor Practices Act, aimed at ending the strikebreaker-labor spy industry. He was sharply critical of various criminal syndicalism and so-called anti-alien bills which have passed through the House of Representatives, basing his objection on the grounds that the bills are essentially undemocratic and so loosely-worded that they "may be used against labor unions when so desired."

IMPROVE SECURITY ACT

Of social security, Lewis said that much can be done to improve administration of the act. The 49 different state unemployment compensation acts, with the complexities which arise from divided authority, are badly in need of simplification and improvement, the report indicated.

The CIO president reiterated his support for the Wagner Health Bill.

"We believe that with the prospect of an increased national income before us, one of the major goals of organized labor must be to utilize this increase for the best interests of the American people by a rapid expansion of the present social security system."

Increased activities of the CIO Housing Committee were reviewed in the President's report and a further study of housing problems was recommended.

DISCUSSES JOBLESSNESS

Another major section of the report was devoted to a discussion of the unemployment problem.

Lewis stressed the continued interest of the CIO in the problems of the jobless, and recounted the day-by-day fight to win the most satisfactory solution possible — a role which he said contrasted markedly with that of the high AFL officialdom on the Woodrum bill.

"They lifted not a hand for a real program," he said. "They condoned the abolition of the prevailing hourly wage. They condoned the breakdown of the building program. They condoned the wiping out of the theatre project. They condoned, in short, by their silence, a bill which has done profound damage to their membership."

BASIC TROUBLE

Noting that the number of WPA workers is in the process of being cut by a million, Lewis spotlighted the basic fault of the government's relief program — "it has not fulfilled those standards called for by the CIO — it has not been large enough, broad enough, flexible enough, courageous enough to do the job."

Lewis was far from optimistic in his views of the economic future.

"The nation's number one problem is work for its population," he declared. "Labor believes that this nation, acting within its democratic tradition, can solve the problem of unemployment.

"The history of the government's attack upon unemployment has been one of hesitant half steps towards solution, hastily withdrawn before they could become effective. If we are to justify the effectiveness of our democracy, of our vaunted leadership in the economic field, then we must prove that we can solve this problem of unemployment."

PROGRESS HALTED

Pres. Lewis charged that the past year has witnessed a "substantial halt in any steps towards a progressive economic program. He saw alarming economic signals in the fact that American industry has been able to reach a stage of reasonably satisfactory prosperity at a time when 12,000,000 workers are idle.

"There is still time for real political and industrial leadership to assert itself" and meet this challenge, Lewis asserted. "The time is short, to be sure. But that is not an obstacle to those who sincerely want to solve our national problems by cooperative effort."

SUGGESTIONS

Other sections of the President's report noted the increased effectiveness of the CIO NEWS as an aid to the affiliated unions; suggested that the officers be empowered to create a committee on workers' education whenever it deemed necessary; asked the convention to approve the establishment of the advisory committee on Latin American affairs; noted the need for creation of a CIO committee for cooperation with farmers, of a department or committee on public relations to work with other liberal organizations, and of an agency within the CIO to spur the use of union label products.

Brewery Union Wins Court Fight Against AFL

Washington, Oct. 14—Passing on a 39-year-old jurisdictional dispute between two AFL unions, Justice Goldsborough of the U. S. District Court here attacked efforts of the AFL to transfer beer truck drivers from the Brewery Workers to the Teamsters as an act of despotism.

The Justice's decision sharply rebuked the AFL for its invasion of the Brewery Workers' jurisdiction which it had expressly recognized many years ago.

The decision, a sweeping victory for the Brewery Workers against the AFL Executive Council, which had sided with the Teamsters, traced the 39-year-old story of the jurisdictional battle which once brought suspension of the Brewery Workers and now threatens to do so again.

In 1887 the Brewery Workers affiliated with the AFL and its jurisdiction was not disputed until 1900 when the newly admitted Teamsters challenged it. The dispute was then settled in favor of the Brewery Workers. But in 1906 the AFL reversed itself and suspended the Brewery Workers for a year as an incident in the same internal warfare.

A LONG FIGHT

The Brewery Workers were restored to the AFL in 1907 and continued to insist on their jurisdiction over beer truck drivers until the next climax in 1933, when the AFL again took the Teamsters side. This action led to the court action and the Goldsborough decision.

Emphasizing the value of the Brewery Workers rights involved, the court said:

"The evidence in this case shows that the unionized workers affiliated with the Brewery Workers Union have property rights, probably the most valuable that unionized workers can have, which would be taken away from them by a transfer to the Teamsters Union. They have sick benefits, death benefits, strike benefits, and what is more valuable than all of the others, the benefit of collective bargaining."

CIO Wins Brass Poll

Torrington, Conn., Oct. 14—Voting two to one for the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union, CIO, as their collective bargaining agent, American Brass Company workers cast 951 ballots for the union to 481 against at the last of the company's plants to be organized in Connecticut.

The election decided bargaining representation for 1,514 workers at this branch of the American Brass Company. Union proposals will be presented to the management this week.

Trade Union Service

New York City — Modern Age Books, Inc., is starting a trade union educational service consisting of speakers' guides, study outlines and a speakers' bureau. Inquiries should be addressed to Trade Union Service Department, Modern Age Books, 432 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

Follow Proceedings

DELEGATES AT WORK: Scene on the convention floor as delegates hear reports o. CIO work. Shown in the foreground are, (left to right), William Carney, CIO New Jersey director, and Frank Grillo, Thomas Burns and Sherman Dalrymple, officers of the United Rubber Workers.

JOHN L. LEWIS says:
"I commend this volume for all to read . . ."

SIDNEY HILLMAN
LABOR STATESMAN
by GEORGE SOULE

". . . because it makes available to all Americans, and particularly to members of organized labor, the history of a man whose life can only inspire them to greater efforts."

2.50 all bookstores

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY
60 FIFTH AVE., NEW YORK

Organizational Activities of CIO

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14.—Organizational activities, listed in Pres. Lewis' report to the CIO convention, cover progress made in the way of consolidations, new unions set up, charters issued, Industrial Union Councils and Local Industrial Unions, and the like.

Special problems in organizing in Canada and the South are treated in separate sections, as is the establishment of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, newest CIO national affiliate.

The report points out that charters issued by the CIO while it was the Committee for Industrial Organization have been reissued since the establishment of the Congress of Industrial Organizations at the Pittsburgh convention of last year.

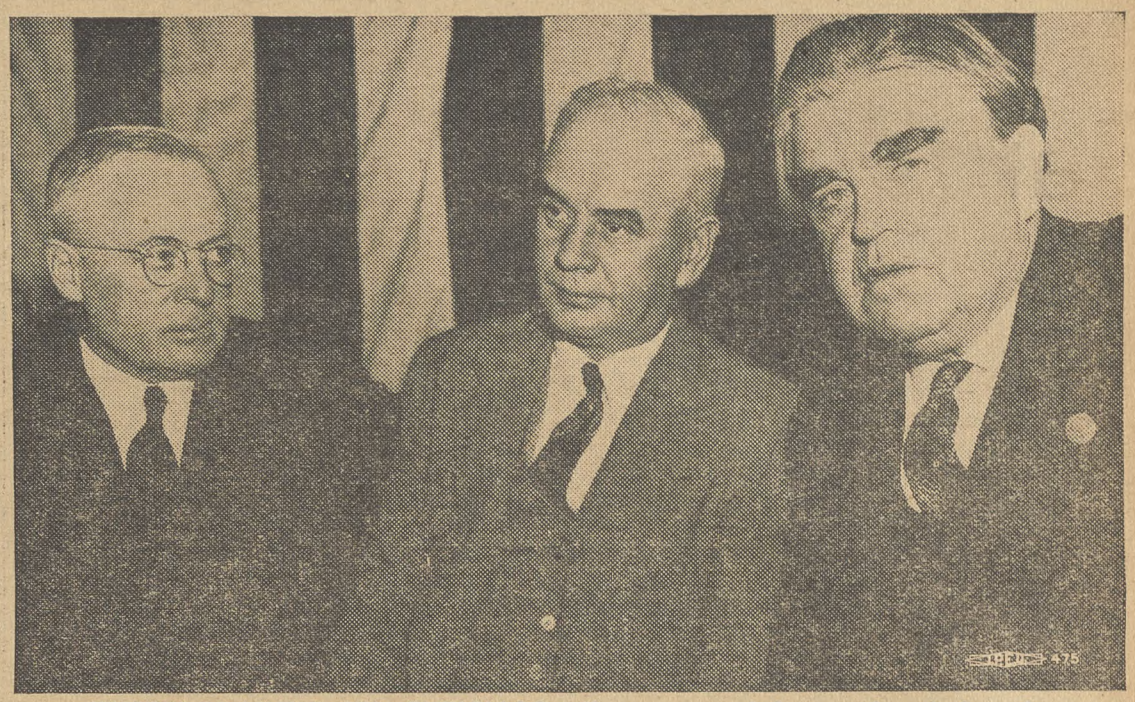
TWO MERGERS

It also lists two principal consolidations, the merger of the Fur and Leather Workers and of three fishermen's unions to become the Intl. Fishermen and Allied Workers, as well as the formation of the Textile Workers Union from the former Textile Workers Organizing Committee. Councils, of which 28 are state bodies, is listed. The report praises the work of the councils and urges "renewed efforts" to establish them where they do not already exist.

On the United Construction Workers, headed by Chairman A. D. Lewis, the report declares: "For some time there had been numerous requests from workers in the construction industry from all over the U. S., our territorial possessions and Canada for an industrial union of construction workers affiliated with the CIO which would eliminate and remedy the evils which the workers in the construction industry have so long been remedied.

"Consequently, upon the announcement of the formation of the UCWOC there was an immediate and enthusiastic response from individuals and groups from every section of the country."

Discuss CIO Problems



THREE LEADING CIO OFFICIALS talk over one of the questions before the convention. Sec.-Treas. Thomas Kennedy of the United Mine Workers (left), CIO Vice-Pres. Philip Murray (center) and Pres. Lewis on the platform at Polk Hall.

Treatment of Jobless Held Inadequate

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14. — The past year has seen no improvement in standards and provisions for coping with the nation's overwhelming unemployment problem, Pres. Lewis told the CIO convention in his annual report.

Charging that in many ways handling of the problem has deteriorated, Lewis said that "the plight of the unemployed is in many ways worse today than at any time in the past three years."

WPA employment has been sliced from 3,350,000 to 2,000,000, and will be cut an additional half million by July, 1940, he said, while those still on the government's work program rolls are employed at lower wage rates for longer hours.

IN STATES, TOO

While this condition prevails on the federal government's projects, the state and local situation is continually getting worse, with relief appropriations, "state by state, county by county and community by community" growing constantly smaller.

The trouble with the works program, Lewis charged, is that it "has not fulfilled those standards called for by the CIO—that it has not been large enough, broad enough, flexible enough, courageous enough to do the job."

TELLS OF PROGRAM

The CIO president reviewed at length the activities of organized labor to aid the unemployed. He told of the CIO's constant fight for larger WPA appropriations, its support of the Casey-Murray bill, and its leadership in the battle against the notorious Woodrum bill.

LED BY CIO

"The support of the WPA by labor has been led for the past two years by the CIO," Lewis stated. "A relatively small proportion of those who are on WPA are CIO members, but the CIO has taken the position that the CIO would represent the case of the unemployed to the nation.

"The AFL has received extensive benefits from the WPA. In many places it has been the object of special privileges and favors from the WPA officials. There are a number of important cities in the country where the AFL has prevented the employment upon construction projects of the WPA of any but its own members.

Lewis Warns Of War Boom's Dangers

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14. — The results of a "war boom" will be filled with danger to the nation's workers.

That was the tenor of Pres. Lewis' convention report on the present economic situation throughout the nation.

Reiterating his previously-enunciated warning that democracy must find a way to give every employable worker a job, Lewis challenged government and business to find work for America's 12,000,000 jobless, and promised full labor support to valid efforts to find a way out of the present economic stalemate.

The CIO leader found definite cause for alarm in the fact that American industry has attained for itself a satisfactory operating level while these millions of workers are left outside the industrial economy.

ONE-QUARTER "EXILED"

"It is now clearly evident that through the monopoly control of prices and of the market, and through replacement of men by machines, it is possible for three-quarters of the American population to live in relative prosperity while one-quarter is exiled to economic slavery," he warned. "It is as though we should decide to cut from our nation all the New England States, New York and New Jersey and sink them with their population in an economic sea."

Organized labor, Lewis' report stated, "has outlined a program which it believes can bring a state of secure prosperity. It has never really been tried. That program constitutes a challenge which must be answered by the nation."

WAR "BOOM" NO ANSWER

Parenthetically, he pointed out that a war boom is no answer to our basic economic problem, since "such a boom carries in it seas of a depression made more terrible by the aftermath of war."

In the report to the 1938 convention, Lewis recalled, "an economic program was laid down in broad terms which labor believes would bring economic stability.

"It is with deep concern that we must report no advance of significances toward the fulfillment of that program. To the contrary, there have been steps backward."

Going through the 1938 report suggestions point by point, the CIO leader noted that wages have not been substantially lifted and hours have not materially reduced; that a lower, rather than an increased, proportion of the national income is going to the "actual consumers"; that machines are still throwing workers out of their jobs; and that Federal, State and local governments are drawing a constantly increasing share of their tax revenue "fom the pockets of the small consumers."

It is perfectly obvious, the report concluded, "that the past year has seen a substantial halt in any steps towards a progressive economic program. There is every indication, and labor believes profoundly, that if such a program were tried with vigor and courage and good faith, it would be successful."

Don't 'Appease' Enemies Of Labor, Board Told

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14.—Five main sections divide the discussion of legal activities in Pres. Lewis' report to the second CIO convention, presented at the opening session here.

Of these, the most detailed treatment is given to the Wagner Act and its administration by the Natl. Labor Relations Board, with briefer sections on proceedings before Federal government agencies, litigation, legal pamphlets and bulletins, and a short section on legislation outlying the work described at greater length in another part of the report.

Pres. Lewis sharply criticized the Labor Relations Board, however, for its policy of "deciding unit cases in favor of AFL craft claims." This policy, Lewis writes, has "diminished the value of the act," particularly in cases involving the CIO's right to employer-wide certification as sole collective bargaining agency.

This policy is particularly evident in the Board decision on the Chrysler case, the report points out, where an employer-wide election was refused and plant-by-plant votes ordered. "As a foreshadowing of a policy on the part of the Board which would cut down hard-won collective bargaining units of company-wide scope, this decision is fraught with danger," Lewis writes.

After listing important decisions of the Board and pointing out that it has been upheld by most courts, the report urges a re-examination of CIO policy in the light of Board practice of deciding against the CIO "whenever the interests of the CIO run into sharp conflict with the dog-in-the-manger attitude of the AFL officials or the carefully nurtured prejudices of the press."

The CIO has opposed, and will oppose, all attempts to destroy or pervert the act, Lewis writes. "But when the act is so administered as to thwart the development and the maintenance of stable industrial relations, then it becomes necessary to consider and weigh carefully whether the benefits of the act outweigh the dangers which its administration inflicts on organized labor."

Describe CIO Publicity

San Francisco, Oct. 14—CIO press and publicity activities are described in President Lewis' convention report under three main headings—presenting the CIO point of view through newspaper and other publicity mediums, the CIO NEWS, and aid and cooperation extended to CIO affiliates.

Legislative campaigns of the CIO, particularly the defense of the Wagner Act, took the chief attention of the department in its general publicity work, the report says.

BETTER TREATMENT

Some improvement in the direction of a "more serious and reasoned treatment" of the CIO in the press is noted, due to the increased prestige of the movement. "But, at the same time," the report says, "the CIO has continued to be confronted with the editorial hostility of most of the business-controlled press, and the very fact that it has so conclusively demonstrated its strength and stability during the past year has led to renewed efforts to offset its progress with misrepresentation and propaganda."

Progress of the CIO NEWS as the official CIO organ is also noted. "The CIO NEWS has firmly established itself during the past year, with increasing circulation and support." Affiliates are urged to subscribe to the NEWS for "at least a representative section" of their membership.

Latin-American Friendship Stressed As Beneficial

San Francisco, Oct. 14—Friendly relations between the CIO and the organized workers in Latin America are stressed in Pres. Lewis' convention report.

The report reminds CIO affiliates also of the warm fraternal relations that exist between the CIO and the Latin American Confederation of Labor, set up at a convention in Mexico City, which Pres. Lewis attended as fraternal delegate.

The report also recommends formal approval of an advisory committee on Latin American affairs, whose secretary is Miss Kathryn Lewis.

CIO Active On Two Fronts In Legislation

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14.—CIO legislative activity centered on two main fronts during the past year — defending progressive legislation already on the books and pushing for new labor laws — according to Pres. Lewis' report to the second CIO convention here.

The main attack, the report says, came from a coalition of reactionary Congressmen and top leaders of the AFL, and directed its heaviest fire on the Wagner Act and the wages and hours law. Thanks to CIO rallying of its own affiliates and progressive forces in other movements, neither law was scuttled or amended as anti-labor forces hoped.

On the role of the AFL leadership, Lewis writes: "It is perfectly clear that if the AFL Executive Council had not sponsored any amendments to the Wagner Act, the proposals of the Natl. Association of Manufacturers would never have reached the stage of serious consideration.

"From the very beginning of the drive to amend the Wagner Act, it was evident that the anti-labor forces were willing to let the AFL Executive Council do the job of paving the way for the destruction of the Wagner Act."

CIO IN THE LEAD

This attack was turned back, the report explains, and today the CIO is ready in the next session of Congress "to lead off in the attack against the enemies of organized labor." First step in this coming campaign was the success of the CIO in securing an amendment to the Walsh-Healey Act in the Senate, whereby government contractors found guilty of violating the Wagner Act will lose their contracts until they agree to abide by federal law.

Following this gain, the CIO was able to stave off numerous other assaults on workers' rights and civil liberties, notably in the defense of the wages and hours law, in pushing for the LaFollette civil liberties bill to curb oppressive acts by employers, and in fighting against a flood of anti-alien bills ostensibly directed against "foreign influences" but actually designed to curb labor.

CHIEF DANGERS

Chief dangers, Lewis' report found, were in the revival of attacks on labor laws and in the threatened spread of repressive statutes in the individual states, where a number of restrictive laws have already been passed.

"We are faced with the task," Pres. Lewis writes, "of finding the means to bring about the full use of our men and machinery in order to provide for the American people out of the abundance of wealth with which this country is so richly endowed.

"It is time now for the government to take the lead and with the aid of labor unions, farmers and other progressive organizations, put an end to idleness of tools and men with its consequent want and deprivations for millions of our American people."

SOCIAL SECURITY

On social security, unemployment compensation, old age pensions, and similar social problems, Lewis' report reaffirms previous CIO policy of broadening benefits and reducing administrative delays and confusions. The CIO stand for old age pensions of $60 at 60 years of age is restated from the resolution of the June, 1939 Executive Board meeting.

"We believe," Pres. Lewis writes, "that with the prospect of an increased national income before us, one of the major goals of organized labor must be to utilize this increase for the best interests of the American people by a rapid expansion of the present social security system."

Save Timber Lands, CIO Asks U. S.

San Francisco, Oct. 14—A national program of "efficient and adequate reforestation" to protect the country's great natural resources was demanded today by the CIO.

A resolution predicted that "virgin commercial timber will have disappeared in from 30 to 50 years" unless steps are immediately taken to reforest the timber country.

Harold Pritchett, president of the Intl. Woodworkers of America, took the convention floor to speak in behalf of the resolution and to warn of the dangers, not only to the men in his union, but to the nation as a whole, unless a thorough-going conservation policy is adopted.

Active

VAN A. BITTNER, chairman of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, who headed the CIO convention resolutions committee.

Timber Union Convention Meets Oct. 18

Seattle, Wash., Oct. 14. — The third annual convention of the International Woodworkers of America, CIO, beginning October 18 at Klamath Falls, Oregon, is expected to draw the largest representation of IWA membership since the union began, IWA headquarters announced here.

The convention headquarters are at the Elk Hotel.

The delegates will hold their sessions which are expected to last four days, in the big armory.

Some 313 delegates from the United States and Canada will be seated, Secretary-Treasurer B. J. McCarty said.

Convention Sidelights

One company which didn't welcome the CIO to San Francisco was Western Union Telegraph, whose operations here are at a standstill as a result of a CIO strike. Scab Western Union messenger boys who tried to deliver telegrams to the delegates were turned back at the Hotel Whitcomb desk with the warning: "The CIO people refuse to receive messages sent via Western Union."

* * *

There were lots of visitors in the back of Polk Hall to watch the convention's opening session. Youngest spectator: a babe in arms:

* * *

Movie cameras took shots of Pres. Lewis reading excerpts from his speech, then swung around to snatch glimpses of the delegates.

* * *

San Francisco lived up to its reputation as a friendly city. Convention delegates were taken around to see the sights and toured down the bay in a chartered ship. "Welcome CIO" banners were strung up all along Market Street.

* * *

The San Francisco "Labor Herald," official CIO organ in the city and Bay area, had a special convention issue and distributed them at each seat on the opening morning of the session.

* * *

Gov. Culbert Olson, California's leading liberal, received a mighty ovation from the delegates as he strode down the aisle to the convention platform. Local reporters said the governor's speech—a stirring defense of progressive policies—was one of his most important.

* * *

Investigators for the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee are back in San Francisco, to carry on the investigation of the Associated Farmers organization where they left off after a brief look-see last spring.

* * *

George Wilson, a member of the Newspaper Guild and head of the San Francisco Industrial Council, got the convention ball a-rolling with an address of welcome. During the course of the first morning, the convention was successively chairmanned by Wilson, Harry Bridges and Pres. John L. Lewis.

* * *

Tom Smith, white-bearded charter member of the United Mine Workers, was on hand—spry as usual—for the sessions. A little girl spied him in the lobby of the Whitcomb, ran over and asked: "Mister, are you Santa Claus?"

* * *

Union officials doubled their time between the convention and appearances before local unions in the San Francisco Bay District.

Cheer Plan for Drive

PLANS FOR BIG ORGANIZING DRIVE won enthusiastic applause from the convention. Bottom picture shows delegates cheering Pres. Lewis' call to "get to work." CIO officials and staff officers (at upper left) also gave the call a big hand.

Murray Urges U. S. Confab On Jobless

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14.—Technological unemployment is the outstanding problem confronting America, Philip Murray, CIO vice-president and chairman of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, said to the convention here in a speech on the second day of the meeting.

One plant alone of the U. S. Steel Corp., the continuous strip mill in Pennsylvania, has displaced more than 20,000 workers, since 4200 produce in three shifts what 25,000 used to produce in one, he explained. This plant has created five ghost towns in its vicinity, making workers' homes, businesses, stores, all property valueless.

He urged an immediate conference of government, labor, business and other groups in Washington to deal with this menacing situation. "The CIO has a problem here," he said. "The U. S. government has a problem. The day of awakening must come, and the needs of these outcast workers must be considered by the U. S. government."

As yet no action has been taken, he declared. "Don't corporations have some responsibilities — definite public responsibilities — as well as to their stockholders? Shouldn't they be recognized as having responsibilities, or should they just stop with scrapping of lives and communities?"

NLRB Policies Condemned In Resolution

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14.—The CIO is on record unanimously condemning the National Labor Relations Board for policies which "undermine the basic purposes of the Act," and urging all affiliates to make "a most sparing and considered use of the Wagner Labor Act in the future."

Convention speakers all advised the unions to reply on organizing the unorganized to achieve their goal of collective bargaining for all industrial workers.

The delegates rose and cheered a resolution that sharply attacked the board for its recent policy of appeasement of AFL and employer interests in the expense of the CIO and in violation of the basic purposes of the Wagner Act. The convention resolved as follows:

UNDERMINES ACT

1. The CIO condemns without qualification the policies of the National Labor Relations Board which undermine the basic purposes of the Act to strengthen organized labor and advance the practice of collective bargaining; and

"2. The CIO likewise and as fully condemns the administrative policies of the board which have resulted and continue to result in the displacement of unbiased personnel in favor of personnel antagonistic to the CIO and the elimination of personnel not fully sympathetic to the doctrines and interpretations of law herein condemned; and

"3. The CIO brands the adoption of such policies and such displacements of personnel as an unwarranted and unworthy retreat by the National Labor Relations Board under fire from the reactionary officials of the AFL and the most powerful and dangerous corporate employers of the land"

BOARD IN RETREAT

They listened to leading officers of the CIO review and analyze recent board decisions which, the resolution said, "have without question been determined upon as part of a policy of appeasement toward the reactionary AFL bureaucracy and some of the most powerful and dangerous employers in the country."

They cheered Philip Murray, James J. Matles of the Electrical and Radio Workers, Van A. Bittner, and Sidney Hillman for speeches that stressed one common note—criticism of the board and its new member, William Leiserson, leader of the anti-CIO policy, and the assurance, as Bittner said, that "there's not enough power on earth to destroy industrial unionism.

It was made clear by all the speakers and by the resolution that no attack on the basic purposes of the Wagner Act was made or intended, but that the board which was trying to pervert these purposes must change its policy or the act would be in danger of becoming an anti-labor law.

PERMITTED CRAFT RAIDS

The resolution, described by Murray as "one of the most important the entire convention has to deal with" declared that board policy has allowed craft units to "raid established industrial unions," is breaking down multi-plant employers units, preventing disestablishment of company unions, and indulging in a wholesale purge of board personnel that fails to show anti-CIO and pro-AFL bias.

First speaker on the resolution was Philip Murray, who drew attention to board policy as it affected steel workers and automobile workers as typical of its harmful effects.

He cited the case of the Walworth Steel Co., where the SWOC has 1900 members and an AFL craft splinter group 28. The SWOC had a contract, the AFL nothing. The AFL petitioned for a craft election—and got it.

"The SWOC protested," Murray said. "So did the corporation. But the board said there must be an election. Twenty men voted—10 of them for the SWOC; the craft unit didn't even represent a majority of its own membership. We had to restrain our men from a strike against the National Labor Relations Board."

IN AUTO INDUSTRY

Similar cases in automobiles, where the CIO has been winning elections by ten to one and bigger majorities are producing a state of rebellion against the board, Murray pointed out.

"The workers in the automobile industry are in rebellion against the board," he said. "Too much heed is being given to a few malcontents who represent nobody, but who always get consideration. The AFL is in automobiles only to promote dissension, to cause disorganization, to cause strikes, to bring about bloodshed. Yet they are heeded by the board when they ask for separate elections.

"Don't these actions show the folly of their position? If the National Labor Relations act was passed to promote industrial peace, why is the board interfering with National collective bargaining? Do these things promote peace or confusion? Do they tend to cause or prevent strikes?"

UERMW COMPLAINT

Matles, pointing out that his organization, the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, has won 89 per cent of board elections, has received 70,000 votes, cited a board order for a hearing on the petition of "two and a half AFL workers—two pattern makers and an apprentice," as evidence of the damage the board is trying to do in his industry.

Sidney Hillman, CIO vice president, emphasized as did Murray and the others, that the CIO was not attacking the basic purposes of the Wagner Act, but was attacking the policies of a board that was perverting and distorting the act.

HILLMAN AND BITTNER

"We're not fighting the act," he said. "We didn't criticize the board for a long time. But now the very purpose of the law is being defeated by the board. And we must not merely protest here, but we must increase our organization, so that the enemies of labor will know they can't attack labor laws so effectively."

Bittner took a similar line, declaring: "the report of committee on resolutions is in fact a defense of the act. It is an attack on an administration that is distorting the act. We have not changed our opinion on the fundamental value of the act.

"All we want is a 50-50 break and we'll shellac the AFL and the employers wherever we meet them. We want no favors from the board but we hate to have two strikes on us before we come to bat."

Beaten by Thugs

FRANK PATEK, GLASS UNION MEMBER at Crystal City, Mo., was in the condition shown above after being beaten by a deputized thug from a company union. A strike against Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co. to bring collective bargaining to the Missouri plant was postponed after U. S. Dept. of Labor conciliation service entered the situation.

CIO Shipyard Workers Win Big Pay Boost At Key Plant

Signing Shipyard Pact

Representatives of Local 1, Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, are shown as they signed the agreement with the New York Shipbuilding Corp., Camden, N. J., which called for a general wage increase of 6 per cent, said to be the highest in the industry.

Copies of the agreement are shown being progressively signed, from left to right, by M. H. Goldstein, general counsel for the IUMSWA; William C. Pommerer, local president; John Green, nat'l. union president; Edward B. Johnson, secretary of the Local; and Richard Benson, chairman of the negotiating committee.

Also shown, farthest right, sitting, is Robert Pennington, of the union's negotiating committee, and rear, standing, Roy Campbell, vice-president and general manager of the shipyard.

CAMDEN, N. J., Oct. 14—The highest wage scale in any major shipyard in the United States was negotiated in an agreement signed between Local 1, Industrial Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers, CIO, and the New York Shipbuilding Corp., here.

The agreement provides for a general six per cent wage increase, which, combined with adjustments in certain classifications and higher ratings of some trades, will result in increases ranging up to 38 per cent in some instances.

Close to 5,000 production workers of this company, all members of the CIO union, benefit by the increase. The general 6 per cent raise represented a zero hour, 2 per cent concession by the management, which had previously offered only 4 per cent, as it faced a showdown with its employes, who had also previously rejected the lower offer.

A ZERO HOUR SETTLEMENT

The agreement on the wage offer was arrived at while the members of the local were assembled in this city's huge Convention Hall to take final action on the report of their negotiating committee. The situation had been growing increasingly more tense through over 30 day and night sessions of negotiations, as the old agreement expired here on October 3.

The temper of the men was keyed at at high pitch when their met them at the shipyard gates and instructed them to go to work until the membership meeting took definite action.

In the meantime, the negotiators returned to the zero-hour conferences with the management which resulted in the acceptable wage offer, the latter capitulating in a "war of nerves" arising from the union's unspoken, but constant, threat of a walk-out.

The effect of the wage increase will be felt throughout the industry, said John Green, national president of the IUMSWA, who predicted that other shipyards would follow suit. He pointed out that the Camden yard is the key plant in the industry, by virtue of the fact that it is the most strongly organized and the pioneer both in organization by this Union and in collective bargaining with it.

Gov. Olson Describes Liberal Aims

Praises CIO Industrial Unionism

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14—A fighting liberal praised the CIO for its contributions to American "industrial, social and political" democracy at the opening session of the second convention here.

The man was Gov. Culbert Olson, California's first liberal chief executive in almost a half-century, and to the delegates he explained his faith that the government can serve the interests of the people without departing from the ways of traditional American democracy.

HAILS CIO PRINCIPLES

The governor paid a stirring tribute to the principles of industrial unionism, and said the time will not be long in coming when those who now fight that principle will regard it as "necessary and vital to a well-ordered society."

While the CIO philosophy is new, Olson said, "it is not at all difficult . . . to perceive that certain economic forces have brought industrial unionism into being and breathed life into it.

"It is easy to perceive that these forces grew out of the concentration of industry into fewer and larger units; and out of the streamlining and mechanizing of manufacturing operations; developments which have so subdivided labor operations that some of the old crafts have almost gone out of existence . . . Here, therefore, are the forces that have created and that will finally weave industrial unionism firmly into the fabric of the national life. Realization of this fact will bring unity."

NOT STATIC

"Democracy is not a static structure like a house, but a living, moving organization that requires to be kept alive and can live only on and among the living. It can live only where there are those who practice and strive to maintain it. The struggle for democracy must be won in each and every generation."

That was the keynote of the Governor's address, and from that paragraph he went on to an outline of his plans for California and to an appeal to the nation's workers to support those who seek to make democracy work.

"Labor leads in that struggle," he said. "Ever since I can remember, organized labor has been the outstanding practitioner and militant force for democracy. You are here carrying on that struggle with growing strength and vigor; and with every appearance and much promise of success in the achievement of industrial democracy.

"It is you who feed and re-invigorate the blood stream of democracy because labor's objectives, labor's organizational practices, labor's needs are all geared to and dependent upon democracy."

To the organized workers the Governor gave credit for its "leading and highly constructive part in this political upheaval which has forced a most decided change in the State administration."

Describing some of the changes that have taken place in the California government since reactionary Merriam was ousted last year, Olson noted that "for the first time in many years, the Dept. of Industrial Relations is being run by labor men for the labor movement. As a direct result, workers are coming to the Department for help in ever growing numbers because they know their complaints will be treated honestly and with confidence."

NAMED LABOR MEN

"Our appointees to responsible and policy-making positions are outstanding tried and true liberals and labor leaders who owe their appointments to no other influence than their own abilities and records of sincere devotion to the principles of honest, progressive democracy," he said.

The statment was particularly significant in view of Pres. Lewis' complaint—in his report to the convention—that labor men are not being placed in any key positions in the federal administration.

STATE'S PLAN

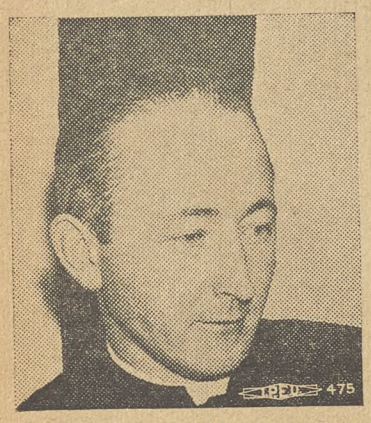
What the state government has in mind for the future was explained to the convention.

"This state administration wants progressive labor legislation," Olson continued. "We want a minimum wage law to cover the areas not covered by the federal law. We want the state to monopolize the writing of Workmen's Compensation Insurance in order that workers may enjoy the maximum benefits of this law without increasing its burden on the industries.

"We want more effective laws protecting better safety laws. We have sponsored and supported a long list of legislative reforms beneficial to labor.

"We want consumer education and consumer protection. We want progressive farm legislation, protecting and advancing the interests of small farmers, encouraging agriculture as a way of life, rather than a highly commercialized industry resting upon the backs of over-exploited farm laborers."

Speaker



REV. DR. HUGH A. DONOHOE, professor of industrial ethics at St. Patrick's Seminary, Menlo Park, California, was an opening day speaker at the CIO convention.

Fighting Liberal

PRAISE FOR THE CIO'S CONTRIBUTION to U. S. democracy came from Gov. Culbert Olson of California. In a speech repeatedly interrupted by cheers, Olson told his plans to make democracy work in the western state.

CIO Helped Elect Liberals, Says Bridges

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14. — Existence of a progressive administration in the State of California is a direct result of CIO activity and organization, Harry Bridges, west coast CIO director told convention delegates as he introduced Gov. Culbert Olson.

Pointing out that there has been a "complete turn in the wheel" of California politics since the AFL met here for its 1934 convention, Bridges said:

"We saw vigilante groups, controlled by vested interests, beating, clubbing, thugging labor organizers. Nothing was done by ex-Gov. Merriam.

"Without the CIO, its help, support, and finances, we would not now have the progressive administration in this state."

Blasts Board

Continued from Page One

tion in politics that liberal government policies may be continued; for better social security legislation and a national health program under government auspices.

Action of labor unity—which followed receipt of a message from President Roosevelt — was left in the hands of the CIO's negotiating committee of three—President Lewis, Vice-Presidents Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman.

The problem of unemployment must be tackled speedily and thoroughly, the convention said. endorsing a proposal of Murray for a government "gold fish bowl" conference at which labor, agriculture, business and the Government can discuss and study the nature of the unemployment problem and chart steps to solve it.

Study Made Of Shoe Earnings

Washington—A study of earnings and hours made by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in the boot and shoe industry shows that weekly hours averaged between 38.5 and 40 cents, and weekly earnings were between $18.79 and $32.93.

The study says that wide fluctuations in hourly earnings were revealed. An important factor influencing wage levels was found to be the extent of unionization.

Delegates Hail Plan

Continued from Page One

matic proposal by vice-president Philip Murray for a national "goldfish bowl" conference in which Government, labor, agriculture, and industry will seek solution of America's most serious problem.

Aid for the farmers, whose essential interest lie with the industrial workers, was also demanded by the convention.

Officers Report CIO Gains

San Francisco, Oct. 14 — Surveys of CIO accomplishments and recommendations for more and harder work in organizing the unorganized by the committee on officers' reports drew praise and support from leading CIO officials in the convention here in Polk Hall.

"We shouldn't let this opportunity pass," Pres. Michael Quill said. "We should do some sound thinking and taking stock. If there is any force in America that can keep us out of war its the CIO."

Philip Murray, CIO vice-president: "We should take stock and go down to the roots of our movement. We should find out what it has done for the people of the U. S."

RECITES GAINS

Answering his own question, Murray briefly recited the gains of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee in the three years it has been in existence.

"Today in every steel center of the nation, we have collective bargaining agreements — 614 of them, covering 620,000 workers. We have 1200 lodges, 11,000 lodge officers, 8200 grievance committeemen functioning in every steel center every day. We've increased steel wages an average of 23.5 cents per hour, including common and semi-skilled labor.

"We take pride in our record. Let our enemies think about that. There's our root, our foundation."

THE SOUTH

Emil Rieve, president of the Textile Workers Union of America: "For 50 years the AFL tried to organize textile workers—and had 50,000 members and no contracts. Today we have 1100 contracts covering 300,000 workers. For the first time the South has been penetrated. We can't have a modern labor movement without organizing the South."

Sidney Hillman, CIO vice-president and president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers: "The mere fact that we meet after a year of sharp depression with our organization intact and with greater gains is proof of our vitality. We can now move forward in a way not only to shock our enemies but also to surprise our friends."

Van A. Bittner, chairman of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee: "The PWOC was was founded two years ago. Today we have in every meat packing center a lively, militant, progressive union. In every center where we held elections we've won."

Mrs. Howard Makes Brief Address

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14—A guest of the convention at its second day afternoon session was Mrs. Charles P. Howard, widow of the former secretary of the CIO, who died last year.

In a brief talk, Mrs. Howard told of her late husband's interest in the welfare of the workers over a long period of years.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II — No. 43 — 20 — Send form 3578-P to 1106 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. — OCTOBER 23, 1939 — Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 — $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

CIO ORGANIZATION DRIVE UNDER WAY

Woodworkers Plan Organizing Drive At 3rd Convention

KLAMATH FALLS, Oregon, Oct. 21.—The third annual convention of the International Woodworkers of America, CIO, convened in this city October 18. "Organize the unorganized" was the main concern of the 225 delegates, representing 100,000 woodworkers in 22 states and three provinces of Canada, as they entered into their deliberations.

Demands to be made upon the operators, enjoying vast profits from a booming lumber market, for a dollar-a-day raise in wages were also considered by the delegates.

The major internal problem, which the IWA hopes this convention will take the first steps toward solving, is the sorely-needed raise in per capita tax to finance the extensive organizational drive among the unorganized wookworkers of the United States and Canada. The question of per capita boost will be referred to the membership

Continued on page eight

Chrysler Workers Strike

By EDWARD LEVINSON

DETROIT—Refusal of the Chrysler Corporation to concede its workers the right to bargain on the speed of production lines led to a strike this week of 22,000 Dodge workers.

R. J. Thomas, international president of the UAW-CIO, authorized the strike following almost a week of futile negotiations, during which the corporation refused to bargain on speed of operations and rejected requests for reinstatement of more than 100 workers fired because they could not meet the speed-up requirements.

The strike was preceded by a lockout, Richard T. Frankensteen, director of the union's Chrysler department, stated. For almost two weeks the men reported to work, but they were promptly sent home when they

Continued on Page Eight

All Affiliates Ready To Push Campaigns

(See Stories On Inside Pages)

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 21—Every CIO affiliate today was launching a huge organizing campaign aimed at following the goal set by the second annual CIO convention here of organizing millions of unorganized workers.

The need for increased organizing activity and the enthusiasm of the unions for such campaigns was by far the outstanding note of the convention, which adjourned here on Oct. 13.

Immediately after the convention, the CIO general executive board met at the Hotel Whitcomb and discussed the organization plans.

Final day of the convention saw a tremendous 33-minute ovation for Pres. John L. Lewis when his nomination for re-election to the presidency was made by Pres. Sidney Hillman of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers. Lewis was unanimously chosen by the delegates, as were the candidates for all other offices.

Vice-Pres. Philip Murray and Vice-Pres. Hillman were both re-elected, along with Sec. James Carey. Elected to fill four new vice-presidencies were heads of four CIO affiliates: R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers; Sherman Dalrymple of the United Rubber Workers; Reid Robinson of the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers; and Emil Rieve of the Textile Workers Union.

CIO Delegates Cheer Their Leader

REELECTION OF PRES. JOHN L. LEWIS brought on a tumultous 33-minute demonstration by delegates to the CIO convention, which ended in San Francisco last week. Bands played, people cheered themselves hoarse as they marched around the convention hall to honor the CIO's great national leader.

Democracy and Right To Work Are Tied Together, Says Murray

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 21. — The ultimate salvation of America is wrapped up in the solution of the problem of technological unemployment, Philip Murray, CIO vice-president, told delegates to the CIO convention here.

No agency in the United States Government, he said, "has any reliable information concerning this phase of our industrial situation."

Philip Murray

Drawing on his own experience in the steel industry, Murray told of the situation in Newcastle, Pa. where the U. S. Steel Corporation built a continuous strip mill costing about $66,000,000. That plant employs 4,200 men to do the work formerly produced by 24,000.

He described the havoc to the community since the strip mill has gone into operation and said: "The steel workers of that community have erected and purchased their own homes. The homes are now of no value. The thousands of workers who have been cast out on the streets have nowhere to go. They are done. They are looking for the dole, they are looking for some WPA work. They are carrying their market baskets to the commissaries to get relief. Destitution is widespread. Poverty, misery, degradation trail in the wake of the community and its people."

CIO STRESSED PROBLEM

The CIO has tried to bring this problem to the attention of the nation, Murray said, recounting numerous attempts by President Lewis, Sidney Hillman and himself to get Congress and the President of the United States to "do something about this technological situation in America."

The gravest threat to American institutions is the havoc and personal suffering of millions of our citizens who are the victims of technological advance, Murray declared.

"There must be some remedy to this problem of the displacement of men and women. You cannot everlastingly, even in America, keep 11 million idle men and women and 22 million dependents through various forms of taxation," he continued.

"If anything in the United States might cause unrest, might bring about eventual disaster, it is this problem and the obvious unwillingness of the leaders of industry, leaders in the field of statecraft to join with labor in a healthy, constructive, practical, logical solution of America's No. 1 problem."

CALL FOR CONFERENCE

A national conference including representatives of industry, government and labor is the first step in the solution of this problem, Murray told the delegates.

"I would like to meet some of the leading industrialists of this country in a conference of that description. I would like to ask them what they intend doing about these people whom they have thrown out in the streets. Or is there not some very definite public responsibility here that necessitates their cooperation with us in formulating a constructive solution to the problem."

It is not enough, he said, that the convention adopt a resolution embodying this policy. The affiliated unions, the members of the CIO throughout America, must be awakened to the need of solving the problem, and supporting the national CIO in its campaign to bring about such a conference.

The convention voted unanimously to have the verbatim report of Mr. Murray's remarks reproduced in pamphlet form for distribution to all CIO members.

Perth Amboy Smelter Workers On Strike

Perth Amboy, N. J., Oct. 21—Two thousand workers at the American Smelting and Refining Company here struck when the 8 o'clock whistle blew last Tuesday, after long refusal by management to negotiate an agreement with Local 365 of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, CIO. The strike is 100 per cent effective.

The company fired an active shop steward the day before the strike, and earlier refused an effort at mediation by the Department of Labor.

A previous contract expired two months ago, and the company consistently turned down the union's demands for wage increases, paid vacations, the union shop and seniority rights.

CIO Agrees to 2nd Armour Election

Chicago, Oct. 21 — Although it won the first election by an overwhelming majority, the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee has consented to a second Labor Board poll among the 5,000 workers of the big main Armour & Company plant here.

Secretary of Labor Perkins urged the PWOC to consent to the election to settle the claim of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters, AFL. After the CIO union and the company had agreed to the poll, the AFL union withdrew its petition. The NLRB thereupon ordered a hearing held on the proposed election.

Results of the election at the Oppenheimer Cashing Co. won by the PWOC over the AFL union 77 to 2, are believed to be behind the AFL's withdrawal of its demands.

Celanese Union Opens Vote Drive

Cumberland, Md., Oct. 21—A campaign to get all its eligible members registered and able to vote in the 1940 elections has been launched by the big Celanese local of the Textile Workers Union, Business Manager Clyde D. Lucas announced.

A series of three radio broadcasts by President James A. Dundon is scheduled as part of the drive. The local is distributing thousands of forms which voters must fill out in order to cast their ballots in the next elections.

Many workers who have moved to Maryland in recent years and are unfamiliar with state voting procedures are receiving special attention by union committees.

Explaining why Local 1874 considered this registration drive necessary, Lucas said: "Only too often we wait until election time is almost upon us and then discover large numbers of our people are unable to vote by reason of their own neglect. In view of the importance of the 1940 campaign, and, in fact, all election campaigns, we call upon our members to check up on their friends' eligibility."

The Celanese workers local recently won many improvements in renewing their contract with the Celanese Codp. of America.

Retail Union Signs 2-Year Pact for 500

NEW YORK, Oct. 21.—A two-year closed shop agreement with the Davega-City Radio, Inc., was announced this week by the United Retail and Wholesale Employes, CIO. The contract covers 500 employes in 30 stores, the main office and the warehouse of the company.

A large part of the employes covered by the agreement will receive wage increases retroactive to September 5, 1939, in addition to 15% won under a previous agreement and maintained in the present agreement.

Terms of the contract also provide two weeks' vacation with pay; a 40-hour week for office employes, 44 for warehouse and service employes, and 48 for store employes; time and a half for overtime; seniority rights, hiring from the union; protection of the shop chairmen from being laid off and arbitration of all disputes.

A joint statement issued by H. M. Stein, president of the company and Nathan Solomon, business representative of the union declared: "Negotiations for this new agreement were marked by a spirit of friendliness, goodwill, and the utmost desire for cooperation on both sides."

The agreement was ratified enthusiastically at a meeting of the employes, union officials said.

Ford Rehires Unionists

Detroit, Oct. 21—Richard T. Leonard, regional director of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, announced today that all 23 of the Ford Motor Company employes fired two years ago for membership in the CIO union are now back at work. Percy Llewellyn, president of Ford Local 600, was on the list of those taken back.

Leonard hailed the re-employment of the 23 men as "a clear-cut victory for the UAW-CIO, which will enhance our organizing efforts among Ford employes."

The Labor Board previously ordered the company to reinstate the men with back wages. The workers have not yet received this pay due them. The Board has an application for an order compelling compliance with this provision now pending in the U. S. Circuit Court in Cincinnati.

Canadian CIO Unions Form National Council

HALIFAX, Oct. 21.—A national co-ordinating committee has just been formed by Canadian regional directors of unions affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Announcement of the formation of this council was made recently in Windsor, Ontario, by George Burt, Canadian regional director of the CIO United Automobile Workers.

The council selected as its chairman Silby Barrett, Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, international board member for District 26 of the United Mine Workers of America and director of the Congress of Industrial Organizations in Canada.

Representing thousands of Canadian workers in vital war industries—rubber, steel, clothes, coal, automobiles, airplanes—the council plans as one of its first steps to go to Ottawa to pledge their aid to the government.

Mr. Burt said the council would suggest definite efforts be made by labor and industries and governments to ensure the greatest possible industrial efficiency in Canada's war efforts.

"All members of CIO unions will do their share in this war and we hope, and expect, industry will do likewire," Mr. Burt said.

Steel Unions Plan United Action

Halifax, Oct. 21 — A policy for united action on a joint demand for standardization of wages, hours of labor and conditions in the steel industry of Nova Scotia has been decided upon by steel workers' organizations in Trenton and Sydney, centres of the industry in the province.

Announcement of the policy was made by SWOC Local 1231 of Trenton and said in part:

"At a meeting held here a delegation from Sydney SWOC Local 1064 and the executive of Trenton Local 1231 hammered out a policy for united action on a joint demand for standardization of wages, hours of labor and conditions in the steel industry of this province.

"It was decided that a joint council representative of both unions will be set up whose duty it will be to initiate and conduct a campaign for the above mentioned aims. The decisions arrived at by the conference are to be submitted to the general membership for ratification and immediately after acceptance to be put into effect.

"Present at the meeting were George McEachern, Don McKay, John Johnson, James Nicholson, representing the Sydney Local; and Richard Scott, Bernard Wilcox, Ernest Oakes, Cyril Bransfield and Chad MacMillan for the Trenton executive."

A further meeting to complete details will be held in Sydney. The statement was signed by Richard Scott, president, and Chad MacMillan, recording secretary.

Baldwin SWOC Signs Contract

Bethlehem, Pa., Oct. 21—A sole bargaining agreement with the Baldwin Locomotive Works covering all employes in the company's Baldwin - Southwark shops in Eddystone, Pa., has been signed by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, Jack Lever, SWOC Bethlehem director said today.

The company has a record of 130 years of hostility to organized labor, Lever declared. In 1869 it destroyed the old Machinists' and Blacksmiths' Union and later fought all efforts of the Knights of Labor and the AFL to organize its plants.

Conn. Elects 2 Pro-Labor Mayors

Washington — Labor in Connecticut won two important political victories in local elections in Norwalk and Torrington, Labor's Non-Partisan League announced here.

Mayoralty candidates endorsed by the League were elected in both cities. In Norwalk labor hailed the reelection of Mayor Frank T. Stack, Democrat, who credited the League with decisive influence in the campaign.

Stack was endorsed "for his advocacy of housing, his progressive and liberal record, and for his support of labor." Stack is an official of a local hat company that has had a pro-labor policy.

Torrington voters gave victory to the League-endorsed candidate, William A. Patten, Democrat. Reasons for League support of Mayor Patten were his defense of civil liberties and labor's rights, his support of WPA and the New Deal, and his decision to extend health services.

LARGEST PRODUCER OF ROUGH ROLLED GLASS
MISSISSIPPI
GLASS COMPANY
220 FIFTH AVE.
NEW YORK

CORNELIUS PRINTING CO.

Printers for
INTERNATIONAL UNIONS
for more than 30 Years
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
SILVER SPRINGS, MD.

Nationwide CIO Organizing Campaign Moves Into Action

Announce New Set-up Of Staff

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 21 A number of changes in the organizational set-up of the CIO were announced by President John L. Lewis here, following approval by the executive board.

The office of Director has been abolished. John Brophy, who has held that position, was named Director of the Department of Local Industrial Unions. In addition he will act as a liaison officer and assistant for the CIO president.

NAMES HAYWOOD

Allan S. Haywood, previously CIO regional director in New York, has been named National Director of Organization, and will be in the national CIO office in Washington. Michael S. Widman, heretofore New England CIO director, will move to Washington to become Assistant Director of Organization.

Adolph Germer, previously CIO director in Detroit, is being shifted to New York to fill the position left open by Haywood's transfer. No appointments have yet been made to the vacant Michigan and New England CIO directorships.

On the Pacific Coast the office of West Coast CIO director has been abolished, and Harry Bridges, who held that position, has been named CIO director for the state of California. William Dalrymple, Steel Workers Organizing Committee director in San Francisco, was apointed to a new position — CIO regional director in Oregon. Richard Francis is named as CIO Director for the State of Washington.

EXPLAINS MOVES

In announcing the personnel switches, Lewis explained to newspapermen that the changes were made in line with the convention's decision to speed a great organizing campaign. The west coast, he added, is too large an area for one regional director to function adequately, and with three directors now working on the Coast, organization campaigns can be more concentrated.

"It is our intention to set up in Washington a bigger staff that will be more efficient and provide for more comprehensive organization," Pres. Lewis declared.

He pointed out that the CIO has "ample funds" and "unlimited credit" with which to finance its organizing drive. The campaign will be carried out by all CIO affiliates.

NLRB Bulletin On Newspaper Field

Washington, Oct. 21 — The acceptance and extension of collective bargaining in the newspaper industry has resulted in a decrease in industrial strife, a bulletin issued this week by the National Labor Relations Board notes.

The bulletin, "Collective Bargaining in the Newspaper Industry," reviews attempts of newspaper printing employes over a period of 100 years to organize into labor unions. It was prepared by the Board's Division of Economic Research.

Tribute To Lewis

PRES. LEWIS LOOKS OUT over the convention hall in San Francisco as delegates paraded in a 33-minute ovation to the leader of CIO's national forces.

Summary of Session's Key Resolutions

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 21—More than a half hundred resolutions were passed at the CIO convention here. Following are brief summaries of the more important statements of policy:

LABOR AND WAR: Asserts American labor wants no part in the European war, supports the President's neutrality program, and demands defense of democratic institutions and protection for labor's rights.

TECHNOLOGICAL UNEMPLOYMENT: Urges Federal government make a survey of unemployment causes looking towards full employment, the 30-hour week and collective bargaining.

WAGNER ACT & LABOR BOARD: Condemns Labor Board policies "which undermine the basic purposes of the Act", describes recent Board actions as an "unwarranted and unworthy re-

Continued on page five

Convention Calls For Intensive Drive by Unions

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 21—The Congress of Industrial Organizations today was embarked on a giant organization drive with the five-year goal of bringing an additional 10,000,000 workers into the CIO's powerful industrial unions.

Given an enthusiastic, unanimous "go ahead" signal by the CIO convention, the general executive board met here immediately after convention adjournment and devoted several hours to discussing plans for the new forward march of "labor's peaceful army."

Ringing in each delegate's mind was the oft-repeated command of every convention speaker—**"Organize the Unorganized."**

For that was the theme of this convention, expressed in the report to the convention of Pres. Lewis, in the speeches of the CIO leaders and delegates, and in the resolutions passed during the four-day session at Polk Hall.

"When I come back five years from now, as come back I will, I will come into San Francisco with at least ten million dues-paying members of the organization. When I do come back, the voice of labor will be stronger in America," Lewis told the convention.

"So," the CIO president continued, "you have all got your work cut out for you and all I intend to do during the next year is to unceasingly demand that you organize the unorganized."

In turn, leaders of the steel, auto, clothing, textile, packinghouse, metal miners, and other unions took the floor to describe the immense forward steps that must be taken by the CIO

STATE CIO STAND

The resolution on organizing reiterated the CIO position—

"That the primary purpose of the CIO during the months and years immediately before us, as in the past, must be the advancement of the basic task for which the CIO was created and to which it is dedicated, the organizing of the unorganized millions of American workers on an industrial basis."

But that was not the only resolution of the convention which discussed the need for accelerating the organizing drive to bring in the millions of non-union workers. Specific statements on a number of industries called for intensive action to build the unions in those fields.

RE-ELECT OFFICERS

That the CIO has complete faith in its leaders and praise for the work they have already accomplished was seen in the re-election of all the officials named at the 1938 convention: Pres. John L. Lewis, Vice Pres. Sidney Hillman and Sec. James Carey.

FOUR NEW OFFICERS

In addition, the delegates unanimously named four new vice-presidents elected to fill positions provided by a change in Section 1 of Article IV of the constitution. Those elected to office were:

Pres. R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers.

Pres. Sherman Dalrymple of the United Rubber Workers.

Pres. Reid Robinson of the Intl. Union, Mine Mill & Smelter workers.

Pres. Emil Rieve of the Textile Workers Union.

Since the new vice-presidents became ex-officio members of the CIO general executive board, elections to that body by the various unions revealed four new members: Sec.-Treas. George Addes of the auto workers; Vice-Pres. Thomas Burns of the rubber workers; Tony McTeer of the metal miners' general executive board; and William Smith of the textile workers.

LEWIS DEFENDS CIO

In the final address of the con-

Continued on page five

Lewis Wished To Retire; Board Demanded He Run

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 21—Pres. Lewis revealed here that he came to the CIO's San Francisco convention prepared not to run for re-election.

In his speech of acceptance of another term as head of the CIO, Lewis declared:

"It is no secret to some of you that I came to this convention with the hope that you would select another President in lieu of myself. Those of you with whom I conferred declined to be guided by my wishes, and they said that what they believed was also believed by you, all of you.

"So I bow to the sentiment of our delegates and our people as expressed by this representation, and I again become your servant, to do those things that you want me to do, as I understand what you want me to do. I have no other motive, no other impulse and no other ambition."

Lewis' desire to retire from the CIO presidency was made at an executive board meeting two days before the convention, it became known, and came as a stunning blow. After many pleas for a continuance of his leadership, Lewis bowed to the demands and consented to accept the presidency once again.

In his speech of acceptance, Lewis took issue with those foes of the CIO who have called him a dictator. He pointed to the unity and democracy evident throughout the convention's proceedings, and declared:

"Therein lies the power of the leadership of the CIO. Therein lies the factor and the influence which make my voice, whein I speak for labor, a voice of some importance, of some influence and of some power!

REASON FOR POWER

"But only because of those things I have said in our convention before, and I repeat now, because it is an elemental truth, that if the day ever comes in the councils of labor when I cease to truly represent what is in the hearts and the minds of our people, and to give voice to their yearnings and desires, their needs and their ambitions, then just that day my voice loses its power, my tongue loses its cunning, and the people of the United States will pay no more attention to me than they will to the street-sweeper on Market Street outside that door."

Delegate Killed In Accident

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 21—Tragedy befell one delegate to the CIO convention.

Arthur Page, 30, secretary and organizer of the Los Angeles Newsboys' Union, was killed in an automobile wreck two miles north of Goshen, Calif., as he was returning home from the CIO convention.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President

Vice-Presidents

Philip Murray — S. H. Dalrymple
Sidney Hillman — Reid Robinson
R. J. Thomas — Emil Rieve

James B. Carey ..... Secretary
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. 11 October 23, 1939 No. 43

AN AMERICAN INSTITUTION

By John L. Lewis

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 21—Following is the complete text of Pres. Lewis' closing speech to the CIO convention:

The business of the convention has been completed. Every resolution submitted has been considered and passed by the convention. Every committee has reported. It has been a most remarkable demonstration of the efficiency of our organization for any one who cares to analyze the work of this convention. Every delegate who desired to talk has talked. No delegate has been interrupted. No points of order have been raised. The convention has been a living exemplification of democracy in a deliberative body. Every delegate has conducted himself with the utmost decorum and consideration for all others. There has been no bitterness of debate, no motive to impugn, and no individual was maligned.

When one stops to consider that remarkable record he again comes to have an understanding of the great potent force that springs from the well springs and sources and sentiments of our people. We have been here to work, to take counsel with each other, to consider the work of yesterday and outline the work of tomorrow. The job has been done in a most magnificent manner.

I extend to the delegates, to every officer of this convention and each member of each committee, the secretary, the ushers, and all those who contributed to this remarkable record in a deliberative body, my profound appreciation, personally and officially.

FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT

I think this work and this performance augers well for the future of our Congress. It refutes those who would believe that labor, unable to govern itself, will be unable to assume increasing responsibilities in the future. To the organization of four million men and women in voluntary forms of organization there come great responsibilities. There comes the necessity of exercising restraint; there comes the necessity of considering the effect of the policies of this organization upon our fellow citizens and upon our form of government. As through the years we grow and expand, as grow and expand we will, millions more will be added to the rolls of our membership. This demonstration of efficiency and this record of performance is an achievement that will be accepted as being that of American people who will recognize that, as increased power and influence accrue to the labor organizations of this country, labor will have a responsible membership and a loyal membership; that labor may be relied upon to follow at all times the policies and to take at all times actions that fully consider not alone the rights and desires of members of our own organization, but the rights, the desires, the privileges, the dreams and aspirations of all Americans.

With great influence comes these great responsibilities, and there need be none here in America who need have apprehensions about the future as the power and influence of labor expand.

I am sometimes asked by skeptics and critics, "What guarantees can labor give to the American people that if, as and when it comes into great membership and exercises increasing economic and political power, labor will not undertake to do things that represent extremes of thought or excessive actions as compared with the rights and privileges of all citizens?"

I cannot guarantee what labor may do tomorrow, next year or ten years from now, for the same reason that I cannot guarantee what a church, a fraternal organization, a school board or a state legislature may do next year. No citizen may underwrite the future conduct or actions of the Congress of the United States, because these instrumentalities are founded upon our concept of democracy and our concept of government through the representative form of government.

SOUNDNESS OF DEMOCRACY

As an American, I must have confidence that the voluntary associations of men and citizens in this country, through the years to come, will at all times exercise reasonable restraint in the adoption of their policies, and be ever considerate of the rights of those who are non-members. As an American I must have confidence that the elected representatives in Congress and the executives of this nation whom we elect through the years will be men of sufficiently sound judgment to guide the ship of state in an ever-increasing efficiency as respecting the well-being of the American people.

But who can guarantee me that? What guarantees can be written that the Congress of the United States, five years from now, will not enact a statute that will trespass upon the rights of minorities of the population?

We have had 150 years of government in this Republic that demonstrate the soundness and permanence of our position and our form of government. The labor movement of this country is just another segment of our population, composed of the same type of

Continued on Page Five

Officers Of CIO

EIGHT OFFICERS OF THE CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS pictured together at the end of the convention. Pres. John L. Lewis is flanked in the front row by (left to right) Vice-Pres. Sidney Hillman, Sec. James Carey and Vice-Pres. Philip Murray, all of them re-elected to office.

The four new CIO vice-presidents are in the back row: Pres. Emil Rieve of the Textile Workers Union; Pres. R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers; Pres. Reid Robinson of the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers; and Pres. Sherman H. Dalrymple of the United Rubber Workers.

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

The CIO Convention

THE San Francisco convention provided a wealth of evidence that "the CIO is a going concern", as Pres. John L. Lewis put it.

The 1938 CIO convention in Pittsburgh was formative in character. It set patterns and precedents, adopted a constitution and laid down general policies to chart the course of the new labor movement.

This year's convention was the first to be held under established rules and precedents. It was the policy-making gathering of a movement which has attained maturity, which is sure of its direction and united in its general purposes.

Organize the Unorganized

It was nothing new that organization of the unorganized should be the keynote of a CIO convention. That has been the main purpose of the movement since its inception.

But what was new was the fact that the drive planned at San Francisco starts from a base of 45 established industrial unions with four million members; whereas the first CIO drive was started by some half dozen unions with less than a million members and had to break entirely new territory.

A new degree of emphasis was also placed on organization by the San Francisco convention. The past year or so has been devoted by many of the unions, with certain notable exceptions, more to consolidation, negotiation and administration than to new advances in organization.

During this period, each one of the new unions, like the CIO as a whole, has become a "going concern." Constitutions have been adopted, officers have become trained in administering union affairs, internal problems have been solved, and membership loyalty has been proved and tested.

But now that a certain pickup in business and employment presents a favorable opportunity for a new advance, the San Francisco convention has resolved on a sharp turn in the direction of concentrating on new organization.

The enthusiasm with which the delegates took up Pres. Lewis' slogan of ten million members in the next five years, was an enthusiasm bred of confidence that the CIO is now a going concern which is fully equipped to achieve this and even more ambitious goals.

Harmony and Unanimity

Another aspect of the San Francisco convention which drew considerable comment was its harmony and unanimity.

The convention was a model of orderly and democratic procedure, with full opportunity for discussion of every major issue. Yet there were no sharp debates and disagreements on the floor, and most of the votes were unanimous.

No movement has ever been subjected to more attempts by its enemies to create division and disruption than has the CIO. Every minor difference of opinion that might arise from time to time has been pounced upon for the purpose of exaggerating it into a split; and every attempt has been made to turn one section of the membership against another on any available issue.

But the San Francisco convention was such a magnificent demonstration of the basic unity of purpose and solidity of the CIO that it has made such enemy prophets of division and dissension look ridiculous indeed.

An American Movement

Another form of propaganda attack on the CIO was also effectively answered by the San Francisco convention.

The CIO has from the first been a typically and fundamentally American movement. It grew out of the needs of workers employed in the mass-production industries for which America has set the pattern to the rest of the world.

Not only has the CIO form of organization been created to cope with peculiarly American industrial conditions, but all of the policies of the movement have grown out of the social and political concepts associated with American democracy.

The CIO convention was one of the most truly representative American gatherings ever to assemble. It democratically expressed the wishes and objective of millions of Americans. And anyone who will take the trouble to study the policies laid down at this convention cannot fail to be impressed with their fundamental affinity with all that is best in what is known as true Americanism.

A Great Leader

No reference to the San Francisco convention would be in any way adequate that did not call attention to the extraordinary degree of confidence which reposes in Pres. John L. Lewis.

Democracy and representative government call for far higher and more complex qualities of leadership than are necessary for kings or dictators. It is hard for the voice of one man to sum up and express the wishes and aspirations of millions of his free and independent fellow-countrymen.

But the enthusiastic, unanimous and conclusive expression of confidence in the leadership of Pres. Lewis which marked the San Francisco convention reflect the fact that his voice has become the voice of millions to a degree never equalled by any other leader of American labor.

Convention Keynote

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 21—Following is the text of the most important resolution of the CIO convention:

WHEREAS, (1) The self-organization of American workers into modern labor unions, capable of dealing with vast combines of industry and capital, is the fundamental and unalterable purpose of the CIO, the cornerstone of its economic, legislative and cultural activities, and the very reason for its being; and

(2) During the last two years of adverse economic conditions, the CIO has forged steadily ahead with its all-important organizing work and has met with a success which augurs well for the results to be achieved during the period of more promising economic circumstances which lies directly ahead; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the primary purpose of the CIO during the months and years immediately before us, as in the past, must be the advancement of the basic task for which the CIO was created and to which it is dedicated, the organizing of the unorganized millions of American workers on an industrial basis.

AN AMERICAN INSTITUTION

By John L. Lewis

Continued from page four

citizens, of the same form of men and women who represent us as in the Knights of Columbus, in the conclaves of the Methodist Church, in the meetings of the Prohobitionists, in the women's organizations, in the state legislatures, and in the Congress of the United States.

If we have faith in our form of government, then, by the same token, we must have faith in the discretion, in the judgment and sound common sense of those Americans who compose, next year or ten years from now, the membership of the labor unions of this country as represented by the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Labor appreciates its responsibilities, labor appreciates the necessity of discipline and orderly conduct and orderly procedure in every consideration of every phase of the day's activity as it affects every man. Labor proclaims that the way to have orderly consideration, peace and tranquility in our labor unions and in our Republic is to have the right to meet and assemble and be a member of a labor organization, free from coercion, free from oppression, free from that bitter, belying criticism that emanates from certain quarters of the country, constantly seeking to sear and blight and destroy and vilify the labor organizations of our time and our day.

So I am happy here today to point to the discipline and orderly work of our movement, made possible by a membership whose understanding is constantly increasing, who are gaining knowledge and experience by being privileged to participate in the reforms of labor, to there advance their ideas, to there receive the criticisms of their contemporaries and to there crystallize what is, after all, a composite viewpoint of millions and millions of men and women.

NO REASON FOR FEAR

Let no man be afraid of the Congress of Industrial Organizations because it is not an American institution. No policy that it has ever espoused was originated or was conceived from any source or within any source, or within any group, except a group of Americans; just as proud of their Americanism as any industrialist who ever received a corporate bonus; just as proud of their Americanism as any hired lecturer who ever trod a public platform; just as proud of their Americanism as any falsifying publisher who ever dipped his pen in vitriol.

There can be no gainsaying those things, because those things are self-evident! Those things are self-evident!

Vice-President Murray said from this platform, "If danger ever comes to America it will not come from the external pressure of a foreign foe; it will come from those who seek to undermine our institutions, or who seek to take our institutions and mold them for their own individual policies and their own selfish aims."

Against those things labor will ever be on its guard, and against those things labor will ever fight. The best insurance policy that the patriots of America can ever take out is to see that labor in America has the right to organize and the right to be happy with their fellow citizens.

So do not be discouraged, my friends, by the criticisms of those who do not understand, and by the fulminations of those who do understand and who only desire to exercise their great influence to confuse and sear and to destroy. Labor has to fight and establish its organizations, and there will never be a time when you will not have to fight to preserve these unions of ours. You need not look forward to being in a comfortable position tomorrow as an executive of an organization affiliated with our Congress and not have to worry what you have to do, because every day that you live representing labor you will have problems to meet and decisions to make, and you will have to hurry hither and yon to carry out your duties and discharge your obligations.

We must not assume the attitude that because we have a great, mighty army of men and women in our organization that all is well. We cannot permit ourselves to get in that attitude and we must not work ourselves into a mental state where we believe that our enemies are asleep merely because for a day they are inactive. That goes for all of our opposition, and it goes for all of our enemies, and it goes for the American Federation of Labor, just as it goes for the National Association of Manufacturers.

Don't let this soft feeling of fraternity that may come into some communities as between membership in our organization and a rival organization lull yourselves into that state of mind, into that state of passivity, or into that state of inactivity where you forget to go out and get some more dues-paying members for the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

As you grow in strength and as you increase numerically, you will find more and more people wanting to be friendly with you. And that goes for the American Federation of Labor as well as other organizations.

I shall not say any more. I am afraid I have burdened you too much with the sound of my voice in this Convention. I marvel at your patience, your cooperation, your loyalty. Accept my appreciation! I express my appreciation from the bottom of my heart for your own testimonial of confidence in me. I only hope that I can continue to warrant that confidence, and that the day will never come when you think you have made a mistake.

CIO Launches Drive For 10,000,000 Men

Continued from Page Three

vention, Pres. Lewis hailed the CIO for its past achievements and spoke of his faith that even greater victories lie ahead. He replied to the slander and the calumnies of the enemies of organized labor.

"The best insurance policy that the patriots of America can ever take out," he said, "is to see that labor in America has the right to organize and the right to be happy with their fellow citizen."

WHY FEAR CIO?

"Let no man be afraid of the CIO because it is not an American institution," Lewis continued. "No policy that it has ever espoused was originated or was conceived from any source or within any source, or within any group, except a group of Americans; just as proud of their Americanism as any industrialist who ever received a corporate bonus; just as proud of their Americanism as any hired lecturer who ever trod a public platform; just as proud of their Americanism as any falsifying publisher who ever dipped his pen in vitriol.

"There can be no gainsaying these things, because these things are self-evident."

Merely because the CIO has come ahead fast in its brief existence, Lewis emphasized, its membership and leaders should not allow themselves to take refuge in an attitude of false security.

"We cannot permit ourselves to get in that attitude and we must not work ourselves into a mental state where we believe that our enemies are asleep merely because for a day they are inactive," he warned.

"That goes for all our opposition, and it goes for all our emenies, and it goes for the American Federation of Labor, just as it goes for the National Association of Manufacturers."

DISPLAY UNITY

The unity of the CIO forces was well displayed when Vice-Pres. Sidney Hillman took the floor to nominate Pres. Lewis for another term in office.

"What can I say to this convention in any measure to describe the qualities for leadership of one who has impressed himself on our generation, whose presence has done so much to change the old structure of organized labor and who has, in a most constructive manner, affected the life of our people?" Hillman asked.

The delegates, however, had their own method of expression.

As soon as Hillman mentioned the name of John L. Lewis, the delegates rose to their feet with a thunderous cheer, and touched off a mighty ovation that defied efforts from the speaker's chair to halt it before more than half an hour had passed.

Led by a nine-piece band, the delegates marched through the aisles, tore paper into bits, rattled noise makers, tore CIO banners from the walls and held them high aloft as they paraded through Polk Hall. After the secretary had been instructed to cast a unanimous vote for Pres. Lewis, the delegates rose to their feet for another ovation—more brief but just as enthusiastic.

The same type of ovation greeted each of the other national officers as their election took place.

Lewis, in responding to the cheers of the delegates, paid tribute to the wholesome unanimity and devotion to duty of the CIO convention. Out of it, he asserted, "will come a crystallization of policy and solidifying of our ranks, the creation of a determination to go out and do the real, continuous, necessary work of expanding the numerical strength of our far-flung organizations.

"There is an opportunity here now . . . I am going to stress one note. I am going to stress the note of organizing the unorganized. Just that!"

Summary Of CIO Resolutions

Continued from page three

treat" before AFL and business reactionaries, and calls for a "most sparing and considered use of the Wagner Act" by CIO unions.

WAGES AND HOURS: Calls for better enforcement of the Fair Labor Standards Act by the U. S. Wage-Hour Administration.

DEPT. OF LABOR: Charges the Department has failed to make itself a "vigorous champion of the wage earners", calls for change in its policies.

POLITICAL ACTION: Commends Labor's Non-Partisan League; asks the CIO Executive Board to work to "preserve and extend" the political gains of labor and to cooperate with other groups for constructive program of political action.

AMERICAN RED CROSS: Demands that the Red Cross afford representation on its governing bodies to organized labor.

LABOR PRISONERS: Pledges CIO support to the fight for freedom of Warren K. Billings and King, Ramsay and Connor; and commutation of sentence and clemency for Emery Albers, Otis Battaglia, Robert Shingleton, Barney Bozetto and Sam Ferro, in an Illinois prison on murder charges.

LIVING COSTS AND WAGES: Condemns as "pernicious" efforts to tie wages directly to the fluctuations in the cost of living.

WORKS PROGRAM: Reiterates the position of the CIO 1938 convention for an adequate government program.

ANTI-TRUST LAW: Instructs CIO officers to fight mis-use of the anti-trust laws against organized labor.

LATIN AMERICA: Calls for closer cooperation among nations of western hemisphere and urges government credits to promote trade with South and Central American nations.

LABOR UNITY: Authorizes CIO Negotiating Committee "to exercise its discretion in any future negotiations."

WHOSE POCKETS —

ARE YOU FILLING? When you buy your clothes do you help pay the wage of a union worker, or do you help swell the profits of a sweatshop boss?

- **The Label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America** will give you the answer. When you don't see the label you know that the garment was probably made by an un-American sweatshop chiseler. When you see the Amalgamated label you know that your money will go into the pockets of union workers, earning union pay, working under union conditions.
- **Demand the union label in the clothes you buy** and insure yourself against sweatshop garments, against sweatshop conditions in industry.

You can find the Amalgamated label in union made suits, overcoats, uniforms, work clothes and overalls, workshirts, dress shirts, underwear, gloves, neckties, sheeplined, leather, and sport coats, children's clothing and wash suits.

ISSUED BY AMALGAMATED GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD WORKERS OF AMERICA — UNION MADE — CA 000000 — COAT — AUTHORITY OF CLOTHING

ISSUED BY AMALGAMATED GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD WORKERS OF AMERICA — UNION MADE — PA 000000 — PANTS — AUTHORITY OF CLOTHING

ISSUED BY AMALGAMATED GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD WORKERS OF AMERICA — UNION MADE — VA 000000 — VEST — AUTHORITY OF CLOTHING

Hillman Hails Lewis As Great Leader of Men In Nominating Speech

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 21—Interrupted by a spontaneous outburst of applause, cheers and vocal good-will which lasted for three quarters of an hour, the nomination of John L. Lewis as president of the Congress of Industrial Organizations was brought to the second CIO convention by one of its founding fathers, Vice-President Sidney Hillman, who is also president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

In a moving tribute to President Lewis' qualities of leadership, Mr. Hillman said:

"What can I say to this Convention in any measure to describe the qualities for leadership of one who has impressed himself on our generation, whose presence has done so much to change the old structure of organized labor and who has, in a most constructive manner, affected the life of our people?

"I am happy for our country that in this great crisis one of the greatest leaders of men is given to the country by our movement."

The gravity of international affairs makes it all the more urgent that the unsolved problems of our democracy be settled constructively, he declared.

"It is my conviction that a lack of vigorous leadership in the democracies abroad is, more than anything else, responsible for the things that are going on there, things from which we pray that we may be spared in this country."

In the person of John L. Lewis, Mr. Hillman said, the CIO offers to the nation "one who cannot merely bring forth a great movement, but hold it together, utilize its greatest effectiveness for the benefit of labor."

Hillman

Sidney Hillman, CIO Vice-President, re-elected unanimously at San Francisco convention.

Postal Signs Agreement With Union

New York, Oct. 21 — Benefits totaling about $1,000,000 for the 17,000 employes of the Postal Telegraph-Cable Company will be gained as the result of an agreement on the application of the Wage-Hour law, reached between the company and the American Communications Association, CIO, the union announced today.

The terms of the agreement, effective Oct. 24, reduce the work week to 44 hours for day workers, 42 for early night workers, and 41 for late night workers without reduction in the net weekly income. Time and one-half is to be paid after 42 hours work per week.

The weekly wage for all employes working the new hours will be the same as they previously received for 48 hours work. The agreement further guarantees the 30-cents hourly minimum wage to telegraph messengers as provided by the increase under the Wage-Hour law effective Oct. 24.

Previously the company had filed a request for exemption on application of the minimum wage provision to messengers, but withdrew this after signing the agreement with ACA. For the first time in the history of the industry, the messengers, like adults under the Postal-ACA contract, are given a guaranteed work week.

CIO Votes Leave AFL Far Behind

Washington, Oct. 21.—CIO unions are still leaving the AFL far behind in number of collective bargaining elections won, figures released this week by the National Labor Relations Board reveal.

About ten times as many votes were cast in elections won by the CIO as were polled for craft unions in elections won by the AFL. A total of 21,759 workers voted for industrial unions in 30 elections carried by the CIO, as opposed to 2,353 who voted for craft unions in 20 elections won by the AFL.

In a few instances where the workers were split into craft groups for purposes of voting, both the CIO and the AFL won part of the divided poll.

In 30 elections in which the CIO and the AFL competed against dependent group as a third union, the CIO won 20. In the other polls CIO won 20. In the other polls either the CIO or the AFL competed with an independent union or with no other union on the ballot, giving workers the opportunity to vote for no union representation if they chose.

The CIO was on the ballot in some 50 polls, the AFL on 48, according to the Labor Board figures. Most of the elections listed were held in September, with a few returns from earlier months and several in October included.

Many of the elections won by the CIO involved a large number of workers, while the AFL elections were for the most part among smaller groups. In the election won by the CIO auto workers at seven plants of the Briggs Manufacturing Co., for example, more than 13,000 CIO votes were cast.

Electrical Union Calls Conferences

New York, Oct. 21—Two special organizing conferences of the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, were called this week by James J. Matles, director of organization. They will be attended by international representatives, field organizers, district and local organizing staffs, for the union's four eastern coast districts will meet for a two-day session, here, starting Nov. 4.

PowerStrike Settlement Ratified

Detroit, Oct. 21 — Terms of the settlement of a two-week strike of 1,000 employes against the Consumers Power Company in 15 Michigan cities has been ratified by the workers. The agreement recognizes the Utility Workers Organizing Committee, CIO, as bargaining agency for its members, provides wage increases, improved working conditions, paid vacations and other benefits.

The strike was called by the UWOC Sept. 22, after negotiations for a contract were stalled.

COUNCIL FOR N. C.

Raleigh, N. C,—CIO unions in North Carolina are planning the establishment of a state industrial union council, E. L. Sandefur, CIO Regional Director, announced, here.

Clothing Workers To Have Traveling Trade Union School

The latest wrinkle in streamlined methods of trade union education, a travelling training school, is being offered to local unions of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers by the national office of the union through its Department of Cultural Activities.

The Active Workers School will go to each city arranging for the course, conduct 25 days of intensive work, and then move on to the next place.

Four courses will be offered: Public Speaking; Collective Bargaining; Labor History, 1929-1939, and Aims and Purposes of Democracy. By holding all the classes within a short space of time, greater concentration and effectiveness of study will be guaranteed.

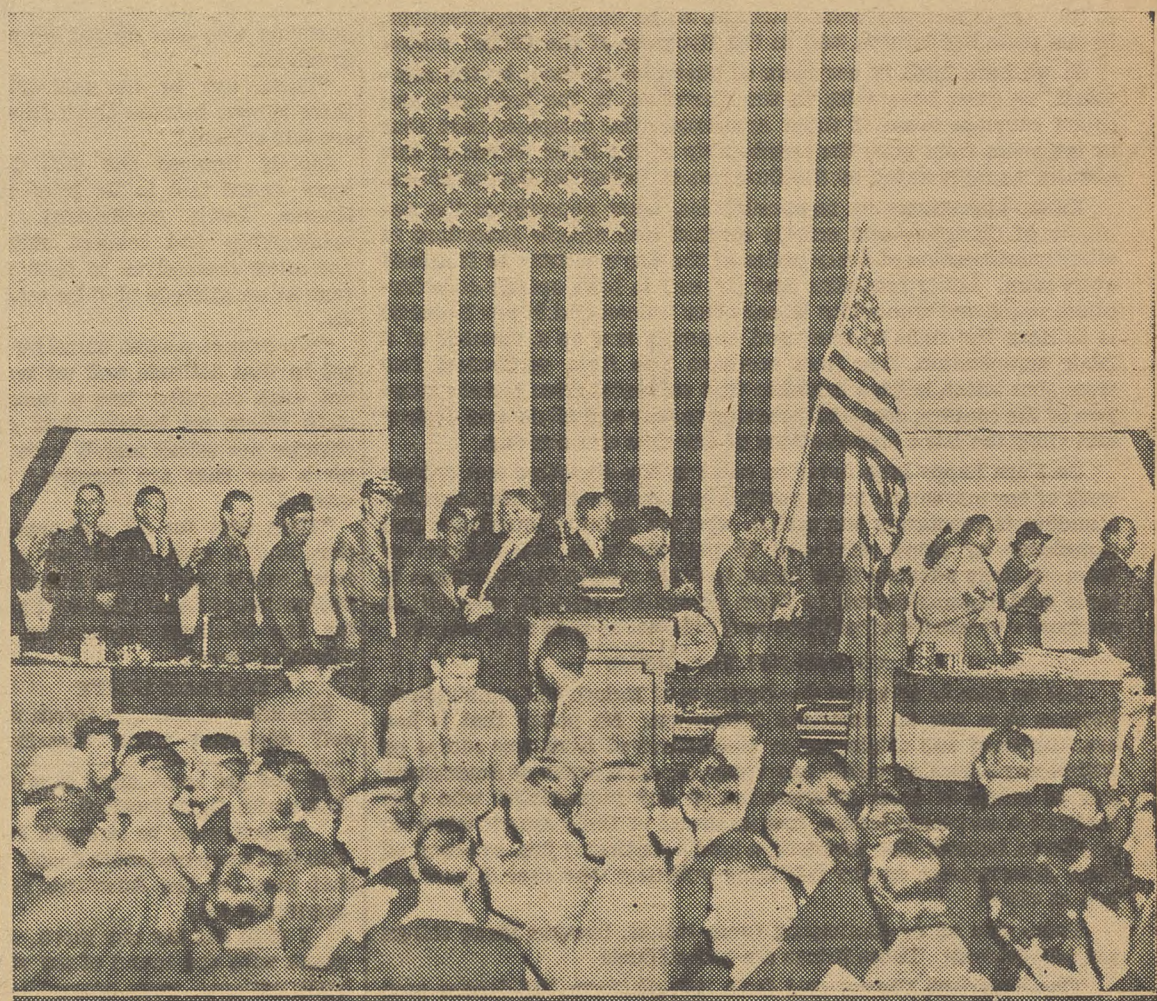
Adequate advance preparation to ensure full enrollment will be made by the organizer in charge of cultural activities. Joint Boards of the Amalgamated in each city will urge shop chairmen, committee members and other active workers to sign up for the course.

FEATURE DISCUSSION

An important feature in the conduct of the classes will be emphasis on group discussion to bring out the ideas and points of view of the students themselves. "No one will be lectured to death," the Department promises.

Interested Amalgamated locals and union members are urged to write immediately to the Department of Cultural Activities, Amalgamated Clothing Workers, 15 Union Square, New York City.

Demonstration Scene



TWO MORE SCENES from the mighty ovation given by CIO convention delegates to Pres. Lewis. Upper picture shows striking Western Union messenger boys parading across the stage, while lower photo shows the crowds marching through paper-filled aisles.

Billings Wins Long Fight For Freedom

SACRAMENTO, Calif., Oct. 21.—Labor's long fight against the worst anti-union frame-up in California history neared complete victory this week when Warren K. Billings, arrested with Tom Mooney in 1916, left prison a free man after Governor Culbert L. Olson commuted his sentence to time served. Mooney was freed nine months ago.

In freeing Billings, the Governor told him, "I believe you have served a prison sentence for a crime you did not commit. I wish it were a pardon instead of a commutation and I hope I can issue a pardon at a later date."

Convicted with Tom Mooney for the San Francisco Preparedness Day bombings in 1916, on perjured testimony, Billings cannot receive a pardon without consent of the State Supreme Court. Despite two refusals by the Court to recommend such action, both Governor Olson and Billings' attorney, George Davis, will again request the Court for a favorable decision.

Only 22 years old at the time of his arrest in 1916, Billings saw active duty in the trade union movement. President of the shoe workers local, he had been shot in a 1912 shoe workers strike. Refusal of a $5,000 bribe in return for which he was to help frame Mooney was reported to have been one of the reasons for including Billings in the frame-up fabricated by anti-union employes interests.

Free at Last

Warren K. Billings, whose life sentence was commuted by Gov. Culbert L. Olson after a majority of the California Supreme Court approved the action.

Maryland CIO Meets Nov. 27

Baltimore, Md.—The largest meeting yet held by state labor organizations is expected for the third annual convention of the Maryland-District of Columbia Industrial Union Council, beginning Monday, November 27, 1939, at Moose Hall, 410 West Fayette Street, Baltimore, Md.

The call for the three-day session, signed by Council President John T. Jones and Secretary-Treasurer Sidney R. Katz, was sent to CIO affiliates this week.

Executive board members of the council will gather in Baltimore before the convention opens to prepare and approve convention reports.

The call reiterates the objectives of the council: "Through United action to protect, maintain and advance the interests of all working people in its territory, to extend unionism on the basis of industrial organization, to secure and enforce legislation in the interests of the working people, to promote recognition and acceptance of collective bargaining in industry, and to increase public understanding of the labor movement."

Connecticut CIO Council To Meet

WATERBURY, Conn., Oct. 21—The second annual convention of the Connecticut Industrial Union Council will meet here at the Hotel Elton, Oct. 28, John J. Driscoll, secretary-treasurer of the Council said today.

The Connecticut CIO Council was formed last October at a constitutional convention held in Bridgeport. Thomas Malloy was elected President.

Open Shop War Looms In Chicago

Chicago — (FP)—Communications sounding the call for an open shop offensive against labor unions were published here by "The Daily Record." The letters were addressed to Chicago employers by the fink Pinkerton agency and the Employers Assn. of Chicago.

The association letterhead carries the names of many notorious union busters, including R. E. Donnelly, who has been fighting the Intl. Typographical Union for years. The letter, signed by Pres. R. J. Koch read:

"This is a personal and urgent invitation to you to place your company in the membership of this association. 'The war is not here,' but its effect upon our economy will be increasingly apparent within the next very few weeks.

ATTACKS UNIONS

"Labor, particularly that of an organized nature, will try to sweat out of the situation everything possible toward economic and political advantage. This will lead to organization drives, strikes and other disruptions of productive effort. Subversive forces, covertly and openly, will undermine industrial stability wherever opportunity offers.

"If employers do not avail themselves of organization for self-protection and do not meet these conditions through intelligent and effective unity their influences as individuals will be of little account.

"Are you interested enough to correspond with me about this matter, or to permit some staff member to discuss it with you personally?"

OFFERS SPIES

The Pinkerton letter made an offer to supply labor spies under the pretense of preventing sabotage. It read:

"Future, perhaps early, developments in international affairs may make necessary the adoption of unusual measures for the protection of your plant, equipment and products against sabotage.

"In addition, there is the necessary service of investigating new employes to detect wilful misrepresentation of their identity and antecedents.

"This agency is equipped with experienced personnel of the required capacities to meet your particular needs."

Pay Goes Up For 690,000 U. S. Workers

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21—Wage increases for American workers estimated to number 690,000 go into effect at midnight Monday, the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Dept. of Labor said today.

A total of 2,382,500 workers employed in every state of the Union, will at the same time have their hours reduced from 44 to 42 per week, or will receive overtime pay at the rate of time and one-half the regular wage rate for hours worked over 42.

These changes are statutory provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act which automatically increase the minimum wage from 25 to 30 cents an hour beginning Oct. 24, and reduce the regular work week from 44 to 42. Higher increases in wages have been established for the hosiery and textile industries upon the acceptance of recommendations made by industry committees.

A wage order effective Sept. 18, set the minimum of 32½ cents per hour for all employes in the seamless branch of the hosiery industry, and a minimum of 40 cents per hour for all employes of the full-fashioned branch of the industry.

HIGHER MINIMUMS

A second wage order, effective Tuesday, establishes a minimum wage of 32½ cents for all employes in the textile industry. These wage orders increase the minimum wage of 221,000 workers above the statutory 30 cents an hour.

Under provisions of the Act, industry committees must as rapidly as possible without causing curtailment of employment increase the minimum wage level, industry by industry, until the minimum of 40c an hour is established for all industries.

The Act sets October 24, 1945, as that statutory date on which 40 cents an hour must be paid to all workers engaged in interstate commerce or in the production of goods for commerce. According to revised estimates, the number of workers covered by the Act total more than 12,600,000.

One third of the 690,000 who will receive increases in wages are located in Southern states and are employed in sawmills, textiles, cotton seed oil and fertilizers.

CIO Signs 64 Liggett Drug Stores

NEW YORK CITY, Oct. 21—A sole collective bargaining agreement was signed here this week by Local 1199, Retail Drug Store Employes Union, CIO, covering 850 workers in the 64 Liggett's Drug Stores throughout the city. The Local now has signed contracts covering all major chains in New York City, in addition to a majority of independent drug stores.

Benjamin L. Gudes, Secretary manager and Leon J. Davis, general organizer negotiated the agreement which provides for wage increases, vacations with pay, sick leave, seniority rights and arbitration of dismissals.

N. Y. State CIO Convenes Nov. 17

New York, Oct. 21—CIO unions in New York state will hold their annual State CIO Council convention, here, Nov. 17-18, at the Manhattan Center, 34th Street and Eight Avenue.

Chrysler Auto Workers File Strike Notice

The day shift leaves the Dodge plant in Detroit as the company charges that a union-inspired slowdown made operations impossible. The United Automobile Workers, CIO, denied this and filed the 5-day strike notice required by Michigan's new labor law. Speed-up on new models is the principle union grievance.

District 50 Signs Three Contracts

New York, Oct. 21—The Chemical, Drug and Cosmetic Division of District 50, United Mine Workers, has announced three new contracts covering 350 workers.

The Park Drug Company agreed to give the union a closed shop, check-off, 15 per cent increases, paid vacations, and seniority rights after its employes left the AFL and voted 100 per cent for the CIO in a Labor Board election.

An almost identical agreement was signed with Millerand, Inc., manufacturers of nail polish.

A seven-day strike by 200 production workers at Vadsco Sales Corp. and American Drug Syndicate, drug and cosmetics manufacturers, was concluded with a contract providing 5 per cent increases, the union shop and paid vacations.

Tory Committee Quizzes 6,200 Cops On Wagner Act

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21. — Police chiefs in 6,200 towns and cities over the nation have been asked by the Smith House Committee probing the National Labor Relations Board to give their verdict on workings of the Wagner Act.

A lengthy questionnaire was mailed by the committee seeking the police views through answers to a series of carefully framed inquiries designed to offer an opportunity for police expression of its bias against labor.

The novel idea of going to the police to find out how the Labor Board is functioning is the latest brain wave of the Smith committee which was set up by House Tories to distract attention from the work of the regular House and Senate labor committees.

Assumption behind the questionnaire is that the police chiefs, notoriously anti-labor, are well qualified to act as judges of the Board and of labor conduct. Nature of the questions is such that answers harmful to the Board and labor are certain to be received in large numbers.

Seven main questions and 120 secondary questions are asked of the police. The climax is reached by an over-all question asking for the reaction of the coppers to the administration of the Wagner act. The police are also asked if they were ever criticized by any agent of the labor board.

Typical of the biased way in which the questions are written is this: "Have you any knowledge of employes being coerced, threatened, their families threatened, for failure to join any labor organization?" Reference to strikebreakers is put in terms of "employes that desired to work who were prevented from working."

The questionnaire is certain to offer a field day for anti-labor police to air their views on the Wagner act.

Guild Gets Injunction Against Hearst Paper

CHICAGO, Oct. 21.—An injunction to halt violence against strikers of the American Newspaper Guild was issued here by Superior Judge John J. Lupe against the Hearst newspaper publications, the CIO union announced today.

More than 100 affidavits supporting the Guild's charges of violence sponsored by the management of the newspapers were presented to Master of Chancery Benjamin Cohen, who recommended that the injunction be issued.

The CIO union has been on strike against the Hearst paper for more than ten months.

The injunction bars the Evening American Publishing Co. and the Illinois Publishing & Printing Co., publishers of Hearst's Herald-American, from committing any act of violence against the persons or property of members of the Chicago Newspaper Guild or the American Newspaper Guild.

Judge Lupe previously granted an injunction against the Guild to Swarts Brothers, credit plan jewelers, a firm which the Guild had picketed for advertising in the Hearst paper. A fine of $500 for contempt was also levied against the Guild.

Stamp Plan

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 21—President Lewis praised the Department of Agriculture's Food Stamp plan in his report to the CIO's second convention.

Noting that the plan has so far won enthusiastic support, he said "it seems possible" that such a plan might well be spread to wider areas and to include a larger number of commodities.

Woodworkers

continued from page one

by the delegates, it is expected.

Other major points which were given serious consideration by the delegates were:

A program to eliminate the speed, piece-work system prevalent in logging operations.

Keeping the United States out of the European war.

Demand for legislation protecting timber, which has been brutally exploited by the timber barons in their "cut-out-and-get-out" policy.

A permanent and realistic solution to the nation's acute unemployment problem.

The protection of civil liberties, and social, labor and economic legislation as the bulwark against any rising threat of Fascism in the United States.

The IWA International Executive Board met two days prior to the convention. President Harold J. Pritchett presided over the convention proceedings.

Chrysler

Continued from Page One

could not, and would not, comply with the speed-up orders.

OPPOSES SLOWDOWNS

Authorization of the strike by Thomas ended a company propaganda campaign built up around an alleged "slowdown" in the Dodge plant. Through paid ads and other channels, the corporation had spent a slice of its $25,000,000 profits (first six months of 1939) in an effort to poison public opinion against the union.

Thomas accused the company of stalling in negotiations while it carried on its anti-union war outside. He had, therefore, authorized the strike, he said.

"Our union maintains there is a speed-up, while the company insists there is a slowdown.

"The proposal of the union is a cure for slowdowns as well as for speed-ups. We are proposing joint discussions and joint time studies as a basis for fixing production standards. In that way, if either workers or corporation are out of line, they can be straightened out."

Thomas pointed out that UAW-CIO contracts with General Motors, Briggs, Hudson, Willys, Packard and many other companies provide for joint discussion and time studies on speed of operation.

CONTRACT DEMANDS

While insisting that it will not recognize the workers right to a voice on speed of operations, the corporation has also taken an arbitrary stand on the new contract proposed by the union. The contract demands include:

1. Joint fixing of production standards.
2. A 10-cent raise to keep pace with rising living costs; paid vacations.
3. The union shop and an "open union." All Chrysler workers to join the UAW-CIO. The corporation may hire non-union workers and the union will be obligated to accept them into membership.
4. No discharge or discipline before appeal to the corporation is exercised; arbitration where such cases cannot be adjusted.
5. Seniority rights; rehiring in reverse order to layoffs; no loss of seniority because of military service.

AFL May Lose Two Of Oldest Unions

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Oct. 21.—The American Federation of Labor is confronted with the possible loss of about 130,000 members, including two well-established affiliated unions, as result of the action of its 59th annual convention just ended here.

Seventy-nine thousand members of the Intl. Typographical Union, one of the oldest and largest AFL affiliates, were suspended for their refusal to pay the one cent a month assessment to fight the CIO.

Suspension of 50,000 Brewery workers seems assured, if by the January meeting of the Executive Council they do not turn 12,000 beer truck drivers over to the Intl. Teamsters Union. Since the Brewery Workers Union has obtained a court decision restraining the AFL from handing over the workers to the Teamsters, there is not much likelihood of compliance with the Teamsters' demand. The convention sharply denounced the Brewers for resorting to court action to protect their union autonomy.

The Intl. Brotherhood of Foundry Employes, with about 5,000 members, was ordered by the convention to amalgamate with the Intl. Molders Union, even though they are on record against such action.

In contrast to the silence at the 1938 convention, considerable criticism of the AFL campaign to amend the Wagner Act was voiced from the floor this year, a significant indication of widespread dissatisfaction with this particular anti-labor policy, particularly in view of the rigid machine control at AFL conventions.

Huntington, W. Va. — Three wholesale bakeries, here, have signed two-year agreements with the United Retail and Wholesale Employes, CIO, providing for wage increases and the closed shop to 175 workers.

Office Workers School Offers Full Program

NEW YORK CITY. — A varied curriculum offering educational, cultural and sports facilities to its 16,000 members and their friends starts here this month when the New York Joint Council of United Office and Professional Workers opens the fall term of its trade union school.

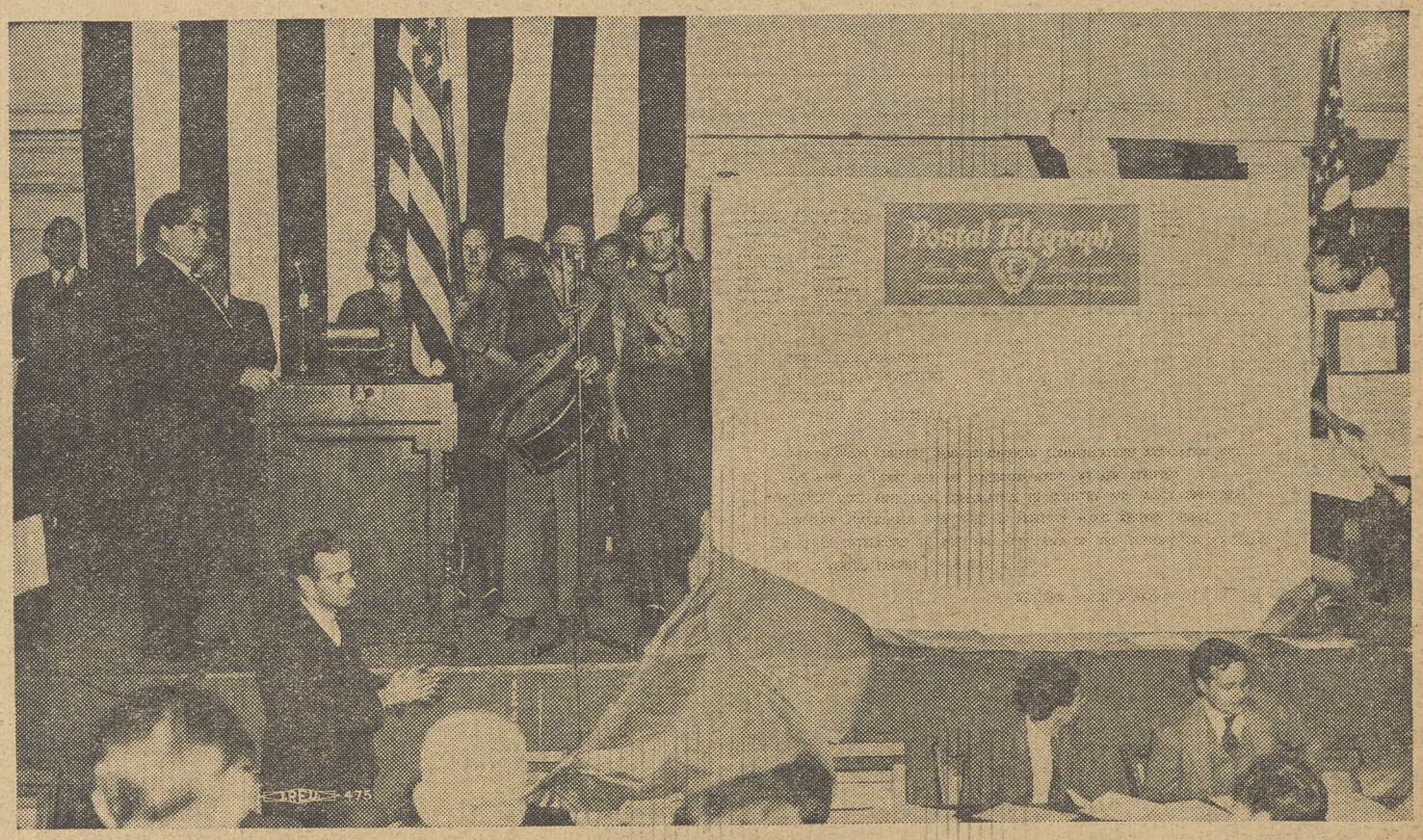
The courses and activities are planned to cover the varied interests of the members of UOPWA's seven New York locals, which include book and magazine workers, advertising and general office employes, banking and brokerage workers, commercial and fine artists, industrial insurance agents and social service workers.

Many classes are offered to improve the craft knowledge and techniques of the members. Included are forums on such subjects as Dress, with Elizabeth Hawes as guest lecturer, and a discussion by Kathryn Lewis on "Women in Society Today."

SWOC Asks Crucible Steel Poll

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Oct. 21—A petition for an election in nine plants of the Crucible Steel Company has been filed by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee with the Labor Board. The firm has steadily refused to renew a contract which expired last year.

Strikers Bring A Message



STRIKING CIO MESSENGER BOYS, whose walkout has tied up Western Union Telegraph Co.'s operations in San Francisco, brought a message to Pres. Lewis and the CIO delegates at Polk Hall. They called for support in their struggle to win decent wages and shorter working hours from the giant millionaire corporation. Convention gave them a big cheer.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II — No. 44 — 20 — Send form 3578-P to 1106 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. — OCTOBER 30, 1939 — Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 — $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

CHRYSLER BALKS EARLY STRIKE SETTLEMENT

CIO Auto Union Accuses Company Of Prolonging Lockout

(See Story on Page 3)

DETROIT, Mich., Oct. 28.—Chrysler Corporation arbitrariness was blamed today by R. J. Thomas, United Automobile Workers president, for prolonging the present dispute involving more than 50,000 Chrysler workers and additional thousands in other industries.

Describing three offers made by the Union in an effort to bring a speedy adjustment to the dispute, Thomas declared that their flat rejection by the company was "typical of the corporation's arbitrary position throughout more than a week of negotiations, which have been fruitless as far as any major agreement is concerned."

Thomas replied sharply to company charges that the Union had failed to live up to its contracts, pointing out that the workers faithfully followed every provision, even if it worked against the interests of the Union.

"The corporation now admits," he said, "what we have known for some time, that it carried out only those sections that fit in with its current wishes."

CIOPackinghouse Workers Set To Snow Under AFL

CHICAGO, Oct. 28—CIO Packinghouse Workers in the big Armour plant here and in a branch plant in Peoria are ready to snow the AFL under a mountain of ballots in Labor Board elections set for this week.

In Chicago, PWOC officials expect to repeat and better the showing made in a Board election last year, when the CIO union, Local 347, rolled up 2480 votes and the opposition scored only 237.

The AFL is on the ballot in both places. In Chicago, it was put on at the insistence of the CIO, in order to show Armour and everybody else concerned that the PWOC is overwhelmingly the workers' choice. Jeff Beckley, president of Local 347, declared when the election date was announced:

"This is our opportunity to show the public what Armour workers have known all the time, that the CIO is the organization of the packinghouse workers, not the AFL. Their day is done. It was done over 20 years ago. If the AFL leaders had right good sense they would never have stuck their necks out again, because the packinghouse workers are going to chop their heads off."

CRAFT POLICY

In the Peoria plant the CIO will face three AFL craft splinter outfits, since the Labor Board, following its recent anti-industrial union policies, has ruled that three separate bargaining units must have a shot at the election. These are the PWOC, the Amalgamated Butchers and Meat Cutters, AFL, the Firemen and Oilers, AFL, and the Operating Engineers — AFL again.

CIO leaders are confident in Peoria despite this splitting policy, PWOC Field Representative Art Kamfert saying:

"The AFL is thoroughly discredited among Peoria packinghouse workers. All of them are looking to the CIO for leadership in these coming days of high prices under war conditions. It is clear to all, yes — it will be clear to Armour and Co. — that a vote for the CIO is a vote for higher wages and union conditions in the packing plants."

Woodworkers Forge Militant Program At Convention

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., Oct. 28—In a fiery five-day convention the International Woodworkers of America forged the most progressive and militant program of its career to lead the vast membership of the CIO woodworkers through the coming year.

In a mingled spirit of resolute determination and wild enthusiasm, the delegates to the third annual convention of the IWA pounded out plans to "organize the unorganized," which, in the opinion of many of the delegates assembled here, will see the IWA membership trebled within the coming twelve months.

Augmenting the IWA program for carrying organizational work forward at top speed were plans to bring a dollar a day wage increase to the CIO woodworkers in the industry to off-set the rapidly increased living costs and provide "a decent standard of living for our membership."

The convention lashed out at the profiteering which has resulted from the war abroad and "will undoubtedly continue unless checked by determined government action." It demanded that the Federal governments of the United States and Canada "take appropriate legislative and administrative steps to check and eliminate war-time profiteering." Included in the convention action was the recommendation for effective tax legislation to reclaim excess profits accruing from war-time conditions.

For its action to bring beneficial social, economic and labor legislation to the people of the United States, the IWA convention went on record as pledging continued support of these New Deal policies in 1940.

PRITCHETT NOMINATED

Nominations of officers came late Saturday afternoon, with the result that President Harold J. Pritchett was renominated to oppose A. F. Hartung, President of the Columbia River District Council for the presidency; O. M. Orton, Les Cadieu and Worth Lowry contesting for the vice-presidency (another vice-president post may be created by this same referendum); and Bertel J. McCarty and H. I. Tucker, Aberdeen, are the nominees for the secretary-treasurer position.

Spokane was selected as the 1940 convention city.

Jersey Shoe Workers Win Contract

Jersey City, N. J., Oct. 28—Since this city has come back into the United States after the CIO Supreme Court victory in the Hague cases, shoe workers of the Oxford Slipper Company in the Harborside building, (long known as a haven for anti-union runaway shops) have been able to organize. This week they secured recognition in the form of a union agreement which cut hours to 40 a week, gave a 10 per cent increase to all piece workers and a 10 cent per hour increase to all time workers.

Signing of the agreement came after a short strike and in the face of determined opposition by the bosses.

WIN VACATIONS

Peoria, Ill. — The Caterpillar Tractor Co. has acceeded to the demand of Local 105, Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee, for paid vacations, Directir Frank Sliva announced. Negotiations for wage increases to be opened November 1 are in no way affected by this action, he said.

CIO Wins Westinghouse Victory

Washington—The National Labor Relations Board announced approval of a stipulation entered into between Westinghouse Electric and Mfg. Co., nine locals of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, CIO, and a Board representative wherein the company admits the union's majority in nine collective bargaining units, in as many cities, covering 21,500 employes.

Auto Workers Picket Dodge Plant

Striking members of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, picket the entrance to the Dodge plant in Detroit as the Chrysler Corporation continues to oppose union demands for a new contract

Members of the Five & Dime Organizing Committee of the United Retail & Wholesale Employes, CIO, greet Countess Haugwitz-Reventlow, the Woolworth heiress, by picketing her hotel upon her return to America.

New Steel Union Pacts Provide Pay Increases For Thousands

By HOWARD J. McCARTNEY

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 28—Thousands of dollars in wage increases have been won for union members through new contracts signed in the last few weeks by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee.

Six steel companies agreed to boost wages, and many more are now writing closed-shop or union-shop rights for the SWOC into union agreements.

Gains for SWOC members are rolling in on the wave of activity created by the campaign now under way to consolidate the CIO's steel union to a closely-knit organization.

The SWOC agreements boosted wages at:

1. Wickwire Spencer Steel Co., of Buffalo where the firm agreed to a raise of over 11 per cent for 1,100 employes.

2. Goldsmith Metal Lath Co., of Cincinnati, O. That company agreed to a blanket wage increase for all production workers.

3. Rockwood Mfg. Co., of Indianapolis, agreed to increase hourly wage rates by two and one-half cents.

4. Dickey Clay Mfg. Co., of Chattanooga, agreed to a substantial pay raise in its first contract with the SWOC.

5. Kerotest Mfg., of Pittsburgh, raised the wage of 175 employes, canceling a wage reduction instituted before the union agreement.

6. Twelve scrap iron firms in St. Paul signed a joint agreement with the SWOC in which wages are doubled in most classifications.

BACK PAY AWARDS

About a thousand dollars is also added to the total amount won for union members by the SWOC as a result of discharge for union activities.

The back pay awards came in the form of cash settlements agreed to by the P. Wall Mfg. Supply Co., of Pittsburgh, and Van Camp's, Inc., of Indianapolis, after the SWOC carried discharge cases to the Labor Board, alleging discrimination against union members.

P. Wall Co. handed over $660 to Rose Magellan, a member of Lodge 1771, as the Labor Board ordered payment. The company waived the right to a formal hearing.

Van Camp's, Inc., also agreed to settle out of court the suit filed by the SWOC which was prompted by the company's refusal to reinstate Floyd Williams, a union member, to his job after an impartial umpire ruled that he was unfairly discharged.

The settlement made Mr. Williams richer by $300.

SWOC ACCEPTED

Closed-shop rights for the SWOC are embodied in 35 per cent of all union agreements in the Detroit area, Charles Kiser, sub-district director, announced. He asserted that membership in that district has increased 50 per cent over last year's figures.

That the steel union is being accepted by management as an integral part of the industry is demonstrated by assertions of Mr. Kiser, revealing that company officials "admit the union has brought about a better spirit of cooperation between employer and employe, which results in a considerable saving in production costs without resorting to wage cuts or speed-up."

"There have been many instances where management has openly stated that from out-and-out skeptics they have become union boosters and would rather have a well-conducted, bona fide union in the plant than be without one."

BALDWIN SIGNS

Out of Philadelphia recently came word that, for the first time in 130 years, the powerful Baldwin Locomotive Company has signed a union contract. It is with SWOC Lodge 1278, covering all employes in the Baldwin-Southwark shops located with its parent plant in Eddystone, Pa.

The contract grants sole bargaining rights; establishes seniority for the first time in Baldwin's long history; confirms the present high wage level, 40-hour week, with a 36-hour week for the third shift; overtime pay; a Monday-to-Friday no-staggered week, and a 30-day escape clause on wages in case the SWOC desires to demand more pay for union members.

The group covered by the contract are highly skilled mechanics, tool-makers and other metal tradesmen who broke away from the Baldwin company union in 1934. They first voted by secret ballot to join the AFL, but in 1936 voted to join the SWOC.

The contract was signed by E. J. Lever and Michael Harris, SWOC sub-regional directors; Ambrose Hinnegan, lodge president, and William J. Pennypacker, lodge secretary.

At Wickwire Spencer Co., in Buffalo, where the wage increase was brought about by the new SWOC agreement, it is estimated that around $45,000 will be added to monthly wages of SWOC members.

A newly-incorporated vacation clause in the agreement also will add an estimated $50,000 income for employes.

Quarry Strike Settled

Barre, Vt., Oct. 28 — Settlement of a strike against the Louisville Cement Company at Akron, New York, was announced here today by John C. Lawson, secretary-treasurer of the Quarry Workers' International Union, CIO.

The agreement provides for the re-employment of Charles Dean, and for the joint formulation of working rules by the union and the company.

Lewis Hits Red Cross Snobbery

Washington, Oct. 28. — Sharp warning to the American Red Cross to democratize its organization by giving labor a voice in its counsels was uttered by CIO Pres. John L. Lewis in a short speech on a convention resolution on the subject passed at San Francisco.

The resolution, after pointing out that the workers were the chief source of support for the Red Cross, called on the organization to "afford suitable representation to organized labor in recognition of its contribution and furtherance of the objectives of the Red Cross."

Speaking in support of the resolution, Lewis declared:

"There are chapters and units of the Red Cross in various sections of our country that are nothing more nor less than exclusive clubs or social organizations from which the average American is debarred and the sacred portals of whose chapter no average American may enter.

"It is time for the American Red Cross to understand that over 40,000,000 Americans earn their living, when they can get employment, and it is time for the Red Cross to understand that if that institution is to be maintained, and confidence and cooperation are to continue in the effective work of that organization, they must consider the views of labor and give labor representation on their governing bodies."

New Wage-Hour Head Succeeds Andrews

Washington, Oct. 28 — Lieut.-Col. Philip Fleming of the Army Engineers, took office this week as successor to Elmer F. Andrews, former Wage-Hour administrator. Harold D. Jacobs was appointed as his assistant to succeed Paul Sifton.

Fleming, 52 years old, is a native of Iowa. He has had New Deal experience as engineer in charge of the ill-starred Passamoquoddy tidal power project in Maine, as an acting deputy administrator of the PWA, and as inspection division head of the former Resettlement Administration.

The new administrator is best known, however, to readers of sports pages. He returned to West Point in 1936 as graduate manager of athletics, and later became president of the Eastern Football Association.

Fleming had an opportunity for contacts with leading industrialists from 1924 to 1926 when he served in Washington as a member of the War Department boards on contracts and adjustments, and on standardization of wartime contracts.

Lieut.-Col. Philip Fleming, army engineer, and Harold D. Jacobs, (left), his assistant, take over administration of the Wage-Hour Act, succeeding Elmer F. Andrews.

Strikers Block Back to Work Drive

PERTH AMBOY, N. J., Oct. 28 — Twelve hundred strikers are blocking a back-to-work movement here at the plant of the American Smelting and Refining Co.

The strike which began October 10, is being led by the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers Union, CIO, which is asking a signed contract with wage increases, seniority rights and a union shop.

With 4,000 citizens watching, the union held a celebration and mass meeting right on the picket line.

Wages Raised In Kerotest Contract

Pittsburgh, Oct. 27—A contract establishing the $5-day rate, with proportionate increases for semi-skilled workers in the plant, was negotiated and signed by SWOC Lodge 1553 and the Kerotest Mfg. Co., Abe Vales, SWOC sub-district director, announced.

Hourly rates for women employes in the plant were set at a minimum of 50 cents an hour. Over 175 employes are covered by the agreement.

The pact was signed for the SWOC by Morris Mallinger, SWOC representative, by Coleman Vaughn, president of Lodge 1553, and a committee of lodge members made up of Mary Marletto, Joseph Miller, John Householder and Charles A. Phipps.

West Coast Furniture Local Certified

Washington, Oct. 28 — The United Furniture Workers has been certified by the NLRB as sole bargaining agency for all woodworking, finishing, trucking and shipping department employes of S. Karpen & Bros., Huntington Park, California.

The Board's action was based on an election held in August, in which the company's employes were divided into three groups. Two of the polls were won by the CIO union over the AFL. Neither union won a majority in the spring, mattress and upholstering departments.

Humble Oil Ordered To Scrap Fake Union

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—A company union at the Humble Oil & Refining Company refineries at Baytown and Ingleside, Texas, known as the Employes Federation, was ordered abolished this week by the National Labor Relations Board.

The Board's investigation revealed that in September 1937, H. C. Weiss, executive vice president of the company, wrote an open letter to employes aimed to discourage membership in the Oil Workers International Union, CIO, by calling its methods coercive and its motives corrupt. The letter promised "all possible support" to the employes in combatting "this insidious force."

The Board also found that the company had formed a "Security League" in February 1937, shortly after the CIO oil union announced an organizational drive, to oppose the OWIU. Open meetings were held opposing the union and a petition circulated which stated the opposition of signers to the CIO and John L. Lewis.

ANTI CIO BOOKLET

Four thousand copies of a booklet called "Join the CIO and Help Build a Soviet America" were distributed at the gates of the plant. The Board denounced the booklet as "60 pages of invective and castigation of the CIO as either Communist or Communist-controlled."

After the U. S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the Wagner Act on April 23, 1937, the company called a special meeting of its Baytown employes, read to them a prepared statement purporting to interpret the act and to advise the employes of their rights under it.

A few days later, a constitution was drawn up for an "inside union", and an election held in which a majority of the employes voted in favor of the "Employes Federation". The constitution of the new Federation, the Board found, was similar to the Joint Conference Plan, installed at the Ingleside plant in 1932, and abolished in April 1937, except that employer representatives were omitted.

DEEDS DISPROVED WORDS

Evidence before the Board showed that during May 1937 and the months following, supervisory employes were active in aiding the Federation and in running down the union. In answer to the company's contention that it had observed a strict policy of non-discrimination, the Board replied:

"It is true that the respondent frequently reiterated a policy of non-discrimination, but it is equally true that the repetition of the statement did not render less apparent either its preference for an 'inside' organization or its opposition to the union."

Wages Raised In Dickey Clay Pact

Chattanooga, Tenn., Oct. 27.—A substantial wage increase was won for members of SWOC Lodge 2136 through the first contract signed with the Dickey Mfg. Co.

The steel union recently won an overwhelming majority in a Labor Board election among the employes, and as a result is designated as sole bargaining agent in the agreement.

O. S. Baxter, SWOC representative, was in charge of negotiations for the union.

Furniture Union Fights Pay Cut

Jamestown, N. Y., Oct. 28 — Stirring pleas for the continued support of Jamestown workers in behalf of the locked out employes of the Union-National Furniture Company here were made at a mass meeting here attended by some 700 persons.

Negotiations between Local 34, United Furniture Workers, and the company reached a deadlock after long drawn-out conferences failed to bring a settlement of the dispute. The company is seeking to reduce wages at the plant.

Jack Hochstadt, international secretary-treasurer of the union, told the locked out workers at the meeting that the reduction was unreasonable in face of the 10 per cent cut given a few months before.

He said that this wage cut, if accepted, would serve as a wedge for the cutting of other workers' wages in the furniture center, and pointed out that the community of Jamestown owed a debt to the Union-National workers for fighting the fight of all labor in the industry against decreased living standards.

A telegram from CIO President John L. Lewis was read at the meeting, sending greetings in the name of 4,000,000 CIO members.

Mayor Harry C. Erickson reported that the committee he had set up to find a solution to the dispute was at work and hoped to offer a proposal shortly acceptable to both sides.

Rejection of Union's Offers Prolongs Chrysler Strike, Says Thomas

DETROIT, Oct. 28.—Speedy settlement of the strike of CIO automobile workers in the Chrysler Company here was blocked by company refusal to agree to two proposals offered by the United Automobile Workers, R. J. Thomas, UAWA president, announced.

The two proposals were offered as alternatives to the original UAW demand for a union shop, Thomas disclosed. One would have placed employes who drop union membership at the bottom of the seniority list, and would be limited to those workers who signed cards agreeing to the procedure.

The other proposal, already in effect from a recent settlement in the Bohn Aluminum Co., would maintain the same proportion of union members in the plants during the life of the agreement as obtained at its signing.

Thomas charged that the company's attitude was responsible for keeping 50,000 of its own workers away from their jobs, as well as thousands of others in allied industries.

PROPOSALS REJECTED

"Spokesmen for the Chrysler Corporation today rejected two union proposals offered as alternatives to our original demand for a union shop," Thomas said. "These proposals were put forward by the Union in an effort to bring about a speedy adjustment of the dispute by which the corporation, through its lockout of Dodge workers, has brought about the unemployment of 50,000 of its own employes and several thousand others."

After describing the Union's alternative proposals and noting their rejection by the Company, Thomas continued:

"Previously, we had proposed a union shop clause. The corporation has now rejected three union proposals dealing with recognition. This is typical of the corporation's arbitrary position throughout more than a week of negotiations, which have been fruitless as far as any major agreement is concerned.

POISONED OPINION

"We have met the corporation on each of the issues it has raised in its repeated attempts to poison public opinion against its workers and their chosen union. When the corporation charged falsely that the union was trying to run its plants, we proposed negotiation and arbitration on standards of production and grievances. The corporation replied with a flat no.

"The corporation stated it was ready to concede the union exclusive recognition in its 11 major plants. We have that already, by virtue of our overwhelming victory in the labor board elections.

"In other words the corporation was ready to give us what we have already obtained and what the company is compelled by law to recognize."

"LOOSE TALK"

Criticizing "loose company talk" about the observance of the present agreement, President Thomas pointed out that the union has consistently followed out all provisions of the agreement, even if they worked against the interests of the Union.

"The corporation now admits," he added, "what we have known for some time, that it carried out only those sections that fit in with their current wishes."

The joint conference between management and the union will be resumed Monday, October 30. U. S. Labor department conciliator James F. Dewey, said he was hopeful of an early settlement.

Dept. Store Fur Workers Get Pay Increase

Pittsburgh, Pa., Oct. 28 — Department store fur workers here won a five per cent wage increase as a result of arbitration proceedings between Local 69, International Fur & Leather Workers, and the Labor Standards Association, representing the department stores of Pittsburgh. Willard E. Hotchkiss of the Carnegie Institute of Technology was impartial chairman at the hearing.

The Association had disputed the union's claim that in negotiating the agreement in September 1938, an understanding was reached that a general five per cent increase would be granted at the end of one year, maintaining that this increase was to be granted only to those workers who were receiving the minimum wage.

UAW Wins 3-Week Strike at Kenosha

Kenosha, Wis., Oct. 28. — A three-week strike of 3,000 employes of the Nash-Kelvinator Corporation was settled this week by a signed agreement with the United Automobile Workers, CIO. Ed Hall, UAW official, called the contract "the best yet written in the industry."

Terms of the agreement provide a 24-hour minimum work week, the strikers main demand, a five-cent hourly pay increase, time and a half for overtime, new hourly minimums of 65c for women and 75c for men and a war seniority clause.

The strike victory was celebrated by a big parade through the town after the contract was ratified by the workers.

Auto Strikers Win Agreement

Members of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, picketing the Nash plant, Kenosha, Wis., where they have just won a contract after a three-week strike.

'Poetry' on Mine Accidents Hit

Atlantic City, N. J.—"More poetry than truth" is the way Dr. Walter Polakov described the paper of Dr. John Finch, director of the U. S. Bureau of Mines read at the Mining Section of the National Safety Congress here. Dr. Finch sought to show the Bureau of Mines had been responsible for a decline in fatal accidents amongst miners, but Polakov showed that "there are no less killings within the last couple of years than there were during 1916-1920."

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President

Vice-Presidents

Philip Murray — S. H. Dalrymple
Sidney Hillman — Reid Robinson
R. J. Thomas — Emil Rieve

James B. Carey ..... Secretary
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price .....$1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. 11 — October 23, 1939 — No. 43

The Americanism of the CIO

"The CIO is an American organization," said Pres. John L. Lewis at the San Francisco convention. "Our people are interested in American problems. Our membership is motivated by American principles. They derive their inspiration from American soil and American conditions."

Again, emphasizing the same point, he declared:

"No policy that the CIO has ever espoused was originated or was conceived from any source or within any source, or within any group, except a group of Americans—just as proud of their Americanism as any industrialist who ever received a corporate bonus; just as proud of their Americanism as any hired lecturer who ever trod a public platform; just as proud of their Americanism as any falsifying publisher who ever dipped his pen in vitriol."

Again and again throughout the convention, in speech after speech, the fundamentally democratic, patriotic and American principles of the CIO were emphasized by the delegates and officers.

But even more convincing than the speakers on this subject were the actions of the convention itself. Every resolution was imbued with the spirit of concern for American liberties and with the determination of American organized workers to make their contribution to the security, freedom and general welfare of the whole American people.

This is nothing new in the CIO. From its inception, the whole movement has been grounded in the best traditions of true Americanism. It has been a movement of expanding democracy, seeking not only to raise the American standard of living but also to bring democratic rights and equality of opportunity to millions of workers who have failed to enjoy the full benefits of citizenship through lack of organization.

There has been no policy and no action of the CIO that does not measure up to the highest of what we are proud to call American principles.

Why then so much stress at the San Francisco convention on proclaiming facts that are obvious to any one who will examine the record of the CIO?

It was due to the fact that liars and slanderers have been abroad in the land — hirelings of anti-union industrialists — spokesmen of selfish interests which seek to promote their private profits and special privileges at the expense of the misery of the many.

All of this motley crew have concentrated on vilifying the CIO. They have sought to throw a cloak of spurious patriotism over their own un-American plots and plans by denouncing the democratic aspirations of American organized workers as "un-American."

The San Francisco convention therefore hurled this lie back into their teeth. The CIO, it proclaimed, is an American institution dedicated to the welfare of American labor and American democracy, and it will not allow any gang of tory profiteers nor anyone else to impugn its Americanism.

It Can and Will Be Done

The CIO, again and again, has done what was declared to be impossible.

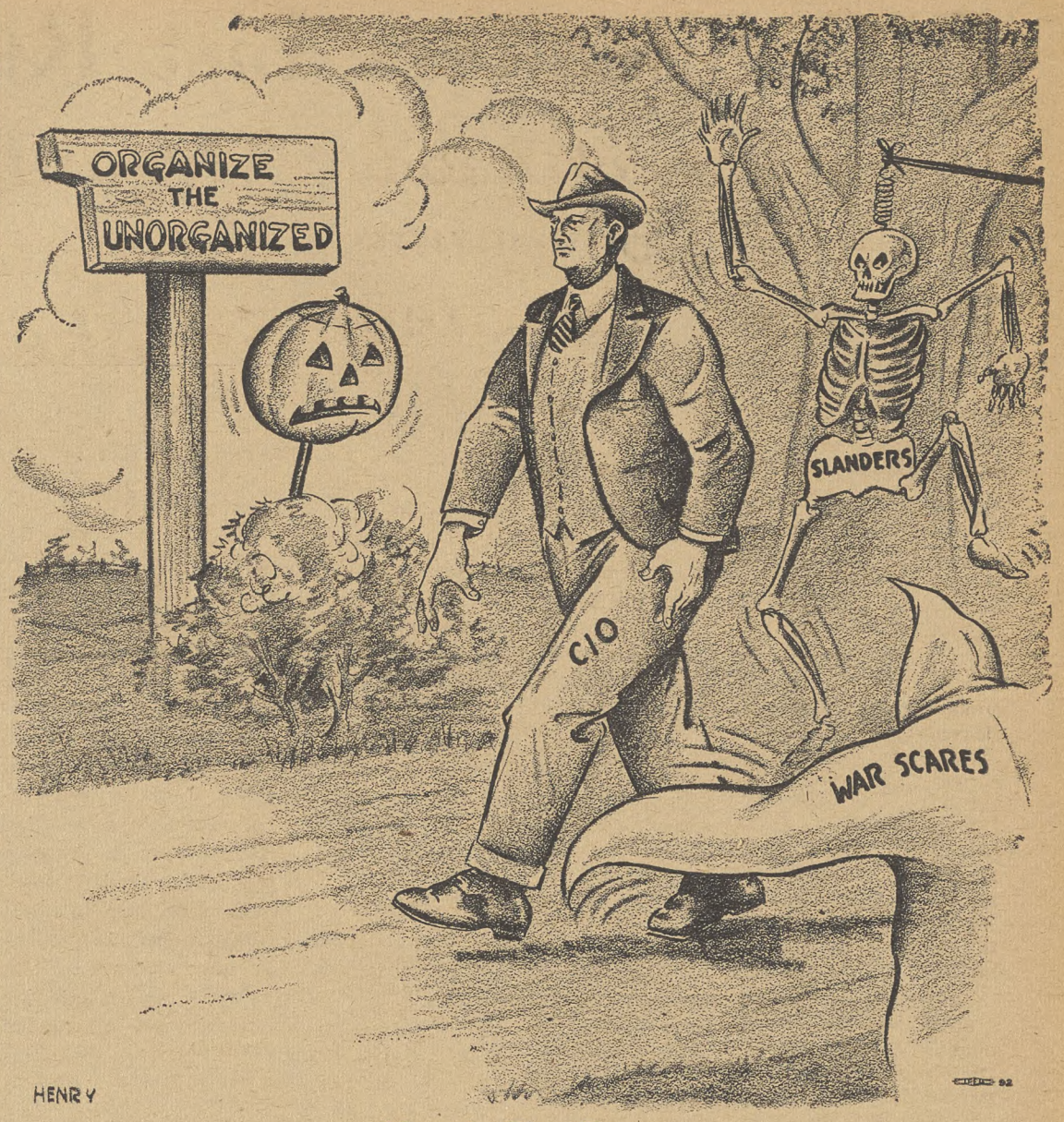
How often did the AFL leaders declare privately, and even publicly, that it was impossible to organize the giant mass production industries like steel, automobiles and the rest?

Yet the CIO had hardly been going a year before it began signing union agreements with the world's biggest corporations in these industries.

One company that generations of labor leaders claimed to be impossible to organize was the Baldwin Locomotive Works. This company had a record of 130 years' hostility to organized labor. It defeated many attempts of the Knights of Labor and the AFL to organize its plants.

But now comes a proud announcement from the Steel Workers Organizing Committee of the CIO that it has signed a sole bargaining agreement covering all employes in this company's Baldwin-Southwark shops at Eddystone, Pa.

The CIO has never recognized that any plant is unorganizable. With its modern form of industrial organization it has organized the biggest and the toughest in the country. This latest victory is further evidence that it won't be long now before a lot more of the holdout companies are brought into the union camp.



Hard To Scare

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

CIO Creates a New Model

THE CIO has established a new model of streamlined efficiency in the conduct of its conventions.

The old-model labor convention was an occasion for a bunch of cronies to get together periodically for a week or two of poker-playing, back-slapping, horse-trading and such amusement and relaxation as might appeal to their several tastes.

Days of long-winded speeches provided plenty of opportunity for doing everything else but listening to the speeches. And in the intervals when convention business was actually transacted, the pace was leisurely, the discussion rambling and most of the decisions were a foregone conclusion.

The CIO-model convention, on the other hand, is so businesslike that it provides no opportunities for a comfortable snooze. Delegates who want to take time out have to do so at their own peril. For every hour of the sessions is packed with pointed discussion of live issues and with important decisions. Actual convention business is transacted almost uninterruptedly from the opening of the session until the fall of the gavel for adjournment.

CIO SPEECHES

Looking back on the San Francisco convention, one is amazed at the volume of business packed into its four days. Yet the record will show that there was full opportunity for discussion of every major issue.

One of the reasons for all this efficiency and dispatch can be found in the new CIO model of convention oratory.

The old-time AFL speaker is apt to start his oration with the days of his childhood. Some go further back to the first origins of the labor movement, or even the beginnings of history itself.

The first hour or so of the speech is devoted to personal history and the like, and by the time the subject under discussion is reached most of the audience have forgotten what it is all about.

At the CIO convention, in contrast, there was not a single speech lasting more than half an hour. Every speaker went at once to the heart of his subject and kept to the points at issue until he concluded.

There is one disadvantage, however, in all of this for those who could not themselve attend the convention.

The limitations of the general and labor press are such that when too many important things happen all at one time, they cannot all receive the full attention they deserve.

A FEW HIGHSPOTS

To list just a few of the highspots of this great Congress of American labor will give some idea of the difficulties of adequate reporting:

The opening keynote speech of President John L. Lewis. His outline of labor's stand on war. His emphasis on the primary importance of organization. His goal of ten millions of members in five years.

The speech of California's progressive governor, Culbert L. Olson, and the emphasis on labor's part in electing him.

The comprehensive report of President Lewis, covering every phase of CIO activity and policy.

The resolution and speeches on the European war, emphasizing CIO opposition to U. S. participation and the patriotic Americanism of its stand.

Vice President Murray's speech on technological unemployment and the action taken to cope with it.

The reports of the leaders of the Automobile, Steel, Packinghouse, Textile, Metal Mining and other unions, recounting records of CIO union progress unparalleled in labor history.

The resolutions covering every kind of labor and social legislation, and presenting labor's demands for security, decent housing, unemployment relief and civil rights.

The resolutions and speeches covering organizing problems and plans of nearly every major industry.

The CIO program for political action, and the enthusiastic support expressed for Labor's Non-Partisan League.

The prograam for labor cooperation with the farmers.

The vigorous criticism of the National Labor Relations Board for departing from basic Wagner Act purposes in its recent anti-CIO policies.

The tremendous ovation for President Lewis upon his re-election, and the confidence evidenced in Hillman, Murray and all the other officers elected.

The closing speech of President Lewis, emphasizing the fundamentally democratic and American character of the CIO.

The constant emphasis from every angle throughout the convention on the basic task of organizing the unorganized.

CIO Speakers List Record Of Success

Wider Use of Radio Urged at Convention; Broadcasts Criticized

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28—Considerable time and attention was given to radio as a means of labor expression by the delegates to the CIO convention, both on the auditorium floor and in a conference of CIO editors and publicity directors held after one of the sessions.

Pres. Lewis' report to the convention, which described increasing CIO use of radio and concurrent attempts by broadcasters to deny this use to labor, precipitated the discussion.

A resolution pointing out the prime importance of radio as "indispensable to the exercise of the right of freedom of speech," instructed the executive officers of the CIO to "exercise constant vigilance over the availability of radio facilities to organized labor and if necessary to press for appropriate legislation assuring the fundamental right of full and equal access to radio facilities for organized labor."

CONDEMN BROADCASTERS

Speakers on the resolution, including Delegate Eagle of the United Rubber Workers and Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, criticized the recent announcement by the Natl. Association of Broadctsers that from now on no time would be sold for radio discussion of "controversial subjects."

They pointed out that this would put labor organizations absolutely at the mercy of broadcasters, who would be left with complete discretion as to what was or was not a "controversial subject," and would make them entirely dependent on free time for radio expression of their views.

Free time, it was pointed out, would obviously be limited at the whim of the broadcasting stations, many of which are owned by newspapers and other interests not noted for their friendliness to organized labor.

The CIO editors' and publicity directors' conference, besides discussing editorial and publication problems, devoted a major part of its time to a review of present CIO radio programs and to plan for further extension.

Paul Ryan of the San Francisco CIO and Robert Cruden of the United Rubber Workers desribed the programs put on in their cities — Cruden noting that already the Akron station used by his union was attempting to deny its facilities to the CIO under the new code.

Main point of CIO radio programs, Ryan said, was to put them on the air as many times during the week as possible, a short five times weekly program being much more effective than longer periods further apart.

'Organize the Unorganized' Keynote of Convention Speakers in Reports

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28 — The CIO convention keynote — organize the unorganized — was dominant not only in the resolutions for future action and in prophecies of greater victories to come, but was recorded as accomplished fact in speeches from CIO leaders reporting on the achievements of their unions in the past 12 months.

Sidney Hillman, CIO vice-president and leader of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, who paid tribute to the millions of CIO members and their leaders for the accomplishments of the past year.

Occasion for listing these achievements was prompted by the reading of the report of the convention committee on Officers' Reports, which concluded:

"We have built well against the storm of the past few years, and with this treasury of strength and experience we can now go forward to resume our major task of organizing the unorganized.

"It was this principle that fired the imagination of the workers and citizens of our nation and it is the hope of your committee that this second constitutional convention will renew the slogan of organize the unorganized and make the watchword of the coming year's history of the CIO.

"There are doubtless many others important functions which this movement must perform. But none of these functions compares in urgency, none of these functions can stand in the way of our re-dedication to the duty of organizing the unorganized."

A RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT

Led by Vice-President Philip Murray, and Vice-President Sidney Hillman, Emil Rieve, president of the Textile Workers and Vice-President of the CIO, Reid Robinson, head of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers and also a CIO Vice-President, Van A. Bittner, chairman of the Packinghouse Workers, R. J. Thomas, head of the Automobile Workers, and CIO Vice-President, and Wm. Carney, CIO regional director in New Jersey, all stood up to report continued progress over the past year, to praise the correct industrial union policies of the CIO, and to promise greater achievements in the future.

VICTORY IN STEEL

Speaking on the steel industry, whose giant union he heads, Vice-President Murray drew a brief history of steel labor conditions before the CIO was established, showing a basic industry ruled by fear, by the open shop, by political serfdom, and its results in long hours, low pay, semi-slave conditions.

"Today," he said, "we have 614 corporation-wide collective bargaining agreements governing the conditions of employment, hours of labor, and wages of some 625,000 workers.

"The research department established at our headquarters has succeeded in accumulating data which factually proves that the steel workers of the nation have received, since the creation of our organization, annual wage increases amounting to approximately $287,000,000.

"We have reduced the work week from 48 to 40 hours. We have provided overtime for all work done in excess of eight hours in any one day or 40 hours in any one week. We have established definite seniority privileges for all workers employed in that industry.

"We have brought economic liberty into the lives of 875,000 steel workers. And with all of this we have brought positive political freedom to every worker employed in that great industry.

THINK IT OVER

"Now, dear old rusty American Federation of Labor, just mull over that in the city of Cincinnati. Let the reactionary interests that put us on the spot and condemn us think about that."

Vice-President Hillman, stepping down for a moment from the convention chair, urged the delegates to remember the credit due to the "millions and millions of our membership, to the officers of our international unions, and the state organizations" and paid renewed tribute to the leadership of Pres. Lewis as the source of CIO success and promise for the future.

"It is well that at this time the achievements and accomplishments, as brought to your attention in the report, and so splendidly reported to you by your committee, is commanding your attention," he said.

"It is sufficient to say that the fact that we are meeting today, afer a year of recession and depression, with our power intact, with further progress being made, is the greatest compliment to the membership and to the officers of our organization."

KEY TO THE SOUTH

The textile industry, key to the South, is being organized today for the first time in history, and must be organized still further, if the CIO is to make headway in the vast areas of exploitation in the southern states, Emil Rieve, Textile Workers Union head, declared.

For 50 years the AFL tried to organize this industry, Rieve said —by resolutions and by begging for the cooperation of the employers — "with what success you and I know."

CIO Drive in Utilities Planned at Conclave

Washington, Oct. 28.—CIO National Officers were instructed by the San Francisco convention to conduct a "vigorous, nation-wide campaign of organization" to bring the benefits of industrial unionism to all workers in the giant utility industry.

The resolution, presented to the convention by the Utility Workers Organizing Committee, was urged on the delegates by Allan S. Haywood, UWOC chairman and National CIO Organization Director, stated in part:

"This industry is protected against any competition through the medium of legislation and commissions set up in the various states,

"Utility heads have on numerous occasions through their powerful lobbies in every state in the union, as well as in Washington, resisted the efforts of labor to improve its lot, and have spent millions of dollars in seeking to control the legislative halls of the nation by financing candidates for public office, and

"The workers engaged in this industry lack security and are subject to many abuses on the part of management."

Haywood, speaking on the resolution, pointed out that the utilities have a record unparalleled anywhere in industry for the extent of their monopoly power and the strength of their political lobbies — all of which operate against the interests of workers and consumers alike.

Praise CIO Press As Labor Aid

Washington, Oct. 28—Organizing the unorganized, and the part that the CIO press can play in pushing this objective, was the main note in the report of the convention committee on Press and Publicity approved by the delegates in San Francisco.

The committee, headed by Philip Connelly of the Lost Angeles Newspaper Guild, chairman, and Len De Caux, CIO publicity director, secretary, praised the "great improvement, in content and appearance, achieved in the course of this year by the various periodical publications of the affiliated CIO unions" and urged greater efforts to continue and expand this work during the coming 12 months.

HIT AFL, PUBLISHERS

AFL "general denunciation" of the CIO Newspaper Guild as an alleged "propaganda agency of the CIO" was sharply criticized by the Committee as an attack not only on the Guild but on the whole "progressive march" of the CIO.

"We declare that the influence the American Newspaper Guild has exerted in behalf of the CIO has been the example it has offered to millions of white collar and professional workers of America, in its ability to organize a progressive union and to promote the economic interests of its members," the report said.

Even Editor and Publisher, organ of newspaper owners, "has admitted that the quality of news coverage during the past five years of existence of the Guild has noticeably improved," the Committee said.

"The dishonest attack on the Guild in the name of a free press is no longer confined to anti-union publishers of the commercial press. Today we find the AFL joining in the cry. . . ."

AID TO CAMPAIGNS

The report called for dedication of CIO publications and publicity activities to the "great task" of aiding the CIO objectives of organizing the unorganized, and urged special attention to mobilizing "greater progressive labor and middle class participation in political and legislative action to effectuate the general program of the CIO."

The Committee also used a sizable portion of its report in urging greater attention to use of radio by CIO affiliates, condemned the limitations on time for labor subjects now being promoted by broadcasters, and laid out an outline for effective CIO use of radio.

City of Flint's Skipper Figured in Algic Case

New York—(FP) — Waterfront circles are wondering here how Capt. Joseph A. Gainard of the City of Flint reacted to the capture of his vessel by a Nazi warship, which took the American freighter to the Russian port of Murmansk. The ship carries a crew of 38, all members of the Natl. Maritime Union (CIO).

As a contender for the title of most popular skipper, Gainard would run about last in any poll of seamen. He is remembered for his role in prosecution of the crew of the S. S. Algic for mutiny in 1937.

While the Algic was at anchor in the port of Montevideo, the crew declined to work with scab longshoremen. Gainard was unwell at the time, but he got up from bed and went ashore to telephone the U. S. Maritime Commission, his temperature rising by the minute from other than pathological causes.

Joseph Kennedy, now ambassador to Great Britain, was then chairman of the commission. He recommended mutiny charges, which were successfully prosecuted in federal court in Baltimore. A number of the seamen were fined.

Farm Aid Policy, Organization Urged by CIO

BETWEEN THE LINES

By Cecil Owen

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28 — The truce on all legislation except neutrality seems about to be busted wide open in the House while the Senate drones on about foreign affairs.

Under the personal leadership of Speaker Bankhead a group of some 60 House members from southern drought-stricken states are putting on a campaign for drought relief legislation. Unless the Administration can find a way to relieve their farmer constituents under existing law this powerful bloc will force action on new legislation.

Other threats to the peaceful atmosphere on Capitol Hill are Martin Dies' request for more funds and the anti-lynching bill which any one of more than 200 Congressmen can call up at any time. Under the truce proposed by the Administration, anti-lynching has been held in abeyance but some of its proponents are getting restive.

Those who want more money for Dies and those who want anti-lynching legislation may soon come into a head on collision in the House even though there is much overlapping between the two groups. Some Republican diehards would like to call up the lynching bill as a way to embarrass the Administration. If Dies persists in seeking more funds now, the liberals are likely to join in demanding anti-lynching action as a way to head off Dies.

Washington is thoroughly bored with the neutrality issue and Congress may be hard to control if it stays here much longer.

DANGEROUS NOTE

Some of the more war-minded brass hats around Washington are already beginning to see spies under their beds. Here's a paragraph from a recent business news letter that carries a sinister note for labor:

"Industrialists producing war materials are appealing to Washington for protection, chiefly against sabotage. The Labor Board has repeatedly ruled that it is illegal to use 'labor spies.' How protect industrial establishments unless agents can be 'planted' to detect destructive activities?"

If this sort of thinking should prevail in official circles it would mean a return of the company spy system under the guise of protection against sabotage. The truth is that labor has uncovered and reported sabotage only to find company and Army officials lax in going after the real saboteurs. The Justice Department has a file of charges on this subject that were sent in by Harry Bridges' CIOers on the west coast.

WALLACE AND CONSUMERS

Once more Secretary of Agriculture Wallace has been playing ball with big vested interests at the expense of labor and the consumers. This time he has run into a clash with New York's fiery and pro-labor Mayor F. H. LaGuardia and fireworks are likely.

The current incident is an aftermath of the dairy farmers strike, jointly conducted and won by the Farmers' Union and the CIO in New York, which resulted in agreement to pay $2.15 a hundredweight. Right after the strike victory, the big milk companies put over two price increases for consumers blaming it on the strike. Now the farmers find they are only to get $2.08 instead of the agreed $2.15.

What LaGuardia thinks of this is best told in his own scrappy words:

"This is not only disappointing and shocking but it is chiseling in the very lowest sense of that contemptible word. There can be no misunderstanding of the terms of the agreement which took place in City Hall.

"If the U. S. Department of Agriculture is a party to this betrayal of the farmers I want to know it. There is money enough to pay the $2.15 price. The consumers of New York were charged an additional cent and a half per quart for the reason of the added price to be paid the farmers. What now prompts the reduction of the price after it has been collected from the consumers? It looks like the consumers are paying and the farmers are not getting it."

LaGuardia called on Wallace's Department, which has supervision over milk prices, for an explanation.

POLICE CHIEFS' ERROR

Some of the police chiefs' queried by the Smith, D., Va., committee probing the Labor Board have sent their replies to the Labor Board itself. The police apparently don't even know the difference between the Labor Board and the Congressional committee set up to investigate it.

A number of small-town police chiefs are sending in responses that the anti-labor Smith committee will find difficult to use in their campaign against the Wagner Act and labor. These officers are in communities where labor is mighty and they are not anxious to go on record against legitimate union activity.

MURPHY ON CIVIL LIBERTIES

One of the finest speeches ever delivered by a member of the Roosevelt Administration was the talk of Attorney General Frank Murphy to the New York Civil Liberties Conference.

His appearance there brought down in advance the wrath of the Dies committee on his head, but the Attorney General of the United States went ahead with it anyway. This act of loose majeste will probably result in demands for his impeachment, or something, by Dies.

Murphy gave unqualified pledges that the Bill of Rights and labor's civil liberties would not be infringed in the government's efforts to uncover foreign spies. He quoted the Supreme Court as saying:

"The Constitution of the United States is a law for rulers and people, equally in war and peace, and covers with the shield of its protection all classes of men, at all times, and under all circumstances."

He also said "there will be no alignments with agents of vigilante groups of private industrial organizations which are concerned primarily with industrial disputes and labor problems. Enforcement officials will themselves obey the law of the land."

N. Y. Labor Aids Quill Campaign

New York, Oct. 28.—Formation of a labor committee for the re-election of Michael Quill, CIO Transport Workers Union president running for his second term as New York City Councilman, was announced here.

The committee is headed by Allan S. Haywood, CIO National Organization Director and former local CIO Regional Director, Elmer Brown, president of the N. Y. Typographical Union and Brian Feeney, head of the AFL Compressed Air Workers (Sandhogs).

Quill, who is running in the Bronx, will have the support of more than 3,000 active trade unionists already enlisted, with many hundreds more to come, as campaign aids in a closely contested campaign.

Up to Oct. 24, N. Y. locals of 15 CIO national and international unions had endorsed Quill's campaign, as well as seven AFL affiliates, in addition to the Typographical Union.

Financial and other aid to Quill's campaign has already been pledged in quantity, Victor Bloswick, Transport Workers Union secretary of the committee, announced.

Accuses Shipowners Of Stalling

New York, Oct. 28 — Negotiations between the National Maritime Union and the American Merchant Marine Institute are being snagged by "what amounts to a lockout" for the purpose of defeating the signing of a contract, the NMU said today.

An official statement issued by the Negotiating Committee declared that the operators are deliberately stalling negotiations for a new contract to replace the one expiring this month, as part of a long-range program for destroying the union.

The statement recalls the exposure early this year of a group of disrupters within the union, headed by Ray Carlucci of the Railway Audit & Inspection Company, and Jerome Medeiros, known in the union as Jerry King.

According to confessions by members of the group, the statement said, the group was financed by shipowners, many of whom are represented in present contract negotiations.

MOVES EXPECTED

The moves that the union expects the operators to take in the next few weeks were outlined in the statement. They included a prediction that the operators would stall on the employment clause to confuse the public, which does not realize that union hiring is necessary for the preservation of the union.

With the union destroyed, the shipowners could slash wages and drive the seamen back to the days of slavery, the statement declared.

Further attempts would be made, the committee stated, to weaken the union through paid agents working inside and outside the union, by disrupting meetings, attacking union officials, dragging out the red herring, raising demands for a new "rank and file" committee, and appealing to a government agency, possibly the Maritime Commission, to step in and "restore order."

Convention Outlines Farm Policy; Urges Rural Organization

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28—CIO policy on farm program and the organization of agricultural workers received prominent place in the resolutions at the second constitutional convention just held in San Francisco.

On the farm program, the CIO pledged its full support to fair prices for farm products, to be fixed at "not less than cost of production," hailed cooperation between farm organizations and CIO affiliates during the past year, and urged all CIO officers and members to continue to work closely with farmers in striving to solve problems common to both groups.

For farm workers, which included those in food packing, processing and canning, the CIO outlined a program of union organization and political activity designed to bring them the full benefits already won for millions of industrial workers.

BASIC POINTS

Calling attention to the viciously anti-labor practices of the Associated Farmers, banker-dominated vigilante group with chief strength in the west, the resolution called for organization and legislation to bring about:

"Defeat of reactionary measures to deprive these workers of the benefits of existing social legislation,

"Congressional authorization for larger appropriations to the Farm Security Administration for its labor camp, farm labor housing and relief grant programs,

"Congressional authorization for the Departments of Agriculture and Labor to make studies and gather statistics with reference to farm labor programs,

"Amendment and extension of all state industrial labor laws to provide agricultural labor with protection and benefits now enjoyed by industrial labor."

In addition, the resolution pledged full CIO aid to the Cannery and Agricultural Workers in its campaigns "to organize these unorganized farm workers on the large scale industrialized farms and workers in the food packing, processing and canning industries."

HENDERSON SPEAKS

Donald Henderson, president of the CIO Cannery and Agricultural Workers, spoke on the resolution, describing the situation of millions of poverty-stricken workers in his union's jurisdiction as "a keg of nitroglycerine."

"I sometimes feel, and other leaders of our union feel, as though we were handling a keg of nitroglycerine, where the slightest false step would result in an explosion fatal to both the person carrying it and all the surrounding bystanders," he said.

These people have been almost incredibly patient, he said, but unless some steps are taken soon to show that the agricultural worker is "not a slave, to be starved and exploited as a forgotten man, neither my union nor any union can prevent sporadic outbreaks of mass strikes, blind, leaderless and chaotic."

PRAISES LEWIS

Henderson praised Pres. Lewis for his effective denunciation of the tory coalition attacking the Wages and Hours law in the last session of Congress, and for his blistering expose of Vice-President John N. Garner as leader of the conspiracy against agricultural workers and all labor.

In conclusion, he declared that this problem is not just a trade union concern, but one that "goes right down to the roots of our whole social system here."

CIO Unions in Canada Strike for More Pay

TORONTO, Ont., Oct. 28.—Hard-rock and coal miners, organized in CIO unions, were this week engaged in strikes in three provinces for wage raises to bring pay levels to equal the soaring increases in the cost of living.

Pioneer Gold Mine employes in British Columbia struck for a dollar a day raise to keep step with the increase in the price of gold which advanced $3.50 an ounce since the declaration of war in Europe. The men are members of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union, CIO.

The gold miners struck when the provincial department failed to send a conciliator within three days of notice to strike as required by law. Employes of nearby Bralorne Mines are cooperating with the strikers.

Ten union members went into nearby hills, with permission of B. C. police to hunt deer for families in need.

COAL MINERS STRIKE

In Estevan, Saskatchewan, members of the United Mine Workers of America, struck for a contract with the coal operators. The strike is also intended to eliminate a small company union group known as the Canadian Federation of Labor which is hindering contractual relations between the UMW and the operators.

Several strikes took place in the Nova Scotia mine fields for a wage raise which would cover the increase in the cost of living.

Meanwhile local 29 of the International Woodworkers of America in Lake Cowichan, B. C., is preparing to negotiate for a 20 per cent wage raise.

The IWA is also campaigning against the high accident rate in B. C. logging camps. Forty-nine men have been killed in the camps since the first of the year.

The union is asking the government to take measures to prevent the mounting toll of logging accidents.

Lewis Calls For Expanding Wage Standards in U. S.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28—Recognizing the paramount importance of an expanding share of the products of American industrial wealth for the workers of this nation, the CIO convention went on record condemning attempts to shackle workers to a wage scale limited to the cost of living in a unanimous resolution at the San Francisco convention.

Following are the full text of the resolution and excerpts from Pres. Lewis' speech in support of it:

RESOLUTION

"WHEREAS. (1) The working men and women in the United States do not yet receive a fair share of the results of their own labor; and

(2) It becomes necessary for labor to win wage increases in order to preserve its present inadequate standards; and

(3) An effort has been made to compel the working men and women in the United States to remain chained to their present standard of living by limiting wage increases to increases in the cost of living; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the CIO hereby condemns as pernicious and inequitable the principle that wage increases must be related to increases in the cost of living as simply a way to chain labor forever to its present inadequate share in the wealth of this country."

Supporting the resolution, Pres. Lewis said in part:

"Quite often people whose knowledge of economics is superficial or unsound believe that they are taking a very virtuous position when they say that they are quite willing for the wages of the workers of this country to advance in proportion to the increase in the cost of living.

"That position presupposes that the economic statues of the workers of this country is ideal in relation to cost of production, national income and the other varied factors of consideration.

CONTRARY TRUE

"The contrary is true. The relationship of labor, both to the cost of production, to the total value of our commodities produced, to the total national income and the increasing production efficiency of our producing machine is totally inadequate.

"It is economically unsound, socially unjust and politically unwise. Labor must unceasingly be on guard against the acceptance of this philosophy, because I proclaim that the position of labor in our economy is not ideal, or just, or satisfactory. Labor wants a continuously increasing participation in the increased productivity of modern industry, and a larger share in the bounties of our national wealth.

NO OTHER PREMISE

"On no other premise can employment be maintained; under no other arrangement can national purchasing power be maintained; upon no other arrangement can we care for that element of our population constantly being dispossessed of participation in our internal economy and our productive establishment by the utilization of energy, the application of new formulas, by the use of automatic and semi-automatic machines.

"Labor wants a larger participation, and labor must have an increasing participation in the fruits of our men of genius, of our technicians, of our chemists of high and low degree.

"Labor cannot be a consumer of the products of men and factories unless labor is given a constantly increasing participation in the increasing efficiency of production and in the natural wealth of the nation. I think the presentation of this resolution is most timely.

ON GUARD

"I think it is a very important consideration. I think it is well that our people should be constantly on guard and, without apology, at all times decline to accept that status that is given labor by those who say, virtuously and sanctimoniously, like Pharises in the market places;

" 'Oh, yes! I am perfectly willing that if the price of milk goes up in a community, wages shall be increased so that the worker can still get exactly the same amount of milk for his children'."

Silicosis Victims Die While Board Ponders

DENVER, Colo., Oct. 28.—Fifty out of 500 claimants have died of silicosis while awaiting a decision on charges filed with the National Labor Relations Board against the Eagle - Picher Company in the tri-state area of Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma, according to President Reid Robinson of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers. The case has been pending for four years.

In a letter to NLRB Chairman J. Warren Madden, made public today, Robinson asked an immediate decision on the case, which was one of the first to be filed with the Board.

"No less than 50 claimants have died from the ravages of silicosis," the letter stated. "We are wondering how many more must die before the Labor Board will hand down a decision in the case.

More than half of the remaining 450 workers named in the charges of discrimination and unfair labor practices have silicosis, Robinson said.

WORST IN NATION

The CIO union blames the working conditions which have made the zinc and lead mines of the Tri-State the worst silicosis breeders in the nation, upon the company's greed for profits.

"A majoritly of the miners become infected with this dread lung disease because of lack of precautions commonly observed in other mining areas," the union declared.

Western Union Strikers Clip "Back to Work"

San Francisco—Quick work by the American Communications on behalf of its members on strike against Western Union here scotched a plan by the Pacific Coast president of the company union, J. H. Pickett, to organize a back-to-work movement at a meeting in the Palace Hotel here.

The messengers threw up a picket line around the hotel and sent a delegation to the manager protesting the use of the hotel as a strikebreaking headquarters. Mr. Pickett was evicted.

CIO Unions Aid Labor's League

Warm endorsement of Labor's Non-Partisan League and its program of progressive political action was voted by the United Rubber Workers at its fourth annual convention at LaCrosse, Wis.

The American Newspaper Guild, meeting in annual convention at San Francisco, similarly voted enthusiastic backing of the League's program and for extension of New Deal legislation.

Text of the Rubber Workers resolution is:

"The elections in many states in 1938 have sorely demonstrated the need for organized labor to extend its activities in politics for the purpose of protection of social and labor legislation, and

"Labor's Non-Partisan League has proven itself a valuable instrument in labor political action; therefore be it

"Resolved, That this convention of the URWA go on record as endorsing Labor's Non-Partisan League; and be it further

"Resolved, That all local unions of the URWA shall be urged by the incoming executive board to affiliate with the state organization of the League."

Frank Grillo, international secretary-treasurer of the URWA, is chairman of the League in Akron and a leading figure in progressive political action in Ohio. The candidate favored by the League recently won nomination in the Akron mayoralty contest.

The Newspaper Guild resolutions listed laws of benefit to labor and the public generally and declared it would use all its political power to prevent any turning back of the clock. The officials of the Guild are making plans to extend Guild participation everywhere in Labor's Non-Partisan League.

Local Gets Short Course In "Justice"

Chicago, Oct. 28—The experiences of Local 120, United Rubber Workers, which filed a charge of assault with a deadly weapon against a scab who dropped a heavy, 12 inch chisel from a fourth story window on the head of a picket at the Rapid Roller Co. here, netted the following course in the administration of "justice" by Chicago police and judges:

The police refused to arrest the assailant, even though witnesses said they saw the scab lean out the window and take careful aim.

The union finally secured a John Doe warrant, which the police then disclaimed knowledge of for five days. Finally forced to enter the plant to serve the warrant, they tried to postpone it till the next day at the company's request.

CASE CLOSED

The judge listened to identification of the assailant by four state witnesses and ridiculed the idea that they could see anyone "away up on the fourth floor." Thereupon he postponed the trial for five days and visited the plant himself, escorted by the president of the struck company.

When the trial was resumed the judge ordered the union lawyer, who acted as state prosecutor, from the court when he insisted on entering exceptions to the judge's rulings. Three different and contradictory alibis were entered by the company which the judge sustained.

The judge "warned" the union attorney to cease "coaching" witnesses, and—acquitted the accused, thus closing the case.

Resolutions On Labor Board And Use of Act

Two resolutions of the CIO convention, one severely criticizing the National Labor Relations Board for its maladministration of the Wagner Act and the other advising more sparing recourse to the Act, are printed here in full. Both resolutions were passed unanimously after detailed discussion by the delegates.

LABOR BOARD

WHEREAS, (1) With increasing frequency the National Labor Relations Board has announced interpretations of the Wagner Labor Act which reflect a diversion of administrative policy from the basic purposes of the act which are to strengthen organized labor and advance the practice of collective bargaining, and such interpretations, if permitted by organized labor to proceed unchecked, may lead to the following results:

(a) Permitting craft organizations to raid established industrial unions and to carve out craft units indiscriminately and arbitrarily from industrial bargaining units,

(b) Breaking down multi-plant employer units, frequently in spite of a definite history of bargaining on the basis of such units and an established practice of membership contracts covering such units, and

(c) A requirement of proof in company union cases of such an extent and such a nature as to prevent the effective elimination of company unions in many obvious cases; and

(2) The Board has likewise in recent months adopted a policy of eliminating from its legal and administrative staffs all personnel which could by any remote possibility be considered as unfavorable to the policies herein condemned, or as wanting in a bias against the CIO and the principles for which it stands; and

(3) A development of such policies, with the concomitant displacement and substitution of personnel, having without question been determined upon as part of a policy of appeasement toward the reactionary AFL Bureaucracy and some of the most powerful and dangerous employers in the country; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, (1) That the CIO condemns without qualification the policies of the National Labor Relations Board which undermine the basic purposes of the Act to strengthen organized labor and advance the practice of collective bargaining; and

(2) The CIO likewise and as fully condemns the administrative policies of the Board which have resulted and continue to result in the displacement of unbiased personnel in favor of personnel antagonistic to the CIO and the elimination of personnel not fully sympathetic to the doctrines and interpretations of law herein condemned; and

(3) The CIO brands the adoption of such policies and such displacements of personnel as an unwarranted and unworthy retreat by the National Labor Relations Board under fire from the reactionary officials of the AFL and the most powerful and dangerous corporate employers of the land.

USE OF THE ACT

WHEREAS, (1) The administration of the National Labor Relations Act has been characterized from the beginning by delay of such magnitude as to render the benefits of the law problematical in many instances; and

(2) Since the enactment of the Act organized labor has been inclined to rely far too heavily upon the law for the achievement of its purposes in protecting the workers of the country; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, (1) That for these reasons this convention commends to all CIO affiliates a most sparing and considered use of the Wagner Labor Act in the future; and

(2) This convention calls upon the National Labor Relations Board to revise its methods and procedure fundamentally and drastically to the end that more prompt relief be afforded in its cases.

UNION SHOP PRINTING FOR CIO UNIONS
MID-CITY PRESS
NEWSPAPER — LEAFLETS
JOBWORK — PUBLISHING
N. E. Cor. 9th & Spruce Streets
Philadelphia, Pa.

LARGEST PRODUCER OF ROUGH ROLLED GLASS
MISSISSIPPI GLASS COMPANY
220 FIFTH AVE.
NEW YORK

CORNELIUS PRINTING CO.

Printers for
INTERNATIONAL UNIONS
for more than 30 Years
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
SILVER SPRINGS, MD.

Political Action Plans Laid at Convention; Labor League Pushed

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28. — Vigorous participation in the 1940 election contests to protect and advance labor's political gains was voted by the CIO convention.

Support of Labor's Non-Partisan League as "an instrumentality for united progressive political action" was reaffirmed by formal resolution.

Talks by League Chairman John L. Lewis, Vice-Chairman Philip Murray and other noted CIO leaders recognized the vital role of the League over the past several years and gave it a clear go-ahead signal for the future. The League Lewis predicted, has "a great political future before it."

Many state League officials who were present as delegates of their unions were asked to rise by Chairman Lewis, who told of the scores of state and local contests in which the League forces have played an important part. Lewis observed there had been a deliberate effort by the press to minimize the League's victories.

WARNING TO POLITICIANS

Lewis served warning on the politicians of the nation that they cannot ignore labor nor betray its trust without paying the penalty on election day. The League, he emphasized, is the official instrument of labor's political action and has the full confidence of the CIO.

The League was given a rousing send-off in a talk by Murray that brought out the broad basis of the League's support not only in the labor movement but among liberals generally. He told of the League's work in keeping labor and its liberal allies abreast of Washington and state political events, and said:

"I know of many civic-minded people who are promoting Labor's Non-Partisan League in their communities. The League is a non-partisan political institution created for the single purpose of promoting the best interests of the workers in the United States."

Introduced by Lewis E. L. Oliver, executive vice-president of the League, prefaced the discussion of political action with a talk in which he hammered home the importance to labor of watching developments in Congress. Referring to the legislative program adopted by the CIO convention, Oliver said:

ANOTHER CONGRESS

". . . many of these resolutions must still be submitted to another Congress; a Congress in which the sympathy for the cause of labor is, to put it mildly, somewhat less strong than it is here."

The League's organizing work for the 1940 campaign, Oliver informed the convention, is already under way in all parts of the nation. Without exception, he added, the CIO is giving unstinting support to the League's program.

Instructions were given the Executive Board of the CIO to coordinate the political and legislative activities of CIO affiliates. The resolution recognized as greater than ever the need of legislative solution of economic problems and called attention to such achievements as the Wagner Act, Social Security Act, Housing and Wage-Hour Acts.

Commenting on the current political situation, the resolution said:

"The past year has witnessed the coalition of all the reactionary forces in the country in both the major political parties in a desperate attempt to defeat all new progressive measures and to repeal existing social legislation."

After noting that the League is an instrumentality for united progressive political action, the resolution concluded:

RESOLVED, (1) The essence of effective political action by labor is predicated upon the strength of labor demonstrated by its numbers in the labor organizations; and

(2) That this convention commends the activities and functions of Labor's Non-Partisan League in its efforts to elect progressive candidates to public office committed to a program of social and labor legislation for the protection of labor; and

(3) That in view of the deep importance to labor of the approaching 1940 national election, the Executive Board take appropriate action to coordinate the political and legislative activities of each of its affiliates and to establish cooperation with progressive groups in support of a constructive program to preserve and extend the political gains and legislative achievements obtained through the efforts and strength of labor for the economic security and social welfare of the American people.

Department Store Workers in Drive

New York City—Citing its contract with Cooperative Distributors here providing a $21 minimum wage and 39-hour week as a model for the organization of small department stores, Local 1250, Department Store Employes Union, CIO, set up a committee to organize 15,000 workers in such stores.

The committee pledged itself to active work to end a situation where $10 a week wages and sweat shop conditions threaten the gains they have made in the large department stores like Macys, Gimbels, Hearns and Bloomingdales.

Firm Flees But Union Catches Up

Fall River, Mass., Oct. 28—The Flint Furniture Company which ran away from New York and discarded its former name, Kass Bros., in the hope of evading union organization, has been forced to sign an agreement with the United Furniture Workers after a five-week strike here.

The strike was called Sept. 4, after the workers had responded to an organizing drive, and charges of unfair labor practices had been filed with the National Labor Relations Board. The Union's charges were based on the company's reported efforts to bribe the strikers to return to work by offering them bonuses and free trips to the New York World's Fair.

The charges were withdrawn after the contract was signed with the union in the Boston office of the NLRB.

Lewis in Review Of League Growth Sees 'Great Future'

Text of Chairman John L. Lewis' remarks to the convention on the subject of Labor's Non-Partisan League:

"Labor's Non-Partisan League was organized in 1936. Mr. Sidney Hillman was one of the founders and is now treasurer of the League. Mr. George L. Berry, who afterwards became United States Senator from Tennessee, was the first chairman of the League.

"The League played a very great part in the presidential election of 1936; it was most active in that campaign. It exercised profound influence and was the deciding factor in thousands of communities in the industrial states of the union. It helped to finance the Democratic Party and it helped to re-elect President Roosevelt.

"Since that time in state after state it has participated in a most effective way in gubernatorial campaigns and in state and municipal and county elections of high and low degree. In great numbers of instances the vote of the League and its membership was the controlling factor in those elections.

LABOR VOTE DECIDING FACTOR

"In those elections where the League was unsuccessful in electing its endorsed candidates, the hostile press of the nation were loud in their condemnation of the League, and in each election predicted that the defeat of the League in that particular election was the proposition that indicated that the League was ineffective and without force.

"In those elections in many great cities of the union where the vote of labor is exemplified by Labor's Non-Partisan League, it was the deciding factor in the elections, and where they were successful in returning to office the liberal candidates endorsed, the press of the nation continuously minimized the effect of those elections and the part played by the League.

"Labor's Non-Partisan League has a great political future before it in this country because as our great units of labor expand in their membership and grow in their influence, so Labor's Non-Partisan League will expand in its numerical strength and grow in its influence in the political elections that interest our people under our form of government.

"I am most happy indeed that the League has such a splendid record, and, more than that, I am most happy in having some knowledge of the part that Labor's Non-Partisan League and labor expect to play in the presidential election in this republic of ours in the year 1940.

"Let no public representative or citizen underestimate the tremendous power and influence now being exercised by labor in the political realm of the nation, and let no politician assume that he can ignore Labor's Non-Partisan League, nor ignore the mandates and the ideals and the objectives of organized labor, without being held to strict accountability in that inevitable day when elections come again.

HAS LABOR'S CONFIDENCE

"So I think it is particularly timely that this discussion should take place here this morning so that there will be clarity of thought and understanding on the part of our own people, and at least they will know that labor has an instrumentality that reflects its political viewpoint wherein the utmost confidence can be had in its representatives and its work.

"There are, of course, some politicians who will accept, first ask for and later accept, the assistance of labor and Labor's Non-Partisan League. We have them in Congress, we have them in the State Legislatures, and we have them in gubernatorial chairs throughout the nation, but they can only play that game once, they can only betray labor during one term of office, and the League and labor ever vigilant will hold them to an accounting.

"More power to Labor's Non-Partisan League as a true expression of the political views of America."

CIO Hits Chiselling Communities For Aid to 'Runaways'

Washington, Oct. 28—Decentralization of industry, whereby chiselling cities offer unfair inducements to runaway corporations to locate in their communities tax-free—and usually with guarantees against "labor trouble"—was condemned by the CIO convention in a unanimous resolution and in speeches by Thomas Burns of the Rubber Workers and Powers Hapgood of the Shoe Workers.

The resolution declared in the "whereases":

"Whereas, certain powerful corporations are moving operations from one community to another, ignoring their obligations both to their workers and to the communities where they have been located; and

"Certain states and communities in our country have offered inducements to such corporations to move operations in the form of free sites, tax exemptions, low wages and in other anti-social forms; and

"These practices are undermining the standard of living of organized American workers and are presenting a threat to fair-minded industry; and

"The continued well-being of countless communities in our nation, as well as the welfare of all working people, demands the ending of these irresponsible practices."

BURNS SPEAKS

Burns, Rubber Workers vice-president, told the story of the city of Gadsden, Ala., which made a deal with three companies to exempt them from all taxes, while giving them increased police and fire protection, changed local by-laws to allow arrest on suspicion, had their cops kidnap and slug the international president, Sherman Dalrymple, and other Rubber Workers' officials and members—all for the purpose of "bringing industry to Gadsden."

In Natchez, Miss., the city went even further. There they cleared ground, built a $350,000 building for Armstrong Tire, gave a 20-year tax exemption, plus 20 years of free water, and at the end of 10 years promised to turn the factory over free of charge to the company.

NOT JUST SOUTHERN

"I ask you," Burns said, "how can decent communities attempt to compete with communities that make that type of offer? Don't become deluded into thinking that this is an [illegible] is only on one side of the Mason and Dixon Line.

"Within the last 60 days the town of St. Marys, Ohio, offered free land, plus $25,000 for improvement, plus the guarantee that no organization would be permitted in the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. in order to obtain some of their work there."

SHOE BOSSES, TOO

Powers Hapgood, of the Shoe Workers, followed to point out that shoe employers were following the same policy—one that was, he said, already an old story to the textile and clothing unions.

"In the city of Portsmouth, Ohio," he said, we had a closed shop contract. When that contract expired the shoe company moved away to another town. Not only did this company receive free rent, but they also received a cash inducement of $30,000 to move."

Harlan, Ky. — (FP) — William Hightower, former president of the Evarts local of the United Mine Workers, CIO, who spent several years in the Kentucky penitentiary after being framed in the Battle of Evarts, has been exiled from his home state because of new charges brought by a prosecution witness.

SWOC DUES PAYMENTS RISE

Cleveland—Since getting back their old jobs at the Otis Steel Company, members of Lodge 188, Steel Workers Organizing Committee, are paying dues for the months when they were exonerated because of unemployment, Financial Secretary Leonard Porto revealed.

The lodge, which has a membership of 1,000, gave another demonstration of true union spirit, when one member, John Krisby, paid his dues for the entire year of 1940.

LIME CO. UNFAIR

Barre, Vt., Oct. 28—The Quarry Workers International Union has placed the Standard Lime and Stone Company of Martinsburg, W. Va., on the unfair list and requests the cooperation of CIO unions in publicizing this. The company has refused to reinstate a large number of workers fired when they took part in a strike for better conditions.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II — No. 45 | Send form 3578-P to 1106 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. | NOVEMBER 6, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

AFL 'Blue Card' Ordered Out, Back Pay Set

By HAROLD ROSSMAN

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4—Benefits to hundreds of Tri-State workers, including back pay awards estimated to total between $800,000 and $1,000,000 have been ordered by the National Labor Relations Board in a sweeping decision upholding claims of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers against two Eagle-Picher companies.

The Board's finding is made in a thorough 116-page report which upholds the ruling in favor of five striking locals of the CIO union in the intermediate report of Trial Examiner William R. Ringer, and goes beyond it to grant additional relief to the complaining locals.

This award brings to a climax the fight against anti-union activity of the Eagle-Picher Mining & Smelting Corp. and the Eagle-Picher Lead Corp in the tri-state area of Oklahoma, Missouri and Kansas which began in May, 1935.

Setting a precedent in Labor Board procedure is the machinery suggested by the Board for indemnifying the men who had been discriminated against by the Eagle-Picher companies in rehiring after a bitter strike struggle.

The two companies are directed to set aside jointly an amount of money sufficient to cover back pay for a number of workers equal to the number hired since the termination of the strike. From this pool of funds, the awards are to be paid to the men named in the order as further inquiry establishes their claims to back pay and fixes the amounts they are entitled to get.

CRACK 'BLUE CARD'

Equally important are the Board's findings with regard to the so-called Blue Card Union, now affiliated with the AFL. The Board finds that the Eagle-Picher companies dominate and control the Blue Card Union and that it is in effect just a continuation of their company union, the Tri-State Union, which was set up for the sole purpose of preventing the workers from joining the CIO.

Therefore the Board declares the companies' contracts with the Blue Card Union null and void. It also orders them not to recognize or bargain in any way with the Blue Card Union as representative of any of their employes unless they give fully equal recognition to the CIO or unless the Blue Card Union can win certification by the Board.

The companies are forbidden to urge or coerce their workers into membership in the Blue Card Union or to urge or coerce them to refrain from joining the CIO.

The Board definitely finds the Eagle-Picher companies and their agents guilty of instigating and encouraging violence against the members and property of the CIO union and forbids future incitement to such violence.

If there had been any doubt as to the true company-union character of the Blue Card outfit, now flying the AFL banner, that doubt has been dissipated by the Board's finding, CIO union officials said.

CONSULT LABOR, LEWIS WARNS 1940 PLANNERS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4 — Labor's increasing importance in national affairs was reflected in a number of developments of far-reaching significance last week in both the industrial and political arenas.

As Chairman of Labor's Non-Partisan League, John L. Lewis issued a statement expressing League disapproval of the proposed western political conference.

His statement, which caused a sensation in political circles, warned that labor support in the coming elections was not to be taken for granted for any program in the drafting of which labor was not offered an opportunity to participate.

(See story, page three, and editorial, page four).

The CIO Maritime Committee meanwhile launched a blistering attack on the anti-labor policies of the U. S. Maritime Commission and the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation (Story page two, editorial, page four).

American seamen are suffering in many ways from the war situation, and the Maritime Committee's attack marked the opening of an aggressive campaign to check the union-busting activities of government agencies and anti-union shipowners and to win fair treatment for the seamen.

Two Labor Board decisions, one on Western Union and the other on Eagle-Picher in the Tri-State area, put an official damper on a pair of company unions that have long harassed the workers in two basic industries. (Stories page one and eight.)

One of them, perhaps the oldest company in the world, has fought genuine collective bargaining since 1918. The other, in the Tri-State, was chartered by the AFL after a long and shabby career of violence and intimidation against the CIO.

Rubber Workers Win Major Board Victory

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4—Recommendations and orders of the Labor Relations Board in the Goodyear Co. case at Gadsden, Ala., were described by United Rubber Workers representatives and by Yelverton Cowherd, CIO regional director in the state, as "a major victory for the URWA and for the CIO."

The Board's recommendations, which include lengthy "findings of fact" and proposed Board orders, are an added step in the long campaign of the union to break a terroristic drive by the company union that brought about the discharge of dozens of workers, the beating of union organizers and members, and a severe assault on Sherman H. Dalrymple, president of the United Rubber Workers.

BOARD ORDERS

The Board's orders based on 99 pages of findings secured after many months of testimony, call on the company to "cease and desist from

1. "In any manner dominatin or interfering with the administration of Etowah Rubber Workers Organization, Inc., and contributing support. . ." (Etowah Rubber Workers Organization, Inc., was a company union.)

2. "Discouraging membership in United Rubber Workers of America . . . by discharging or refusing to reinstate any of its employes, or in any other manner discriminating in regard to their hire or tenure of emplomente . . . because of membership in or activity in connection with any labor organization.

3. "Permitting, encouraging, or participating in physical assaults on, or threats of physical violence to, employes in its plant for the purpose of discouraging membership in, or activities on behalf of, the United Rubber Workers of America.

CIO Building Union Lists Progress

Washington, Nov. 4 — The chartering of four new locals by the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee in New York was anounced today by Chairman A. D. Lewis.

Reflecting the rapid growth of the new CIO construction workers union, this brings to 61 the number of local unions chartered since the organization was formed a few months ago.

The new locals are located in the Bronx, Lower Manhattan, Upper Manhattan and Brooklyn.

At the same time Chairman Lewis announced that Buffalo Local 36 of the UCWOC had just signed a closed shop check-off agreement with a contractor in that city.

He declared that most encouraging reports were being received from the West Coast, through J. Fred Rausch, general organizer in that territory, and that construction workers there were greeting the program of the UCWOC with great enthusiasm.

Progress was also reported from Chicago, where Frank Barnhart, former president of District 11, United Mine Workers, has been placed in charge of the organizing drive.

Lewis emphasized the magnitude of the task undertaken by the CIO in improving the wages and conditions of the great number of unorganized and low-paid workers. He pointed to the great gulf between the supposed union scales and the wages actually paid on non-union jobs.

The Associated Farmers in Madera county, California, are trying to break a strike of cotton pickets against starvation wages by driving them back to work with guns, clubs and wholesale arrests.

Old Golds Branded By Board

Cincinnati, Ohio — P. Lorillard Co., which puts out Old Golds and other cigarets, has been found guilty of unfair labor practices by the National Labor Relations Board, because it refused to bargain with the Pioneer Tobacco Workers Union, CIO, in Middletown, Ohio.

The company has been on the CIO unfair list since last year, when its 1,100 workers returned to work after Governor Martin L. Davey ordered out the National Guard.

Seamen Demand U. S. Probe Of Marine Agencies

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4—Ten serious charges against the U. S. Maritime Commission were made by the CIO Maritime Committee and an "immediate and open investigation" of its anti-labor activities demanded in a pamphlet and statement issued by the union today. The committee, of which Pres. Joseph Curran of the Nat'l. Maritime Union is chairman, represents eight CIO marine unions.

The pamphlet made public by Bjorne Halling, committee secretary, accuses the Commission and the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation of "ocooperation, connivance and collusion with the shipowners to destroy maritime labor's rights." It declares that these agencies are run by people unwilling or incapable of carrying out the administration's merchant marine program.

THE CHARGES

According to the CIO Committee's charges, the Commission has consistently denied seamen their rights under the Wagner Act, has tried to break down the union hiring hall system by substituting the "Fink Hall" system, and has tried to foist compulsory arbitration on the maritime unions.

In addition, it has set up training schools where non-seamen are enrolled for the purpose of breaking the union, has launched wide publicity campaigns against American seamen (notably in the persecution of the Algic workers), has encouraged shipowners to every kind of wild and irresponsible attack on the union, and has allowed them to make extensive repairs in foreign ports, particularly in Germany, in violation of the law.

Finally, the pamphlet says, the Commission intervened directly on the side of the shipowners in war risk negotiations, setting a rate on its own ships far below the legitimate demands of the men.

Turning to the Bureau of Inspection and Navigation, the pamphlet charges that its powers of issuing and revoking certificates have been used to break maritime strikes, and that thousands of dollars in fines levied against shipowners for violations of safety-at-sea laws.

PEOPLE'S RIGHTS

The American people have a right to know exactly what these two agencies, both supposed to be building up the American merchant marine, have been doing with their money, the pamphlet concludes.

"The American people, who foot the bills for shipping subsidies have a right to know what is happening to their merchant marine," it says.

"Considering all the public money that has been pouring into the industry in the form of subsidies, grants, monopoly privileges and bargain sales, the people already own it 20 times over.

"They have a right to know whether the Merchant Marine Act of 1936, designed to stop graft and treasury raids, is being honestly administered. They have a right to know whether the President's program for rebuilding the merchant marine is being carried out."

Copies of the pamphlet, "The Maritime Commission vs. the Seamen," can be secured from the CIO Maritime Committee, 1319 F St., NW, Washington, D. C.

Urges Insurance Investigation

New York City, Nov. 4—In view of the strong anti-labor policies practiced by insurance companies against industrial insurance agents seeking to organize, Leon Berney, general organizer of the Industrial Insurance Agents division of United Office and Professional Workers, urged a special legislative committee investigating insurance companies to back legislation permitting the state to revoke licenses of insurance firms interfering with the self-organization of their employes.

Aviation Jobs Up In California

San Francisco, Nov. 4—A 60 per cent increase in jobs in California aviation plants features the latest report of the state bureau of Labor Statistics just released here.

According to the report, 12 aircraft plants list 16,850 workers in September, 1939, compared to 10,505 listed in the same month of 1938, with payrolls up $200,000 to $503,550 per week. Wages averaged $29.88 per week.

CIO observers recalled the resolution on organizing the aircraft industry at the convention held here, in which Wyndham Mortimer, United Automobile Workers representative in charge of aircraft, pointed out the anti-labor policies of the companies.

Their favorite trick, Mortimer explained, was to hire large numbers of young "graduates" from fake aviation mechanics schools, pay them a minimum wage on the promise of raises when they got some experience, and then to fire them for a new batch of "graduates."

Silverware Pact Covers 425 Workers

Muncie, Ind. — Your hamburgers can now be speared with union-made forks since United Cutlery Workers Local 354, CIO, signed a new agreement with the Ontario Manufacturing Comany, makers of table silverware.

The one-year contract covers a a wage increase for all 425 employes, sole bargaining rights, a strict seniority clause, and vacation with pay for workers who have been with the firm two years.

Inquiries from other silverware plant workers will be welcomed by the Local's president, Clyde Venable, 2308 South Jefferson St., Muncie.

'Mounties' Arrival Protested

Estevan, Sask., Nov. 4—Despatch of 132 Royal Canadian Mounted Police into this lignite mining camp has aroused the ire of the population which fears the presence of the nation's federal police in this strike area might lead to disturbances.

Over 500 members of the United Mine Workers of America have been on strike for the past few weeks for a contract with the Western Dominion Coal Mines and elimination of a small company union, known as the Canadian Federation of Labor Saskatchewan Miners' Union.

PEOPLE PROTEST

Even before the RCMP reached Estevan, the Saskatchewan government received protests against the decision to send them. At Estevan and nearby Bienfait the people immediately circulated a protest petition for presentation to the provincial government.

In seven hours over 2,000 names were affixed to the petition. This is considered a record since these two mining towns are sparsely populated and it takes considerable time to reach the outlying farming communities.

UMW district officials blamed the company for the strike stating the firm signed a contract with the small company union group while being fully aware that the CIO affiliate represented the overwhelming majority of the employes.

Utility Cuts Endanger Service

New York Nov. 4—All the news that's fit to print apparently doesn't include stories of the serious threat to public safety in the mass layoffs of key workers at the Consolidated Edison utility plants throughout this city.

New York commercial newspapers, with one exception, ignored a detailed, careful analysis of these dangers, prepared by the CIO Amalgamated Utility Workers at the request of the N. Y. Public Service Commission. The day the analysis appeared, however, all the papers (with the same exception) printed almost a ful-page Consolidated -Edison advertisement.

Discussing the report, which showed that dangers to the public service and to the city's safety were inherent in the huge layoff campaign conducted by the company, Franklin E. DeLude, union vice-president, declared:

"The mad competition among stations of the Consolidated-Edison system to economize even at the sacrifice of safe operation, has led to the extreme condition depicted here.

"The same conditions prevail throughout every power plant of the Edison system, thus incriminating top management.

"Irresponsible measures of economy have not stopped at generating stations, but have solely affected the transmission and distribution systems, system maintenance as a whole, and the customer services.

"Huge layoffs of employes have occurred on a system-wide scale, and everywhere their effect is felt and reflected in the character of today's service to the public."

The union's analysis showed that while Consolidated-Edison output rose by 300,000,000 kilowatts in a two-year period, workers in the plants were cut from 2,448 to 1,815. This cut, which averaged 25 per cent, was almost tripled in one plant, where the personnel was sliced more than 60 per cent.

Pan-American Union Establishes Labor Division

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4. — Increased recognition has been accorded to labor in the Pan-American Union through the establishment of a Division of Labor and Social Information, to be headed by Ernest Galarza.

The new Division will serve as a center for the exchange of information on labor matters between the countries of North and South America and is expected to be an important factor in the creation of better understanding and more cordial international relations.

The decision to establish the Division was made unanimously by the governing body of the Pan-American Union, on the recommendation of the Mexican, Chilean and Cuban Embassies. Secretary of State Cordell Hull, chairman of the Board of Governors, spoke in favor of the proposal and was active in securing its adoption.

The Latin-American Confederation of Labor, the CTM of Mexico and the labor movements of Cuba and Chile had all made representations to their respective governments on the importance of a labor division in the Pan-American Union.

The representatives of the governments who promoted the proposition were Francisco Castillo Najera, ambassador of Mexico; Luis Quintanilla, counsellor of the Mexican Embassy; Eugenio Anzorena, of the Mexican consular service; A. Cabera, Chilean ambassador; Gulliermo Gazitua, counsellor, and Abelardo Silva, first secretary of the Chilean embassy; and José Baron, charge d'affaires of Cuba.

There has previously been no center for the exchange of labor information between the American countries, and the new Division of the Pan-American union is expected to do much of the work along these lines which the International Labor Office has failed to do, although it is supposed to be a center for all international labor information.

IMPORTANT FUNCTIONS

The committee which recommended the establishment of the Division of Labor and Social Information expressed the belief that "the several labor movements of the American nations are essential to the preservation and extension of democracy within those nations and the defense of democratic institutions." It declared that "such a Division has important functions to fulfill in relation to those movements."

Besides serving as a center of information on matters affecting labor and labor movements of the various countries, the Division is to carry out research on labor problems and to foster their study, to aid in organizing labor congresses, and to maintain contact with leaders of labor organizations.

Ernest Galarza, chief of the Division, was formerly employed in the Intellectual Cooperation Division of the Pan-American Union, and is known as a close student of labor affairs, with wide contacts among the various labor movements.

Cotton Pickers In Talks With "Associated"

MADERA, Calif., Nov. 5.—Small farmers began to pay the union wage scale of $1 per 100 pounds to cotton pickers throughout Madera County, as officials of the Associated Farmers met for the first time in history with representatives of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers, CIO, to discuss settlement of the month old San Joaquin Valley strike, against the 80c rate previously paid.

Union leaders pointed to their meeting with Associated Farmer officials as proof of the effectiveness of the strike, which extends over six counties, and has continued to spread in spite of mass arrests, wholesale denial of civil liberties, and cooperation between local police and the Associated Farmers.

THOUSANDS PICKET

Meanwhile thousands of migratory agricultural workers reinforced their picket lines as statewide CIO support rallied to the defense of 22 workers beaten and jailed after armed flying squadrons organized by the Associated Farmers attacked strikers all over the valley. Earlier in the strike 142 pickets were thrown into jail.

Attorney Herbert Resner, sent by the state CIO, came to arrange for release of imprisoned strikers, only to find the District Attorney promising immunity from alleged violations of the law if they would testify against the rest of their fellows.

The union filed suits against local officials for false arrest of strike leaders, and appealed to Governor Ilson to protect civil liberties.

A cotton wage board appointed by the Governor reported that cotton pickers in the San Joaquin Valley live under conditions fully as bad as those described in "Grapes of Wrath" and "Factories in the Field."

Average earnings for a cotton picker have been about 80 cents a day. Out of this he has to pay $5 a month for a single room board shack housing his entire family. He buys his food in stores controlled by members of the Associated Farmers, where prices are 20 and 30 per cent higher than in San Francisco.

Many of the cotton fields are so poor in their yield that 100 pounds of cotton is the most that can be picked in a day.

Lewis Hits Secret Political Plans

Maritime Union Hits Back At Dies 'Smear'

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4. — Martin Dies, the Texas witch-hunter, took two sharp setbacks in his attempt to smear the Natl. Maritime Union, CIO, this week. In fact, Dies had a bad week all around.

The first obstacle to Dies' campaign against the NMU—timed strangely enough just as negotiations with the shipowners are under way—came when Joseph Curran, NMU president, testified bluntly and vigorously that accusations of "red" leveled against the union and its leaders were "lies" and the persons making them "unmitigated liars."

Second setback came with a police search for one William McCuistion, anti-NMU Dies witness, who was wanted by New Orleans authorities for questioning on the murder of Philip Carey, union organizer in the Gulf District who was killed during goon-squad attempts to break up the NMU at its last convention.

STATEMENT

Curran, while he was prevented by Dies from reading a statement during the hearing, (though John P. Frey and other anti-CIO witnesses have been allowed to read enormously long documents into the record,) managed to get the first two paragraphs in before he was cut off.

"In the first place, I want, here and now, to deny any and all charges by any witnesses before this committee that I am, or ever have been, a member of the Communist Party. Any such charge, or any charge of a similar nature, such as signing membership cards for other people, and things of that kind, are outright lies. And I hereby brand the persons making them as liars," he read.

"The sole reason for such charges, it must be obvious, is to try and smear me and discredit the union I represent. I have demanded repeatedly that the committee either try to adduce proof of these charges or have them retracted. So far, however, nothing of that kind has been done."

Curran refused to be intimidated by Dies, who threatened him at one point with a contempt charge if he did not give answers as desired by the committee. "My Americanism is as good as yours or anyone else's," he told Dies. "Am I to be treated as an American?"

Answering repeated questions as to whether the Natl. Maritime Union was a "Communist front" organization, Curran told the committee the story of its foundation by rank and file seamen disgusted with the shipowner collusion of the old Intl. Seamen's Union (AFL) officials, outlined its aims to improve wages and conditions, and told of its democratic control by the members.

The only outside groups that tried to gain control of the NMU, Curran said, were those "employer agents" who made up the so-called Mariners Club — a group that was exposed and thrown out of the union by the membership, and which included McCuistion.

TOO BUSY

Pressed for his views on all sorts of questions that had little to do with the business of leading a union, Curran replied that he was "too busy trying to hold the union together in the face of attacks by the U. S. Maritime Commission, the shipowners, this committee, and others" to keep up on all the latest world events.

This criticism of the committee and the Maritime Commission was too much for one of Dies' colleagues. "Do you mean to say," he roared, "that a government agency would attack your union?"

"I do," Curran replied.

Canadian CIO Council Meets Government

TORONTO, Ont., Nov. 4—Spokesmen for the CIO unions in Canada will meet the federal government Nov. 6 to present their views on the war and seek various legislative measures to guarantee labor rights, increases in wages and prevention of war-time profiteering.

The meeting will be preceded by a one-day conference of the delegates in Ottawa, the nation's capital.

Allan S. Haywood, newly-named national director of organization of the CIO, has been invited to attend the session as a representative of CIO international headquarters.

The decision to meet the Federal Government was reached at a meeting of CIO union leaders held recently in Toronto under the chairmanship of Silby Barrett, chairman of the newly-elected national council of Canadian CIO unions.

HAS 11 MEMBERS

Mr. Barrett announced that the Canadian national council of the CIO is composed of 11 members. They are: Silby Barrett, chairman; C. H. Millard, secretary; and Sol Spivak, Amalgamated Clothing Workers; Harry Hunter, Steel Workers Organizing Committee; C. S. Jackson, United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers; George Burt, United Automobile Workers; Tom Church, Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers; Joseph Mackenzie, United Rubber Workers; Roger Irwin, Newspaper Guild. All these represent unions in Ontario.

D. W. Morrison, president of district 26 United Mine Workers, will represent the maritime provinces and Robert Livett, international board member of the United Mine Workers will represent Western Canada.

LABOR REPRESENTATION

Barrett said the Ottawa conference will ask the government to appoint representatives of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board in every province so that a better check up on food profiteering can be made.

Labor's Political Aid Not Automatic, Lewis Tells Campaign Bloc

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4—Chairman John L. Lewis of Labor's Non-Partisan League wrote a letter this week to Governor Culbert L. Olson of California that caused a national political sensation.

Effect of the letter was to serve notice that labor's political support is not to be taken for granted or assumed without offering labor through its authorized spokesmen a proper opportunity to take part in drafting the program which it is asked to endorse.

The letter called attention to efforts by certain Washington officials, acting apparently without the President's authorization or knowledge, to promote an 11-state western conference in connection with secret plans for the 1940 campaign.

League officials were careful to note that the letter in no way commits labor on the third-term issue, or on anything else pertaining to 1940.

Chief purpose and effect of the letter was to check plans which would take advantage of labor's political strength while at the same time excluding labor from the privilege of making suggestions for a legitimate program.

LEWIS' LETTER

Text of the letter by Chairman Lewis follows:

"During our personal conference in San Francisco on October 15, we discussed the proposed conference of progressive leaders of 11 western states, then being organized by Mr. Norman N. Littell, assistant to the Attorney General in Charge of the Lands Division, Department of Justice, and Mr. Marshall E. Dimock, second assistant secretary of the Department of Labor. You will recall that we were in substantial agreement that these gentlemen were pursuing an unwise course by their secret methods of organization and their exclusion of labor participation.

"Since our conference, Messrs. Littell and Dimock have continued their work in secret and are prepared to issue the call and assemble the conference for some date in January, in Salt Lake City or some other convenient city. The secret agenda for the conference has been completed and the organizers of this Conference are awaiting disposition of the Neutrality Bill by Congress before the issuance of their public call for the conference.

LEAGUE OPPOSED

"Labor's Non-Partisan League is opposed to the holding of this conference for the following reasons:

a. The source of its conception and the surreptitious manner in which its organizers worked.

b. The doubtful source of its finances. An anonymous individual in California is counted upon to provide a plentitude of money.

c. The questionable legality under the Hatch Act of the activities of Littell and Dimock.

d. The slight to Senator Burton K. Wheeler and other great liberals in the West who have not been consulted and who are slated to be excluded from the Conference.

e. The exclusion of labor from the privilege of making suggestions for a legitimate program.

f. The secret plans to use the Conference to launch a third-term boom.

"I doubt that the President has knowledge of or would approve the plans of these overzealous individuals responsible for this program. Aside from his recent public utterances, his rebuke of Secretary Wallace through a White House Secretary, Stephen Early, should carry conviction.

"You are advised that Labor's Non-Partisan League has issued instructions to its various Chairman in the 11 affected states to refrain from any participation in the proposed conference, if later called to assemble in Salt Lake City or elsewhere.

"With my personal compliments, I am

Sincerely yours,

John L. Lewis"

Literary Lights Aid Messengers

San Francisco, Nov. 4.—Leading literary and artistic lights from both coasts are forming the Joint Wage Council for Telegraph Messengers, whose purpose is to help Western Union workers in their two months strike here.

The strikers, members of the American Communications Assn., CIO, walked out Sept. 7 against intolerable pay and hour conditions. They have maintained a continuous picketline ever since, and have had support from all CIO affiliates and from numerous AFL unions.

AFL bellboys at hotels here have refused to act as Western Union scabs, telling the management that they will not deliver hot telegrams to guests.

Among the literary people helping the strikers are Dorothy Parker, humorist; Franklin P. Adams, columnist; Louist Bromfield, novelist; Robert Benchley, and Clifford Odets, playwright.

Fair Electric Products All CIO Made

New York, Nov. 4—All union-made electrical goods are made by the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, CIO, and none by any other legitimate organization, the union pointed out here.

"Of all the electrical goods manufactured in this country, more than three-quarters are made under United Electrical agreements," the union said. "The remaining one quarter are manufactured, for the greater part, under non-union conditions without any union contract, or under non-union conditions in a few cases with the IBEW (AFL) label.

"We point this out because we note that some 'consumers' advice listings, circulated among the labor press, give the AFL label (Intl. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers) as an alternative listing for fair products. This is not the case."

LEAVE SCABS

Adrian, Mich., Nov. 4 — (FP) With 150 vigilantes sworn in by Sheriff R. W. Scott and 50 state troopers sent in by Gov. L. D. Dickinson, 280 women continued their strike against the American Chain and Cable Co. to establish unionism in this town.

The strike was called by Local 280, United Auto Workers, CIO, to increase the hourly minimum from 40 to 55 cents. Five of the women have left home until their husbands quit scabbing and join the picket line.

Seamen Ask Work, Aid For War Idle

Washington, Nov. 4.—American seamen and radio operators are not anxious to starve as the result of restrictions on shipping to war zones, the Natl. Maritime Union and the American Communications Assn., both CIO, said here.

They are demanding severance pay and work projects for the expected 8,000 to 10,000 men who will be thrown on the bench under the terms of the present neutrality bill proposals. In addition, the unions propose that seamen and operators be given unemployment compensation, now denied.

Bjorne Halling, secretary of the CIO Maritime Committee, joint group of all CIO unions in the marine industry, explained the demands in a statement made public here:

"Passage of the neutrality bill will result in loss of employment by some 8,000 to 10,000 seamen," he said. "Congress has authorized the expenditure of millions of dollars for the rebuilding of the American Merchant Marine. The loss of this large number of trained men to the Merchant Marine will be a serious blow to that program.

"Without some provision for a livelihood, these men would face destitution. Their extremely low wages prevent their saving money to carry them over periods of unemployment. We cannot expect other industries, also beset by unemployment problems, to absorb them."

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

John L. Lewis ..... President

Vice-Presidents

Philip Murray — S. H. Dalrymple
Sidney Hillman — Reid Robinson
R. J. Thomas — Emil Rieve

James B. Carey ..... Secretary
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II November 6, 1939 No. 45

The League Serves Notice

Writing as Chairman of Labor's Non-Partisan League, John L. Lewis had some sharp words to say about the proposed conference of western political leaders, in his recent letter to Governor Culbert L. Olson of California.

He objected, among other things, to the surreptitious methods of its organizers; the doubtful source of its finances; the questionable legality of the activities of two of its promoters; the slight to certain uninvited liberals; the exclusion of labor from planning a legitimate program; and the secret plans to use the conference to launch a third-term boom, without any evidence of the President's approval.

Neither the CIO nor Labor's Non-Partisan League has yet taken any official position for or against a third term for the President; nor have they made any other endorsements for the 1940 national elections.

Chairman Lewis' letter makes no commitments on these points. But it does serve clear notice that the League does not intend to have its decisions prejudiced by premature and ill-considered actions; and that labor support cannot be taken for granted for any program in whose preparation it does not have an opportunity to participate.

A Raw Deal

Maritime workers are one of the first groups to be seriously affected by a war situation in any country.

Their lives are endangered, even though their countries be neutral, when warfare spreads to the seas.

Their jobs are also in jeopardy when sea transportation is restricted on account of war or neutrality considerations.

As a result of the present neutrality legislation, for instance, some 8,000 to 10,000 American seamen will lose their employment, according to Chairman Joseph Curran of the CIO Maritime Committee.

For these and many other reasons, it might be expected that all government agencies would be especially concerned to see that the seamen are properly compensated for the risks and the economic insecurity caused by the war and by matters of national policy beyond their control.

But instead of this we are now witnessing the disgraceful spectacle of a Commission, set up to advance the welfare of the American merchant marine, not only exhibiting callous indifference to the plight of the seamen but actually conspiring with shipowners to restrict their compensation and to break their unions.

The pamphlet entitled "The Maritime Commission Versus The Seamen", just issued by the CIO Maritime Committee, is one of the most devastating indictments of misuse of government authority ever published.

It charges that the Maritime Commission has denied to seamen employed on its ships collective bargaining rights guaranteed them under the National Labor Relations Act; that it has sought to undermine the union hiring halls by reviving what the seamen call the "fink hall"; that it has tried to bring about compulsory arbitration; that it has inaugurated a legislative and publicity campaign against the seamen and their unions; that it has encouraged shipowners in their attacks on union conditions; and that it stepped into the controversy on war risk insurance and took the lead in setting up wholly inadequate compensation.

In general, the seamen charge that the Maritime Commission is a "willing ally" of anti-union shipowners in their drive against collective bargaining and the union hiring hall.

They declare that one of the things they have a right not to expect is that "the supposedly neutral Maritime Commission, established primarily to build up the merchant marine, should seize upon the war situation to hamper further the organizational efforts of the seamen."

The Commission appears to be fostering a peculiar brand of "paytriotism", under which it expects the seamen to pay and pay, while it fosters profiteering and union-busting on the part of the shipowners.

Not Interested

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Labor's Awakening

WHEN John L. Lewis registers his objection to anyone trying to dispose of labor politically without consulting labor, it usually causes the same kind of excitement as Gulliver once caused in Lilliputia, according to a previously unrecorded version of the famous story.

The tiny men discovered Gulliver sleeping, it will be recalled. There was much dispute as to what to do with their giant find, in all of which, needless to say, Gulliver was not consulted. And finally the Lilliputians improvised a platform, to which they tied Gulliver and thus transported him prostrate to their city.

The press of Lilliputia was full of the event. The administration of the day pointed with pride to its handling of the situation. It declared itself to be Gulliver's best friend, at the same time assuring anti-Gulliver elements that it would stand for no nonsense if he did not behave. Gulliver should be well satisfied with the platform provided for him, it felt, even if he might be a bit roughly handled at times over some of the bumps.

The opposition, on the other hand, accused the administration of entering into a conspiracy with the "monster" and allowing him too much freedom. It viewed with alarm all the possible and impossible horrors it could imagine.

The Garnercrats of Lilliputia were so impressed with the arguments of the opposition that they joined it in a conspiracy of their own. They climbed all over Gulliver tying knots in his bonds and set up committees to spit in his eye.

Gulliver Stirs

There was amazement, if not consternation, however, when Gulliver began to awaken, to stir about and to find his voice.

Each movement and utterance of his caused widespread speculation. The liberals asked why he couldn't lie still and quiet, and warned him not to turn against his friends. The tories said he might destroy civilization unless squelched. The cynics attributed his moves to all sorts of motives and political machinations. The dopesters made varying predictions as to the effects on the next elections.

But all that Gulliver was trying to get across was that, much as he appreciated the solicitude of his friends and was aware of the plans of his enemies, he did not intend to be treated indefinitely like a load of freight.

He gave fair warning to all alike that he intended to get up and proceed under his own power; that he after all had the most intimate concern in the plans being made for him; and that he expected to be fully consulted in their preparation if he was to cooperate in their execution.

All of which, though essentially reasonable and simple to human beings of normal stature, was shocking and inexplicable to Lilliputians who had thought of Gulliver as something to be disposed of, not somebody with proposals and plans of his own.

Take It or Leave It

Until the CIO came along to organize the unorganized, American labor was traditionally treated in much the same way as Gulliver was treated by the Lilliputians.

Industrialists, philanthropists and politicians would quarrel over the inert body of unorganized labor, each proclaiming that they knew what was best for it. Some would favor kind and liberal treatment, others harsh suppression; some advise increasing labor's rations and freedom, others restricting them.

And when elections came along, labor would even be offered alternative menus by rival political caterers. Labor could nod its head or shake it when offered such a choice. But it was never allowed any real participation in preparing the bill of fare.

Labor's Idea

But with CIO organization there has come a political awakening on the part of American labor. Through the CIO and Labor's Non-Partisan League, labor has begun to make demands of its own which astound old-time politicoes.

They do not yet seem to have grapsed the full significance of this new attitude on the part of progressive organized labor.

Each one of the major political utterances of John L. Lewis, leader and spokesman of the new labor movement, has stirred all sorts of speculation and misinterpretation and the most widely varying motives have been ascribed to him.

Yet through all these statements, in the plainest possible English for those who have ears to hear or eyes to read, there runs one very reasonable and simple idea.

It is that labor is the master of its own destiny; that it is not a political commodity to be bartered about, but a free and equal participant in American democracy; that it has plans of its own, and that it demands the right to participate in the drafting of any program or the choice of any candidates it is expected to support.

The Labor Reader

By C. W. FOWLER

The great sun-drenched valleys of California are the richest agricultural land in the world. Year round crops of fruits and vegetables grown in them could feed the United States. Close to a billion dollars a year is taken from these products, by the banks, the mortgage companies, the corporations that own the land of California.

Thirty per cent of the nation's large-scale cotton plantations, 53 per cent of the poultry farms, 40 per cent of the dairy produce, 44 per cent of the general farm produce, 60 per cent of the nation's fruit come from this state.

These are the figures. Back of them lies a story of exploitation, of oppression, of sweating of labor and small owners unsurpassed in any history of human greed and cruelty.

"It is a story," writes Carey McWilliams in his book, "Factories in the Field," "of nearly 70 years' exploitation of minority, racial and other groups by a powerful clique of land owners whose power is based on an anachronistic system of land ownership dating from the creation, during Spanish rule, of feudalistic patterns of ownership and control.

"The exploitation of farm labor in California, which is one of the ugliest chapters in the history of American labor, is as old as the system of land ownership of which it is a part. Time has merely tightened the system of ownership and control and furthered the degradation of farm labor.

"As far as the vast army of workers who operate these great tracts is concerned, their plight is nearly as wretched today as it was 30 years ago."

A DARK RECORD

For example, in Wheatland, in 1913, a hop ranch owner named Durst needed 1,500 workers. Following established practice, Durst advertised for 2,700; 2,800 and more came. Here are the conditions in Durst's camp:

"There were nine outdoor toilets for 2,800 people. The stench around the camp was nauseating; dysentry was prevalent to an alarming degree. Between 200 and 300 children worked in the fields. . . . The workers entered the fields at four o'clock in the morning, and by noon the heat was terrific, remaining, as it did, around 105 degrees. . . Numerous instances of sickness and partial prostration among children from five to ten years of age were mentioned in the testimony."

NO WATER

There was almost no water, because a Durst relative had the lemondade concession at a nickel a glass. Pickers averaged $1.00 to 78 cents a day. Throughout the season over 1,000 workers remained idle in the camp.

When there was a strike, the respectable people of California were outraged. The National Guard was sent in and stayed over a week. Close to 1,000 workers were arrested. One leader was beaten daily with rubber truncheons for a period of several weeks, finally framed on a murder charge for a killing that took place while he was hundreds of miles from the scene.

This happened in 1913. It has been happening ever since, on the same pattern, with a varying degree of violence and bloody repression. The Associated Farmers have taken the place of the more loosely organized pre-war vigilantes. County and municipal authorities do the dirty work for the growers that the state police under Republican governors used to do.

But organization is stronger. In place of the loose, sporadic outbursts of a few years ago, the CIO is building a strong, stable union for the migratory workers under the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America. The most recent strike in the Kern and Madera County cotton fields has forced a favorable compromise offer from the growers, despite the usual violence from deputies and gun-thugs.

The solution still demands a change in the ownership system, McWilliams writes. "But the final solution will come only when the present wasteful, vicious, undemocratic and thoroughly anti-social system of agricultural ownership in California is abolished. The abolition of this system at most involves merely a change in ownership. The collective principle is there; large units of operation have been established, only they are being exploited by private interests for their own ends."

"Factories in the Field," by Carey McWilliams; 334 pages; Little, Brown & Co.; $2.50.

CIO Auto Union Bares Chrysler Plan to Gag Collective Bargaining

By EDWARD LEVINSON

DETROIT, Nov. 4 — The UAW-CIO has forced the Chrysler Corporation to reveal its true objectives in the lockout by which it has plunged more than 50,000 of its workers and many thousands of others into unemployment.

R. J. Thomas, international president of the union, pointed out to Federal Conciliator Dewey and the corporation spokesmen that the union had made several peace proposals, all of which had been turned down. He demanded that the corporation place its proposals on the table.

Backed into a corner, the corporation produced its idea of a "contract." Corporation's counsel Nicholas Kelley, who once traveled under the label of a liberal, was apologetic as he pulled the document from his pocket.

AFRAID TO OFFER IT

"I'm almost afraid to offer it,' said Kelley. "I know you'll turn it down."

Finally, he produced it. After as long as it took to read the corporation's "offer," Thomas termed it a company union arrangement and said the union would not even accept it as a basis for discussion.

The corporation was so ashamed of the proposed "contract," that it refused to give it to the press. A UAW-CIO threat of immediate publication forced it into the open.

The Chrysler offer made the recognition clause dependent on the life of the Wagner act. If the act is abolished, the clause said, the agreement on recognition of the union as the spokesman of the workers becomes null and void.

"The corporation obviously means by that," said Thomas, "that as soon as it and other reactionary employers can succeed in killing the Wagner act it will no longer engage in collective bargaining. Now we know the real reason for the opposition to the Wagner act."

THE CHRYSLER IDEA

The Chrysler Corporation's idea of a model contract is illustrated by others of the proposed clauses. As Thomas pointed out:

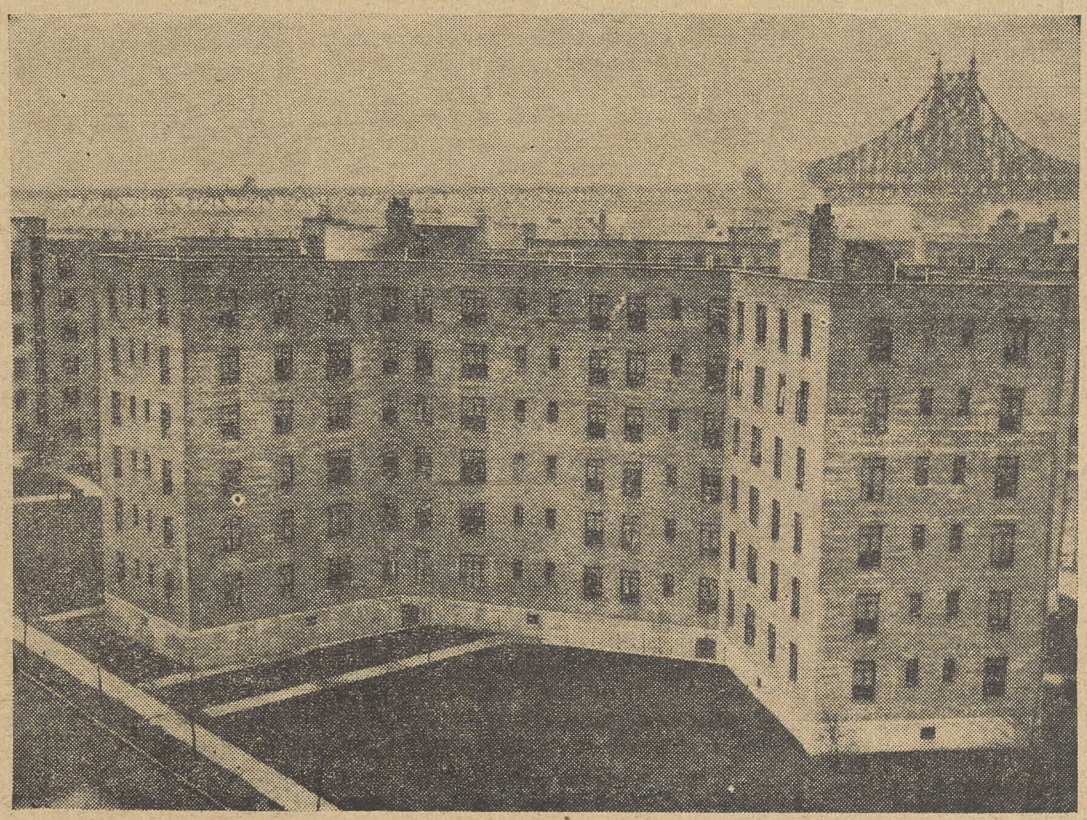
"The proposal fails to provide for arbitration of disputes involving speedups and other plant grievances. It does not provide for vacations with pay. It makes no provision for overtime rates, or for night work. It makes no offer on the score of wages, despite the fact that the needs of the Chrysler workers and the corporation's $25,000,000 net profits in six months of 1939 make increased wage rates necessary and justifiable. There is no provision, such as the union has suggested, to protect the jobs of Chrysler workers who may be called for military service."

Aside from the omissions, other features of the corporation's proposal would mean 11 Chrysler plant contracts instead of a single pact; it would give the corporation final word on speed-up and other grievances; it would tie workers' hands with a 'no-strike' clause; it would reduce the number of union plant committeemen and curb their power to act; it would permit firings followed by 'hearings'—with the corporation as accuser, judge, jury and executioner; it would kill hard-won seniority rights.

STATE CRACKS DOWN

Following rejection by the union of the corporation's proposals, Governor Dickinson and the Michigan State Labor Mediation Board stepped into the picture again and ordered the corporation to meet with the union heads in Lansing. Previously the corporation has spurned the board's efforts.

Nation's Largest Housing Unit Ready



Queensbridge Houses, a federal housing development in one of New York City's worst slum areas, opened for occupancy Oct. 25. When fully completed it will house 3,149 families.

Insurance Workers Win Pact

Philadelphia, Nov. 4 — The third union contract in the state for industrial insurance agents was won here last week by the Insurance Guild of the United Office and Professional Workers, CIO, when the Pennsylvania Mutual Life Insurance Company signed an agreement covering its 35 employes, after they had been on strike for a week.

The contract provides for reinstatement of two agents who were fired for union activity, an immediate cause of the strike, recognizes the local as sole bargaing agent, establishes machinery for arbitration of grievances and dismissals and gives the union preference in hiring new agents.

WHOSE POCKETS —

ARE YOU FILLING? When you buy your clothes do you help pay the wage of a union worker, or do you help swell the profits of a sweatshop boss?

- **The Label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America** will give you the answer. When you don't see the label you know that the garment was probably made by an un-American sweatshop chiseler. When you see the Amalgamated label you know that your money will go into the pockets of union workers, earning union pay, working under union conditions.
- **Demand the union label in the clothes you buy** and insure yourself against sweatshop garments, against sweatshop conditions in industry.

You can find the Amalgamated label in union made suits, overcoats, uniforms, work clothes and overalls, workshirts, dress shirts, underwear, gloves, neckties, sheeplined, leather, and sport coats, children's clothing and wash suits.

ISSUED BY AMALGAMATED WORKERS OF AMERICA — UNION MADE — CA 000000 — COAT — AUTHORITY OF CLOTHING

ISSUED BY AMALGAMATED WORKERS OF AMERICA — UNION MADE — PA000000 — PANTS — AUTHORITY OF CLOTHING

ISSUED BY AMALGAMATED WORKERS OF AMERICA — UNION MADE — VA 000000 — VEST — AUTHORITY OF CLOTHING

Your WPA Job

By Ralph Hetzel

CIO UNEMPLOYMENT DIRECTOR

CIO Unemployment Director

Special emphasis was put on the problem of unemployment at the San Francisco Convention.

The main reason for this was a great concern that the prospect of a war boom would detract attention from the urgent necessity of meeting our unemployment problem. From a number of sources, some of them sincere, others deliberately misrepresenting, has come the idea that the war in Europe will so increase American production that unemployment would be substantially wiped out.

Every competent authority in Washington, however, agrees that even the most optimistic would not predict sufficient increased production within the next year to absorb more than one-fourth to one-third of the present unemployed.

The serious danger is that the mis-calculation of the effect of a war boom will be used as an excuse to reduce further completely inadequate WPA, relief, unemployment compensation and other measures to help the unemployed.

INCREASES NEEDED

Even in the face of an increase in production amounting to more than 25 per cent in the last four months, relief and WPA are woefully inadequate. It is perfectly clear that real increases are needed in WPA rolls and in the relief funds in order to meet at all adequately the present unemployment situation.

With this situation in mind the national convention of the CIO at San Francisco laid down a thorough-going program of public works and other measures for the unemployed. The principles of such a program are as follows:

"The Congress of the United States should authorize a program of public works for a period of not less than two years. Such a program should be large enough to provide jobs for all unemployed who are able and willing to work. This means the full recognition and acceptance by the Federal government of the obligation to provide work for the unemployed, an obligation, as the President's report points out, heretofore unfulfilled.

"The principles upon which a program should operate are as follows:

1. All workers should be employed on work suited to their needs and skills:

2. Projects should be socially necessary and productive, for example, housing, slum clearance, flood control, building of schools and hospitals, health measures, cultural and white-collar projects, and vocational training;

3. Jobs should be given to those who need jobs without requiring honest, decent unemployed workers to degrade themselves as paupers;

4. The wages paid on such a program should be such as will not lower standards set in private industry, and such as will provide a decent livelihood for those employed;

5. Funds for such a program should be so appropriated as to make possible the meeting of current needs wherever and whenever they arise.

The Federal Government now has a federal agency under which such a program could be adequately administered. Either the WPA should be extended on the principles herein set forth or an entirely new program be similarly established under the Federal Works Agency."

Delegate

George McEachern of Sydney, one of the delegates chosen to represent the Sydney Steelworkers' Union at the annual meeting of Canadian Congress of Industrial Organizations in Ottawa.

RCA Election Set Despite CIO Contract

Washington, Nov. 5 — Though the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, CIO, have had a signed contract for three years with the RCA Manufacturing Co. at Camden, N. J. and two weeks ago renewed the agreement with important gains, the Natl. Labor Relations Board last week ordered an election to determine whether the employes wish to be represented by the CIO union or the AFL's Intl. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Toronto In First CIO Steel Strike

Toronto, Ont., Nov. 4 — The Steel Workers Organizing Committee here called its first strike in the city's steel industry when General Steel Wares Ltd., producers of kitchen utensils and enamel wares, refused to negotiate for a contract and a 10 cents an hour wage raise.

Toronto citizens are still chuckling over the novel picketing methods adopted by the 500 strikers. On Hallowe'en, the pickets paraded before the plant clad in costumes, their faces masked in the traditional festive style.

"WE'LL ROLL"

Girl pickets on roller skates attracted considerable attention carrying signs which declared "We'll Roll Till It Freezes for Wage Increases."

The strikers are asking for a 10 cent an hour pay boost, a minimum of 50 cents an hour for experienced men, 35 cents an hour for beginners and equal pay for equal work for women.

In its publicity releases the company is trying to bring in the CIO bogey as the reason for its refusal to bargain with Lodge 1111. The union is combatting this propaganda by effective publicity showing its CIO affiliation has no bearing on the company's refusal to bargain.

Chicago — (FP) — A closed shop contract described as the best in the area has been signed between the United Furniture Workers, CIO, and the Harris Hub Bed and Spring Co., covering 130 workers.

Between the Lines

By Cecil Owen

After brooding over it for several months, the Justice Department has finally hatched its interpretation of what the Hatch Act means.

Under this law federal government employes are made just bystandards at the political parade. It ends the day when a vast federal machine could be mobilized to get out the vote. Here are some of the things the Justice Department says the Hatch Act forbids government employes doing:

1. Holding office in a political party or political club.
2. Attending political conventions as delegates or alternates.
3. Serving on committees of a political party or a political club.
4. Distributing buttons or printed matter in support of any candidate or party.
5. Serving at party headquarters or as watchers at the polls, or or otherwise assisting a party or candidate in any prmiary or election campaign, whether or not federal offices are involved.
6. Being a candidate for elective offices — federal, state or local.
7. Soliciting funds for a political organization or campaign fund.

It should be noted these prohibitions apply only to employes of the federal government. Employes of state or local governments are not affected by any act of Congress. This gives the state political machine a great advantage.

Federal employes still have some freedom even in the light of the Justice Department's interpretation. They can, of course, vote, hold membership in political organizations and attend its meetings, participate in civic and educational groups, and hold certain local offices.

PRICES REMAIN UP

Food prices are still about 10 per cent higher than the August level, the Labor Department reports. Here's the latest digest of the food price situation:

"There were many small changes in specific items, but no definite trend upward in the general level, which is about 10 per cent higher than on August 15. Except for those food prices which are changing in response to seasonal factors, there is a tendency for food prices to decline on those items which are more than 10 per cent above their mid-August prices."

Complaints of profiteering are still running at the rate of 20 to 25 a day in the Justice Department mail. An interdepartmental committee has been set up under the Anti-Monopoly Committee to study the problem. So far there have been no prosecutions under the Anti-trust laws but a number of complaints of collusive price-fixing are being studied.

Chicago Kids Eat—Thanks to Labor League

Chicago, Nov. 4—Thirty thousand Chicago school children to whom the state of Illinois' inadequate relief budget means dull pain in the region of their stomachs, are playing and studying a bit harder because of the recent decision of the Chicago School Board to cooperate with Uncle Sam in taking the latter's surplus foods and preparing them into hot appetizing school lunches.

True only about 10,000 of them have been fed thus far during the week the plan has been in operation, but there are 20,000 more located in schools that have the facilities for preparing lunches and when the school board authorities are preparing to feed.

The plan was authorized by the Chicago School Board when one of its members, Samuel Levin, Manager of the Chicago Joint Board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union, CIO, and Vice-Chairman of the State Committee of Labor's Non-Partisan League of Illinois asked that it be approved by the Board.

Cleveland (FP)—The first local union contract in the scrap iron industry has been signed between the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, CIO, and the Apex Steel and Supply Co.

Connecticut CIO Pledges Drive On Unorganized

By JOHN J. DRISCOLL

WATERBURY, Conn., Nov. 4.—United behind the slogan of the national CIO convention, "Organize the unorganized," over 100 delegates representing 11 national and International unions in Connecticut last week-end pledged the State Industrial Union Council at its second annual convention to carry forward on all fronts toward the realization of John L. Lewis' stated goal of the CIO, 10,000,000 members in the next five years.

Stressing the need of organizing the state's booming aircraft and munitions material industries, the convention also resolved to use all possible means to keep this country from being embroiled in the European war.

COMMITTEES SET UP

As the Council's contribution to the organizing work of the different international unions in the state, the delegates resolved to set up general organizing committees in each local union to work under the direction of the Council executive board.

Resolutions were also adopted aimed at fulfilling the educational and political duties of the state organization. These would set up study groups in each local, as well as legislative committees to implement the work of Labor's Non-Partisan League.

John Brophy, representing John L. Lewis, received a tremendous ovation from the delegates after he had summed up the decisions of the national CIO convention.

OFFICERS ELECTED

Other speakers who received warm welcomes were Joseph Salerno of the Amalgamated, representing Sidney Hillman; Archie Wright, of the New York Dairy Farmers' Union; and the Rev. Pattrick Quinlan of Wethersfield, who stressed the advantages of cooperatives to organized workers.

Re-elected for a second time were Council Pres. Thomas R. Molloy of Hartford, and Sec'y.-Treasurer John J. Driscoll of this city. Aiding them in carrying on the Council's work during the coming year will be an executive board of 16 other representatives from the various local and international unions of the state.

UNION SHOP PRINTING FOR CIO UNIONS
MID-CITY PRESS
NEWSPAPER — LEAFLETS
JOBWORK — PUBLISHING
N. E. Cor. 9th & Spruce Streets
Philadelphia, Pa.

LARGEST PRODUCER OF ROUGH ROLLED GLASS
MISSISSIPPI GLASS COMPANY
220 FIFTH AVE.
NEW YORK

CORNELIUS PRINTING CO.

Printers for
INTERNATIONAL UNIONS
for more than 30 Years
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
SILVER SPRINGS, MD.

CIO Steel Workers Demand $5 a Day Base Pay at Bethlehem

BETHLEHEM, Pa., Nov. 4—CIO committees, representing union steel workers affiliated with the Steel Workers Organizing Committee in all Bethlehem plants, called on local plant officials at each Bethlehem Steel plant throughout the nation to present the union demand that the company institute the $5 a day minimum wage immediately.

Plant executives were visited at Johnstown, Lackawanna, Sparrows Point, Bethlehem, Pottstown, Lebanon, Steelton, Rankin, Leetsdale, Seattle, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

CRITICIZE BETHLEHEM

The demand called attention to the fact that the $5 day has been accepted in the major portion of the steel industry, that advancing commodity prices make higher wages imperative especially for the lowest paid workers and that the Federal Contracts Board has recommended the $5.00 minimum for the steel industry.

The steel workers criticized Bethlehem for fighting in the federal courts the order issued by the Department of Labor establishing the $5.00 minimum under the Walsh-Healy Act.

The statement presented to the Bethlehem Steel Company management emphasizes the great bulk of government contracts for munitions and other supplies awarded this company. It accuses Bethlehem of profiting from government expenditures of tax money while violating laws enacted by the same government for the protection of labor.

SHOW DOWN

E. J. Lever, director of the SWOC organizing compaign in Bethlehem plants, in commenting on the union demands said:

"The SWOC is the only bona fide labor organization representing Bethlehem steel workers. The Labor Board has ordered the disestablishment of the company dominated Employee Representation Plan and has asked the Federal Courts to enforce its order.

"The SWOC is fulfilling its responsibility to Bethlehem workers by leading them in their fight for decent wages and working conditions. We are tired of evasion and excuses. The time has come for a showdown.

Labor League Convention

The First Constitutional Convention of Labor's Non-Partisan League of Philadelphia saw prominent CIO and League officials conferring on vital political issues. Seated, left to right, are William M. Leader, president of Branch No. 1, American Federation of Hosiery Workers; John A. Philips, president of the Pennsylvania CIO, and Charles Weinstein, County Chairman of the League.

Standing, left to right, are Eli Oliver, Executive Vice President of the League; Harry Bloch, president of District No. 1, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, and Joseph Heuter, of the Textile Workers Union.

League Meeting Urged to Fight War Dangers

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 4—Election of Congressmen next year "who will vote to keep us out of war" was urged by E. L. Oliver, Executive Vice President of Labor's Non-Partisan League, in addressing 400 delegates at the first Constitutional convention of the Philadelphia League.

The convention, held in the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel, represented about 100,000 Philadelphia union members. The convention adopted a permanent form of organization and threw its support behind liberal candidates in the current city election contest.

"The possibility of our being in the second world war is a real danger and don't let anybody tell you it isn't," Oliver said. "No neutrality law can put us into the conflict or keep us out. Elect men who represent the farmer and the laborer, who will vote to keep us out."

Oliver cited attacks on social legislation as another vital reason for labor's political activity on behalf of progressive candidates.

"RETURN TO HOOVER"

"Many men at Washington now are urging a return to the Hoover era, when the farmer and the worker were the forgotten men," he added. "Attacks are being made on the wage-hour act which has benefited labor. Reactionaries all over the country are lining up for its repeal. The league will fight to the last ditch any move to repeal the act."

Endorsement of the Democratic-Fusion ticket in the Philadelphia mayoralty contest was voted by the League which threw its full support into the fight to elect "candidates who have consistently shown a regard for the just rights of labor."

The Philadelphia League is setting up a campaign organization in every ward and precinct to fulfill its promise to "bring to the people of Philadelphia the facts so that justice may triumph on Nov. 7 and a Democratic-Fusion victory ensue."

OFFICERS ELECTED

Officers elected by the League were: Chairman, Charles Weinstein, manager of the Joint Board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers; First Vice Chairman, William Leader, president of Branch No. 1 of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers; Second Vice Chairman, Joseph Heuter, of the Textile Workers Union; Secretary, Harry Bloch, president of District No. 1, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, and Treasurer, Albert Wells.

CIO Laundry Workers Win Pact for 25,000

NEW YORK, Nov. 4—Twenty-five thousand laundry workers, affiliated with the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, have won a five-day week, minimum wage classifications and other substantial gains, averting the threat of a general strike in the Greater New York area. The agreement, reached with a half-dozen employer associations, is subject to ratification by the union membership. When ratified, it will run for two years.

Negotiations were led, on behalf of the union, by Sidney Hillman, Amalgamated president, and Hyman Blumberg, acting manager of the Laundry Workers' Joint Board. The union, following ten weeks of conferences, obtained improvements in a previous contract which it had generally regarded as pretty unsatisfactory.

SURVEY PLANNED

In addition to reducing the work week from six to five days, effective March 31, 1940, the new agreement calls for a survey of current wages in the laundry industry to determine minimum rates for each classification and department. Should a joint committee of employers and the union fail to agree, within a reasonably short period, on minimum rates for each classification, a decision by the impartial chairman of the laundry industry will be final.

Further, under the new contract, the union reserves the right to open the question of a general wage increase at any time in the face of rising living costs. The old agreement fixes only a general 35-cent an hour minimum and a $30 weekly minimum guarantee for laundry drivers.

Daily schedules of hours must be posted in each laundry plant. Make-up time for holidays must be paid for at the rate of time and a half. A minimum of 40 hours' pay in any one week must be guaranteed, under the new contract, to all regular employes. The agreement further provides for a closed-shop and a week's vacation with pay.

They Want the Right to Work

A group of unemployed picket the St. Louis offices of the WPA in protest of having no jobs.

NMU Pacts Extended

New York, Nov. 4 — With negotiations still deadlocked over the question of the union hiring hall, agreements covering east coast seamen have been extended for another month by the National Maritime Union. Unless a satisfactory settlement is reached, it is possible that a strike will be called in December.

New York City, Nov. 4—United Wholesale and Warehouse Employes signed a closed shop agreement with the Sun Ray Yard Co. and Quaker Yarn Co. providing wage increases, paid vacations, sick leave and six holidays with pay.

RCA Employes Get War Bonus

SAN FRACISCO, Cal., Nov. 4—The first war bonus for workers not subjected to war hazards was negotiated by the American Communications Association with the RCA Communications, according to a statement by Michael Mignon, ACA vice president. Approximately $20,000 will be distributed to the company's 1300 workers as a bonus for the month of September.

The bonus is computed on the basis of 10 per cent of the earnings of the employe for the month. This is the first time in trade union history that the employes have shared in the increased earnings of a company due to increased war traffic.

The supplementary agreement calls for monthly negotiations regarding war bonuses. All such bonuses will be based on the earnings of the company for the previous month.

Other clauses of the agreement call for a re-classification of the employes which would cover all departments of the company and the recognition of crafts within the industry.

Members of the ACA who functioned as the negotiating committee were: H. C. Taylor, second vice president of the Point-to-Point Division, Joseph P. Selly first vice president of the Telegraph Division, A. Iannucci, F. Connelly and J. Hobbs.

"We have set a fine precedent in the matter of war bonuses," stated Mignon. "It is a precedent that could well be followed by other unions."

Rubber Union Hits Banning Of Radio Time

Akron, Ohio, Nov. 4. — President S. H. Dalrymple of the United Rubber Workers asked the Federal Communications Commission this week to take action against Station WJW here for banning "The Voice of Labor" radio program.

In a letter to the Commission, Dalrymple termed the cancellation of the program "an unwarranted and dictatorial invasion of our rights as citizens," and called upon the FCC to take action to see that the right of labor to purchase time to inform the public of its aims and methods be protected.

The "Voice of Labor" program has been presented by the Akron CIO Industrial Union Council over local radio stations for two years, and "has made it possible for labor in this community to present its message in a fair and honest manner," Pres. Dalrymple said in his letter.

He charged that the management of the station had been harassing the program by unreasonable censorship for several months, and had finally cancelled the contract with the Akron CIO Council arbitrarily. An attempt was made to justify the action, Dalrymple said, on the basis of the recent code adopted by the National Association of Broadcasters barring so-called controversial material from the air.

In a statement in reply to an offer made by the station to give labor free time on "forum" programs, H. R. Lloyd, president of the Akron CIO Council, said: "We were on the air for the same purpose as all radio advertisers—to build up an audience, to let them know what we stand for, and to sell our product — which is unionism. For that purpose we need a regular program, and a program frequent enough to hold our listeners. Sporadic debates now and then will not do that."

Die Casters Sign For 400 Workers

Adrian, Mich., Nov. 4—A closed shop contract covering 400 employes has been signed with the Gerity-Adrian Co. here by Local 26, National Association of Die Casting Workers, Edward Cheyfitz, national secretary-treasurer, announced. The Gerity-Adrian Co. makes plumbing fixtures and auto parts.

The company union at the plant was eliminated as result of the agreement, which provides for the check-off, a 40-hour week and seniority rights. Negotiations will be reopened on March 1 to establish a new wage scale and discuss vacations with pay.

Negotiators in West Coast Tie-Up

With the lumber port of Bellingham in the northwest tip of Washington tied up by a strike of the Intl. Woodworkers of America, CIO, against the Bloedel-Donovan Lumber Co., union and company representatives meet with arbitrators in an attempt to settle the differences.

Smelter Workers Elect

Denver, Nov. 4—Re-election of all officers and board members of the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers and adoption of all submitted constitutional amendments, including the vital 75 cents per capita proposition, marked the annual elections and referendum of the CIO union.

At the helm of the union is Intl. Pres. Reid Robinson who, though unopposed, drew 12,953 votes, the largest tally of any candidate. Returned to office with him are Vice-Pres. Ora L. Wilson and Sec.-Treas. John M. Sherwood.

Also re-elected were the following members of the Intl. Executive Board: Thomas Murray, Dist. 1; Glenn Gillespie, Dist. 2; Angelo Verdu, Dist. 3; Tony McTeer, Dist. 4; Van D. Jones, Dist. 5; Jess Gonzalez, Dist. 6; Ray Livingston, Dist. 7, and Tomye Church, Dist. 8. Brothers McTeer and Gonzalez were unopposed. Vote tallies for the district races appear elsewhere in this issue.

Western Union Told to Bury Company Set-Up

BULLETIN

The Natl. Labor Relations Board revealed today that it had petitioned the Second Circuit Court in New York for an enforcement order in its decision against Western Union.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4. — The Labor Relations Board, finally catching up with one of the oldest company unions in the world, issued an order here requiring Western Union to withdraw all recognition and support from the Assn. of Western Union Employes, to stop restraining employes from joining unions of their own choice, and to reimburse them for years of dues checked off by the company into its dummy union.

The Board order, described by CIO union leaders as "a green light for labor" was based on charges filed by the American Communications Assn., CIO, almost two years ago. The ACA is at present conducting a strike against Western Union in San Francisco.

"The decision issued today by the Board explodes once and for all the claim of Western Union officials that they could not negotiate a settlement of the San Francisco strike because of their existing agreements with a 'bona-fide' union, the Assn. of Western Union Employers," Joseph P. Selly, ACA vice-president, declared.

"Today's decision nullifies this 'agreement'. The choice to be made by Western Union officials is simple — either they will deal with the representatives of their striking San Francisco employes, or be completely exposed before the public.

"The decision brands the AWUE for what it is — a creature of the Western Union Co. designed to thwart genuine collective bargaining."

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Findings of the Board showed that the company union was set up more than 20 years ago, giving the company one of the longest and mustiest records of union dodging in history. Anti-union employers were more frank then, for Western Union stated openly at the time that the Association was being set up to prevent union organization, then under the AFL.

The Board's report in describing the history of this phony outfit is equally frank. After listing the various forms of company support to the Association, which included ample funds, use of company time and facilities, preference for stooge officials, and open terror against rebels, the report says:

"The respondent's (Western Union) reward for all these bounties lay in the fact that it had trained the Association to act as its complaint agent in dealing with its employes and that it had fashioned the Association into a weapon for warding off the advance of outside labor organizations upon the domain restricted to the Association."

And on the company's gestures at cutting off support to the Association after the Supreme Court validated the Wagner Act in 1937;

"While the respondent went through the motions on August 17, 1937, of reluctantly divesting the Association of some forms of support, it did not seriously attempt to place the Association in a position of equality with all other labor organizations which had endeavored to enroll its employes.

N. J. League Busy in Patterson

Paterson, N. J.—Intensive campaign activities are under way by Labor's Non-Partisan League in Patterson, N. J., where it has endorsed Vincent C. Duffy, Democratic mayoralty candidate, and a slate of aspirants for other local offices.

Campaign offices have been opened at 209 Market Street, several meetings have been announced, and a campaign committee set up.

Record Tobacco Crops Swamps Market

Tobacco leaf, part of North Carolina's biggest harvest, which amounts this year to more than 600,000,000 pounds, is piled waist high on the sidewalk outside a warehouse in Louisburg awaiting space on the auction floor.

Election Returns Show Labor Gains

SEE STORY PAGE SIX

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II — No. 46 20 Send form 3578-P to 1106 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. NOVEMBER 13, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

U. S. COURT UPHOLDS CIO, RAPS GIRDLERISM

Inside The News

Canadian CIO
launched a drive to enroll two million members at a conference in Ottawa this week. PAGE TWO

Maritime
unions protested bitterly as U. S.-subsidized shipowners announced an evade-the-neutrality-law program of registering their shops under the Panama flag. PAGE THREE

'Bargain!'
is the invitation sent to Bethlehem Steel this week by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee. A union delegation will visit company headquarters Nov. 13 for negotiations. PAGE THREE

War Jobs
won't revive Uncle Sam's sick-y economy, a national WPA official points out. PAGE FIVE

Elections
throughout the nation showed increasing labor strength. Major union victory was in Detroit, where anti-labor Mayor Reading read himself out of office with a red-baiting campaign. PAGE SIX

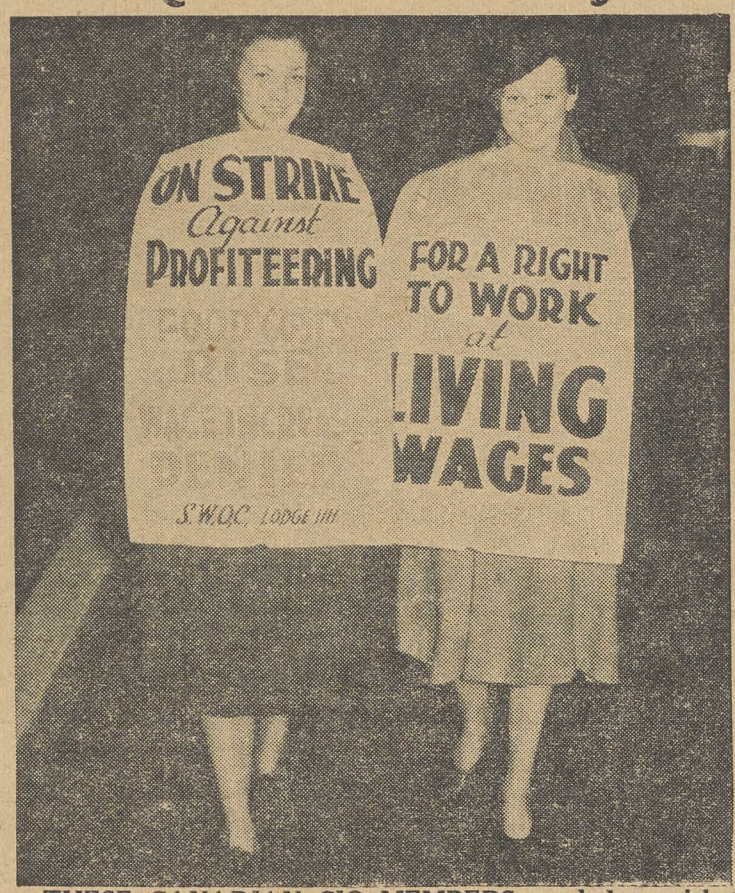
Amendments
to the Wagner Act are opposed by CIO—and so is maladministration of the Act by the National Labor Relations Board, according to Sec. James B. Carey. PAGE EIGHT

Hospital Pact Lifts Wages $66,000

New York, Nov. 11 — Pay increases totaling $66,000 a year for employes of the Milwaukee County Hospital were won by Local 35, State, County & Municipal Workers, in Milwaukee, Wis., the national office of the union here announced today.

A vigorous campaign supported by the local trade union movement in behalf of the hospital employes brought forth a forth a front page editorial of protest in the anti-labor Milwaukee Journal, the union said.

Quick Victory



THESE CANADIAN CIO MEMBERS needed to picket only six days at the General Steel Wares, Ltd., in Toronto, in order to help win a strike of 500 workers. Wage boosts and war security provisions were contained in the new contract. Strike was one of the first since the Dominion entered the war.

Republic Steel Must Rehire 5,000 Workers

(See Story Page Three)

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 11.—Holding Tom Girdler and his Republic Steel Corp. directly responsible for the Little Steel strike of 1937, the Federal Circuit Court today had sustained a Labor Board order directing the firm to rehire 5,000 workers with back pay, at an estimated cost to the company of $7,500,000.

The Girdler firm indicated it would take an appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court.

The verdict—which was unanimous on the part of the three judges — ordered the corporation to end its company-dominated unions, and to cease its attempted wrecking of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee.

The 1937 strike, the court held, resulted not from Republic's refusal to sign a union contract, but from its attempts to prevent SWOC from organizing.

One expected result of the ruling—which observers predict will be upheld by the Supreme Court—will be to wipe out the basis for Republic's $7,500,000 damage suit against the CIO. That suit, filed last summer under the Sherman anti-trust law, was based on charges that the CIO was responsible for strike and restraint of trade.

The court refused to take that position.

CIO Official Escapes Texas Death Trap

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11.—Maurice Dineen, CIO field representative for western Texas, was in this city today after having cheated Texas vigilantes of a threatened killing on the barren sand-hills near the border city of El Paso.

Dineen, who has been helping bakery workers fight a frame-up case, took an early morning train out of the Texas city just a few hours before he would have stepped into a trap that would have meant death or serious injury.

In saving his life, Dineen ignored a subpoena to appear at the trial of four Mexican members of the CIO Benito Jaurez Bakery Union charged with overturning a truck during a strike early last summer.

The CIO official received a late-night warning that local vigilantes were "planning a job". His informant, Dineen said, warned that "a phoney telephonic communication was to be transmitted to you direct. When those anonymous parties contacted you, they would leave in a taxi and pick you up, claiming they were representatives of the C. of C. [Chamber of Commerce] in this city.

"Instead of reaching your destination as contemplated, they would give you the works and out to the sandhills where your unidentified body might have been found some time in the future."

NAME HIRELING

Dineen's information revealed that a Mexican "readily admitted that he was offered a good price for getting rid of a 'rat like you'. He told me personally that he was leaving the Border because he had failed to accomplish his job and that he was returning to Mexico City, because he feared retaliation from the Higher Ups for having failed to do the job as paid and instructed.

"He wouldn't even give me the names of the Higher-Ups. Said it was 'too hot to handle'."

Union officials and members in El Paso said that Dineen had aroused the distrust and hatred of reactionary employers in western Texas because of his work in laying a foundation for CIO organization. Corrupt politicians cooperate closely with the anti-union employers, Dineen said, to forestall or wipe out unionism.

The four Mexican workers in the bakery strike case were the center of a violent red scare during their trial for allegedly overturning a truck during the June strike. Three of the men, however, were acquitted, while the fourth was given a sentence of only one day.

In a previous case, two other unionists had been handed one-year terms. An attempt to win pardons for the convicted men has been launched by CIO attorneys.

Tory Firm Throws In The Towel

Louisville, Ky., Nov. 11 — After fighting Labor Board decisions for three years all the way to the Supreme Court, the Louisville Refining Company, described as "the toughest, last-ditch opponent of the CIO in this locality" signed an exclusive bargaining agreement with Local 211, of the Oil Workers International Union.

Last October the Supreme Court refused to review a Labor Board decision favorable to the union and the company was obliged to pay men fired three years ago back wages totalling some $25,000.

The agreement sets up grievance machinery, provides for promotions on the basis of seniority rights, paid vacations and holidays, time and a half for overtime, and regular inspection of machinery which may cause explosions or cause other serious accidents to workers.

Canadian CIO Launches Drive To Enroll 2,000,000

OTTAWA, Ont., Nov. 11.—A one-day conference of CIO union representatives here last week launched a crusade to bring industrial unionism to Canada's 2,000,000 unorganized workers.

Predicting that within a year membership in the Canadian CIO would equal or pass that of AFL affiliates, Silby Barrett, chairman of the Canadian council, declared:

"Canadian workers are eager for organization and we'll give it to them despite the kind of attack we can expect from the manufacturers.

"In the fight for democracy the front line is here just as much as in Europe. It will be labor's boys who go overseas and we can't betray them. We have to see to it that decent working conditions await them when they come back this time."

105 DELEGATES

The conference drafted a legislative program which was presented to Hon. Norman McLarty, federal minister of labor. Attending were 105 delegates, representing 55,000 members in the basic industries of the nation. Three fraternal delegates from the Algoma Steel Workers Union, an All-Canadian Congress affiliate, were also present.

General CIO policy was established by the meeting on the basis of the following four points:

"1. Labor demands the right of adequate representation on all government boards and agencies set up to cope with the war situation and to mobilize national defense.

INCREASE WAGES

"2. The real wages of the workers, already inadequate in very many cases, must not be allowed to suffer further from rising living costs, and every effort must be made to stop profiteering and adjust wage levels to rising prices.

"3. Preocupation with international affairs must not be allowed to distract attention from unemployment and other pressing problems of internal economic insecurity.

"4. More than usual vigilance must be exercised to guard existing labor and social legislation and democratic rights against curtailment under the pretext of emergency consideration."

As the concluding feature of the week-end conference, the CIO Union leaders presented a legislative memorandum to the federal minister which it insisted the government adopt to "eliminate the injustice and dangers which confront our people."

HIT TORYISM AT HOME

Vigorous representation was made to the government to prevent suspension of municipal elections in Ontario and elsewhere during the war, now being contemplated by several provincial government.

The legislative brief was presented to Mr. McLarty by Silby Barrett, chairman, and C. H. Millard, secretary of the Canadian CIO council.

The delegates also asked the government to make the federal labor department's function the promotion of the welfare of labor in the dominion rather than continue its present role as being more of a neutral agent.

Presiding at the conference, Barrett explained that complete authority and national autonomy in regard to Canadian affairs was vested in the Canadian CIO. He said this independence of action within the Canadian sphere constituted a new departure in international unionism and was in complete accord with the wide democracy practiced in the CIO as distinct from the AFL which dominates the decisions of its Canadian members.

Commenting on the war, the committee reported that it had "offered its cooperation to the government in its measures to defend itself against fascist aggression," and was ready to "assist in the War Time Prices and Trade Board in a determined fight against profiteering."

To perform most effective work and avoid industrial strife, the committee contended, an extension of collective bargaining between employer and labor was essential.

The conference was the first delegate meeting of CIO unions in the dominion since they were expelled from the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada last September on orders of President William Green of the AFL.

Heads Council

SILBY BARRETT, chairman of the new Canadian Committee of the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Vote Support To Strikers

Bessemer, Ala., Nov. 11 — Members of Local 12019, District 50, United Mine Workers, employed at the Woodward Iron Company By-product plant, voted full support to Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers strikers at the Lipscomb Red Ore mines of the Woodward Iron Co. near Bessemer.

The company fostered a dual AFL union at the mine and refused to bargain with the CIO union when it won a Labor Board election 454 to 81.

The by-products workers also condemned the company's system of running the mine through contractors who are paid $20 to $40 a day and "do not hit a lick of work".

Restaurant Strike Ends

Henryetta, Okla., Nov. 11 — Henryetta's restaurants were back to normal today, thanks to the settlement of a four-month strike conducted by the CIO Cooks, Waiters and Bartenders Union.

Wage for restaurant workers were set at temporary levels until arbitrators can work out new standards acceptable both to the union and the proprietors of a half-dozen establishments.

David Fowler, CIO regional director, represented the restaurant employes in the settlement.

Steel Union Gets First Toronto Pact

Toronto, Ont., Nov. 11 — The Steel Workers Organizing Committee won its first contract in Toronto when the management of General Steel Wares Ltd., manufacturers of kitchen utensils and enamel wares, settled with the union after a five-day strike of its employes last week.

Under provisions of the agreement, signed by General Manager F. S. Corrigan and Lodge 1111 President Howard Fick, time workers received five cents an hour increase and piece workers obtained 7½ per cent raise in wages. The contract is in effect until Dec. 1940.

A feature of the contract is a provision that if the cost of living increases by five per cent over present-day costs, the company will grant a further increase to the extent of such excess over five per cent.

"This is one of the greatest victories for labor," Silby Barrett, SWOC director, declared upon announcement of the successful settlement of the strike.

AFL UNIONS HELPED

Highlights of the strike in which 517 employes were involved was the support received from the Toronto District Labor Council and AFL affiliates generally.

When the management tried to sidetrack issues of the strike by alleging that the dispute was over CIO domination, Secretary J. W. Buckley of the Council, immediately wrote the management that his organization was fully behind the demands of the strikers.

Three Million Enjoy Union Shop Standards

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11. — Almost half of the nation's eight million union members now work under the protection of union shop conditions, the Dept. of Labor reported today.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics, in an article appearing in the October issue of the Monthly Labor Review, estimated that some three million workers are employed under closed shop contracts, while "many" union workers enjoy closed shop conditions without formal contracts covering that issue.

The largest single group of employes working under a union shop is in the coal mining industry, the article pointed out; others are the clothing, printing, brewing, motion picture, fur and millinery industries.

GIVE DEFINITION

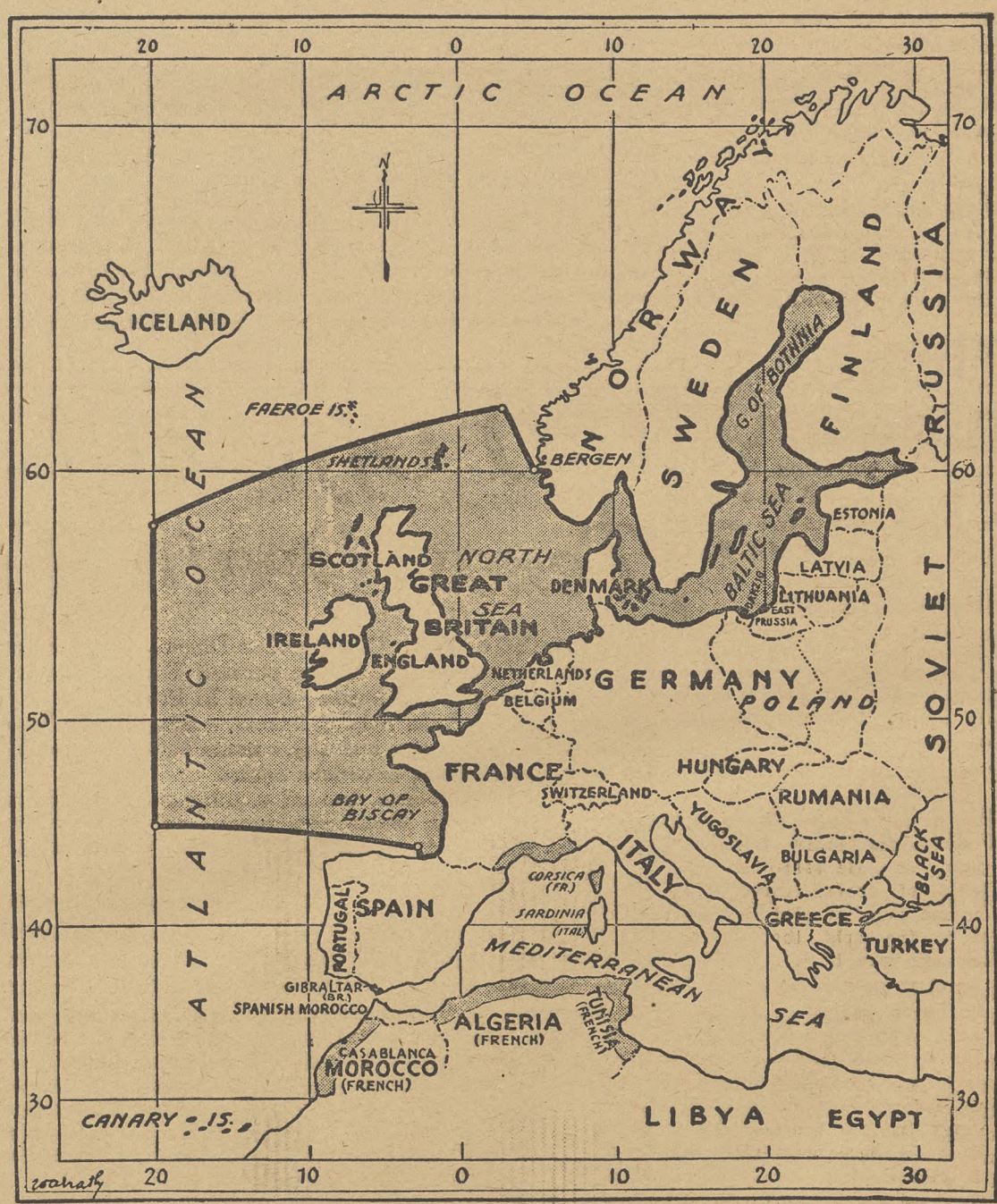
The closed shop agreement, under the Labor Department's definition, "requires that all employes in a plant or craft covered by the agreement must be members of the union, and that new employes are to be union members or must join the union immediately upon employment of within a specified time."

Preferential shop agreements—found in flat glass manufacture, newspaper offices, maritime transportation and longshoring—are much less common than the closed shop, the article said. This type of contract gives union members preference over non-member employes in some aspect of their working conditions.

Unions have sought the closed shop not so much for the "check-off" method of collecting dues but to protect the jobs of their members, the Labor Department found.

"The check-off is, of course, a great convenience to the union, and some employers prefer it as a means of avoiding possible confusion and loss of working time when dues are collected from members in or about the plant," the Department statement said.

Gleam in Shippers' Eye



AMERICAN SHIPPING IS BANNED in dangerous war area, shown as shaded section on map, through American Congressional action and Pres. Roosevelt's executive order. Now private shipping lines, which get heavy government subsidies, are attempting to change their ships' registry to evade the law, send ships into the danger zone. CIO Maritime unions are fighting the move.

Shipowners' Squeeze Play Under Attack

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11. — Proposals by shipowners and the U. S. Maritime Commission to allow transfer of American ships to foreign registry for the purpose of carrying cargoes to forbidden war zones was sharply denounced by CIO National Maritime Union official here and in New York.

In New York, Joseph Curran, NMU president, accused the owners and the Commission of "working in collusion" to destroy the American Merchant Marine and to involve "this country in the European war." In Washington, Bjorne Halling, secretary of the CIO Maritime Committee, described the proposal as "an outrageous deal" designed "to protect profits at whatever cost to the seamen and to the building up" of American shipping.

"This is in direct contradiction to the expressed feelings of the American people in this situation," Curran said. "The American people don't want their Merchant Marine destroyed and they don't want to become involved in war.

VIOLATES NEUTRALITY

"Furthermore, it is in direct violation of the spirit of the Neutrality law — the spirit, if not the actual wording, of a law on which the President's signature is hardly dry."

Both Pres. Curran and Committee Secretary Halling denounced the willingness of the Commission to consider the proposal and to promote it as evidence of the Commission's desire to serve the shipowners rather than the seamen and the general public. Said Curran:

"The willingness of the Maritime Commission to allow itself to be used by a section of American money interests in this matter

Continued on Page Five

Protests

ACTION OF SHIPOWNERS in attempting to evade U. S. neutrality legislation came in for heated attack from Pres. Joseph Curran of the National Maritime Union (above).

'Obey U.S. Law', Court Orders Republic Steel

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 11.—Tom Girdler and his Republic Steel Corporation have been told to obey the law of the United States. They were told by a court decision, reached by unanimous verdict of the three judges on the Circuit Court of Appeals here, affirming the Labor Board order of last June that required Republic to rehire 5,000 Steel Workers Organizing Committee members fired for the Little Steel strike of 1937, to get rid of all scabs, and to pay back wages between the time of the order and its execution.

Equally important was the court's stand in dismissing Republic's plea that the workers did not come into court "with clean hands," since they were allegedly responsible for the strike. Republic's actions in violating the law were alone to blame for the strike, the court held.

Full responsibility is placed at Republic's door by the court in describing a long series of provocative actions that led to the strike.

"Almost immediately after SWOC commenced its organization campaign Republic in its turn began a counter-campaign to crush the union,' the decision reads.

"It announced to all its employes at once that 'Republic stands for the Open Shop principle,' that 'no employe has to join any organization to get or hold a job,' and that 'every Republic employe owes a duty of loyalty to the company so that its best interests may be served. Conduct detrimental to the interests of the company and which may disrupt the satisfactory relations between employes and management will not be tolerated.' "

FROM THE BEGINNING

More than this, Republic from the start of the SWOC campaign followed a policy of coercion and open terror against union organizers and members, the court indicated.

Company union tactics of Republic were sharply criticized ed by the court as well. "Employes were coerced by foremen and representatices to sign petitions supporting the representatation (company unions, ed.) plans and opposing SWOC," it said.

"Meetings of employes were held by the management at which the virtues of the representation plans were praised; employes were threatened with discharge if they joined the 'outside' union, and anti-union literature was distributed.'

Finally, the court pointed out,

Continued on Page Five

lic's door. Consequently Republic cannot continue to maintain that any damages are due to it under the Sherman Act or any other statute, since its own illegal actions account for the strike and all its byproducts."

Bethlehem Gets CIO Invitation

Bethlehem, Pa., Nov. 11 — A November 13 deadline for collective bargaining was handed to the anti-union Bethlehem Steel Corp. today by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee.

The company's president — high-paid Eugene Grace — was advised in a letter from E. J. Lever, head of SWOC's campaign at Bethlehem, that a union negotiating committee will be in the company's New York office at 11 A. M. on the morning of the thirteenth ready to bargain for a contract.

"Your failure to meet us personally or through a fully empowered agent will create a situation for which the Steel Workers Organizing Committee can in no way be held responsible," Lever wrote to Grace.

ASK $5 A DAY

SWOC's recent demand for a $5-a-day minimum — the level gained in practically every union steel mill throughout the land— will be one of the subjects up for discussion.

"In view of the profits being made by the Bethlehem Steel Corp. there is no reason why Bethlehem should not pay wages equal to those being paid by all other steel companies of equal size," Lever asserted.

The SWOC committee will represent a majority of the company's workers in seven plants in Pennsylvania, one in Maryland, one in New York, one in Washington and two in California.

Slapped Down

TOM GIRDLER took another thumping this week when the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals upheld CIO steel union and Labor Board contentions that Republic Steel was responsible for the big strike of 1937. Company,—which will probably appeal to the Supreme Court— must pay millions in damages.

Decision 'Vindicates' Steel Union

Washington, Nov. 11 — The Court ruling against Tom Girdler's Republic Steel Corp. was described by Lee Pressman, CIO and SWOC general counsel, as "more than a complete vindication of the work and policies of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee," and as a knockout blow to Girdler's $7,500,000 suit against the CIO.

"The court, in upholding the Labor Board's contention that the illegal acts of Republic caused the 1937 strike, has knocked out the basis for the corporation's $7,500,000 suit against the union and the CIO," Pressman said.

WORKERS ABSOLVED

"This suit was based on alleged violations of law by the CIO workers involved in the strike. Now the court has affirmed the fact that flagrant and consistent violations of law, chiefly of the Wagner Act, by the corporation, caused the strike.

"The workers and the CIO are completely absolved of any blame in bringing about the strike, and its origins clearly laid at Repub-

Phoney Mine Outfit Squashed

Washington, Nov. 11—Approval of a settlement in the case of the Williams Coal Co., Mannington, Kentucky, in which the company agreed to abolish completely the Independent Miners' Union of Western Kentucky, District 1, has been announced by the Natl. Labor Relations Board.

In further compliance with the Board's order of Feb. 23, 1939, the company agreed to stop discouraging membership in the United Mine Workers, District 23, or any other labor organization and to reinstate with back pay 17 men.

Thugs Busy In Chicago

Chicago, Nov. 11 — New anti-labor violence marked the strike of warehousemen at the Continental Products Co. as four armed thugs invaded the living quarters of Leonard Levy, CIO union representative, and started a fight that resulted in injuries to seven men.

Levy, an official of the United Retail & Wholesale Employes, was living in a rooming house directly across the street from the struck plant. He said that the quartet of goons, armed with guns and clubs, invaded his room, and in the fight that ensued, seven men were hurt.

REVOLTED AGAINST AFL

The strike started when Continental employes quit an AFL union after its leaders, without consulting the members, signed a flimsy two-year contract. They demanded that the firm negotiate a real union agreement with the CIO affiliate.

Heads of the company took the fight into the courts and won a sweeping injunction against the strikers, which failed, however, to stop union activity against the firm.

Fight Injunction

TWO CIO PICKETS outside the plant of Continental Products in Chicago, where United Retail and Wholesale Employes are striking for a contract. Vicious injunction action and attacks on strike leaders have marked the dispute.

Anti-Labor Knitting Mill Found Guilty

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 11.—Berkshire Knitting Mills, giant hosiery firm in Reading, Pa., long notorious for its bitter anti-union policies, was found guilty by the National Labor Relations Board this week of unfair labor practices arising out of the big 1936 strike led by the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, CIO.

Alexander McKeown, newly elected president of the AFHW, hailed the Board's decision as meaning "the end of industrial bondage for more than 5,000 Berkshire hosiery workers."

Berkshire, which is the largest single producer of women's full-fashioned silk stockings in the world, was ordered by the Board to offer reinstatement to the employes who went out on strike October 1, 1936, to abolish its company union, and to stop discouraging membership in the AFHW. Eighteen employes refused employment after the strike were specifically named to be offered reinstatement with back pay.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

Congress of Industrial Organizations

John L. Lewis ..... President

Vice-Presidents

Philip Murray — S. H. Dalrymple
Sidney Hillman — Reid Robinson
R. J. Thomas — Emil Rieve

James B. Carey ..... Secretary
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price .....$1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II — November 6, 1939 — No. 45

The CIO Is Vindicated

In upholding the Labor Board order against the Republic Steel Corporation, the Third Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia has rendered a measure of justice to thousands of steel workers who were discharged for their union activities and who have been ordered reinstated with back pay.

It has vindicated the charges made by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee and the Board in regard to the coercive and intimidating anti-union tactics of Tom Girdler's corporation.

More than this, it has upheld the contention of the Board that it was the company's flagrant and continued violations of the Wagner labor relations act that caused the 1937 strike.

In absolving the workers and the CIO of blame for the strike, and placing responsibility at the door of Republic Steel, CIO Counsel Lee Pressman points out, the court has "knocked out the basis for the corporation's $7,500,000 suit against the union and the CIO."

"Republic cannot continue to maintain that any damages are due to it under the Sherman Act or any other statute," he says, "since its own illegal actions account for the strike and all its by-products."

But aside from the tangible advantages for the workers and the legal implications of the decision, there is a moral justification involved which will bring satisfaction and encouragement to all of labor.

In organizing the workers, the CIO seeks to improve their conditions through peaceful collective bargaining as provided for under the law. Where industrial conflict occurs, it is caused by the refusal of corporations to grant the workers their full collective bargaining rights.

The court decision in the Republic Steel case is supporting evidence for this CIO contention. It also serves notice that no corporation is so big as to be above the law.

Company Unions Exposed

The Wizard of Oz had quite a system for impressing and terrifying the natives. Hidden behind curtains as he worked the controls, he could produce smoke and fire and magnify his voice until all bowed down before the apparitions he created.

The whole affair fell flat, however, and the Wizard felt decidedly foolish, when a little girl pulled back the curtains and showed him working at his fakery.

The Labor Board has been cast in the ingratiating role of little Dorothy in two recent decisions. It has pulled back the curtains to show how the Western Union company and the two Eagle-Picher companies in the tri-state area have been working the controls of two of the oldest and phoniest company unions, to intimidate their employes.

In exposing the company character of the Association of Western Union Employes, the Board has also ordered the company to stop restraining its workers from joining a bona fide union, and to return to them the tribute it has mulcted from them in the guise of dues to the phoney union.

In the Eagle-Picher case, the Blue Card company union was taken into the AFL, without losing its company-dominated character. The companies have been forbidden to coerce their employes into joining the Blue Card outfit, and to leave them free to join a genuine union. Many workers fired for union activity have been ordered reinstated with back pay.

Now that all this fake wizardry of company unionism has been exposed, the bona fide unions in these two fields, the American Communications Association and the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, can go to town in bringing the benefits of real collective bargaining to the workers concerned.

Time To Stop, Look and Listen

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Un-American Conditions

ONE THING that all humanity has in common is limited stomach capacity. With every aid to digestion, the richest potentate cannot stow away much more food than the lowest paid laborer.

On the contrary, the needs and capacity of any hard working man should give him a decided edge over the average dyspeptic millionaire, so far as appetite is concerned.

Yet recent statistics show that, whereas it takes $2,000 a year to fill the stomachs of one small group of Americans, there are some 13 million other families and individuals who have to get by on only $236 a year for food.

The figures are taken from the recent report of the National Resources Planning Board on consumer expenditures.

The report shows that one-third of the population of the United States have not enough income to cover food, clothing and shelter at even the most miserable level.

These millions of Americans had to go into debt to cover their barest family living costs of $563, on an average, in the year 1935-36, since their total income averaged only $471.

In contrast, a small group of 178,000 wealthy Americans had nearly as much consumer income as all of the 13 million families and individuals in the lowest income group.

Patriotism in Action

Such conditions are contrary to American principles of equality of opportunity. They deny to millions of Americans their full right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

The organizations which are doing most to combat these un-American and subversive conditions are the great labor unions which make up the CIO.

The CIO unions have not restricted themselves to representing the higher-skilled and better-paid. They have set out also to better the conditions of millions of the lowest-paid workers, to make this country worth living in for all.

The Americanism of the CIO is not confined to flag-waving oratory. It is patriotism in action, the patriotism of solid and continuous contribution to the welfare of our country and the people who dwell in it.

Hauling Down the Flag

The proposal of American shipowners to have their vessels sail under foreign flags, with foreign crews, to get around the neutrality legislation, is one that must cause much reflection on the questions of patriotism.

profit and equality of treatment under the law.

American seamen are not covered by the Social Security Act. They have no unemployment compensation coming to them when they are laid off.

Yet they interposed no objection to neutrality legislation which Congress deemed necessary in the national interest, though it would mean loss of jobs for up to 10,000 of them. All they asked was fair and equal treatment under the law, and that the Maritime Commission cease aiding anti-union shipowners to beat down their conditions.

But when the Commission apparently approves a plan to give their jobs to foreign seamen, in order that the shipowners may continue to rake in the full profits of war, it is getting a bit too thick.

Good News from Detroit

The election of Edward J. Jeffries as mayor of Detroit is a resounding rebuke by the voters of that city to the tactics employed by Richard W. Reading, the anti-CIO mayor, who was running for re-election.

Reading devoted the closing days of his campaign largely to attacking the CIO and to urging people to vote against Jeffries because he was supported by the CIO.

Progressive labor has demonstrated its political power in Detroit, to the great encouragement of the progressive forces generally throughout the country.

Detroit should also provide a lesson for all candidates in coming elections, that labor-baiting tactics are one of the most effective methods of inviting political defeat.

CIO—Four Years Old

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11. — CIO celebrated a birthday this week — the fourth anniversary of the day when leaders of the industrial union movement formed the Committee for Industrial Organization and prepared the way for great campaigns to organize the unorganized.

Fourth year of CIO's existence shows its membership at record size and growing fast; its ranks harmonious and united behind a progressive leadership; and its voice increasingly influential throughout the nation.

YOUR WPA JOB:

War Boom Bring Jobs?-Doubtful, Says Official

By RALPH HETZEL
CIO Unemployment Director

A short time ago a most important speech passed practically unnoticed. Howard Hunter, Deputy Commissioner of the WPA, spoke in Chicago on "Unemployment and Our National Economy."

The significance of the speech to the CIO is that Hunter's analysis of the present economic situation bears out that laid down by President Lewis at the CIO Convention last month. Hunter set forth a fundamental philosophy which, if consistently adhered to by the Administration, would have a powerful effect in correcting the present unemployment.

Those interested in the unemployment problem would do well to get complete copies of the speech. Excerpts from it will illustrate its importance:

". . . What is the basis for believing that the war is likely to cause a big expansion in employment? How many new jobs can be expected? Many people are guessing. And a lot of wishful thinking is going on.

"Presumably, the expected increase in employment would arise out of increased exports. During the last World War our exports to Europe tripled. But, as you may remember, a good part of these goods were sold on credit. At present, the belligerents can't buy on long-term credit. If exports to England and France increased by $1 billion during the next year, employment would rise perhaps 500,000—perhaps 700,000.

"At the outside, increased exports to Europe and South America combined might create a million new jobs. Domestic expansion, because of internal recovery forces, might add another million jobs.

"This would take a year. Meantime, the labor supply has increased by 600,000 workers. Add all this up and we would still have at least 8 million unemployed during next summer.

"Honest analysis tells us that this is the prospect. There are implications that should cause us the gravest concern. It means that we should have done with the will-o'-the-wisp notion that a war boom is going to wipe out unemployment.

"We cannot look to the war for a solution of our unemployment problem. War always brings economic dislocation and disturbances. If we gear our national economy to this war we will head right into another collapse that will make our troubles since 1930 look trifling.

U. S. PROBLEMS

". . . Too many people still think that unemployment is a distressing interlude between periods of full employment and prosperity. As a matter of fact our system has been shaken right down to its foundations, and we cannot expect it to return to the old order of things. It is not a matter of synical unemployment; it is persistent, long-term unemployment. Unemployment insurance cannot cure it; direct relief obviously should not handle it—only work and income can deal with this problem in an effective and democratic way.

". . . In short, our economic system does not offer much hope of any big expansion in the near future. And by a big expansion I mean one that will absorb 7 or 8 million of the present unemployment and provide jobs to the hundreds of thousands coming to the labor market each year in the future. Our system has suffered from a stagnation of investment and deficient income in the hands of the masses.

". . . No democratic system can exist unless its people can find work and security. A real work program must be the new frontier. Workers who go out in search of work—in their own locality and elsewhere—must find what their forebears found—jobs and income, and (economic security too).

"War prosperity will not do the trick—and the dislocations caused by it will only make our situation worse. We need, therefore, an expansion of public employment and public work—to use our idle savings and give jobs to idle labor. In doing this we will produce things we need, things that are good for the national economy.

"What we need to do now is bear down harder on a domestic policy that includes a substantial work prgram, an expanded social security program, and some measure that is comparable to the works-financing bill proposed during the last session of Congress."

Shipowners' Squeeze Play Under Attack

Continued from page three

only confirms the suspicion of the seamen and other maritime workers that the Commission is, in reality, little more than the lobbying arm of the American Merchant Marine Institute."

Halling pointed out that seamen, who sacrificed 10,000 jobs in the revision of the Neutrality Act, were apparently to be rewarded with starvation, while the shipowners were "amply taken care of."

TAXPAYERS' PIE

"Our program for the protection of American maritime workers, made public during the debate on neutrality revision, was ignored," he said. "This program, which called for social security, WPA and other works projects, and severance pay for the seamen, was not even seriously considered.

In New York, more than 3,000 seamen held a mass meeting to deal with the problems arising from Neutrality revision, transfer of ships and other actions increasing marine unemployment.

Tells Wage Law Story

Washington, Nov. 11—A new Wage-Hour Administration pamphlet "How the Wage-Hour Law Affects You"—has just come off the press.

Copies of the pamphlet can be obtained free from the Administration, c/o of the U. S. Dept. of Labor, Washington, or from the Wage-Hour field offices in key cities throughtout the country.

This pamphlet, together with one issued by the CIO—"Your Rights under the Wage-Hour Law" give complete information about the workings of the Law. The CIO Wage-Hour Bureau, in cooperation with the CIO Legal Department, will answer questions about specific points under the law for any affiliates seeking information.

Catholic Paper Defends Union At Chrysler

By FRANK WINN

DETROIT, Nov. 11.—President R. J. Thomas of the UAW-CIO charged today that the Chrysler Corporation, with the cooperation of the three Detroit daily newspapers, was attempting to use the Mohawk Valley formula in the current dispute to get the workers back into the plants without the protection of a union contract.

He was supported in his charge by the "Michigan Catholic", official newspaper of the Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit.

Thomas pointed to the front page editorials in all three daily newspapers in Detroit last week, all of which urged the men, in effect, to break with the leadership of the union and go back to the plants without an agreement being reached.

These editorials, coupled with the stalling by the company, a house to house canvass to the homes of workers by strikebreakers posing as salesmen, and the deliberate confusion of the issues on the part of the company, form a perfect picture of the Mohawk plan, Thomas said.

DEFENDS UNION

The Catholic newspaper presented a vigorous defense of the union's position, also in a front page editorial, in its issue of Nov. 9. After stating that "the issues involved have been clearly presented to the public," the editorial says.

"In this dispute there has been a request by the workers for a voice in the determination of production standards, which, when no agreement could be reached, was modified into a demand for arbitration of grievances.

"Both these demands are justified in the light of Catholic principles."

The article included a severe condemnation of the editorial policies of the three Detroit papers which "has not helped to clarify the issues of the dispute.'"

ASKS SEC PROBE

Earlier in the week, President Thomas requested that the Securities and Exchange Commission "investigate the relationship between the unloading of stock by Chrysler insiders in September and the current shut-down of the Chrysler plants."

A SEC report last week showed seven Chrysler officials, including Walter P. Chrysler and President K. T. Keller, had sold in September 16,300 shares of Chrysler common stock, representing more than 13 per cent of their total holdings.

"Shortly after disposing of these large holdings, these directors and officials precipitated a controversy with the UAW-CIO which has resulted in the closing of the Chrysler plants," Thomas wrote to Jerome Frank, chairman of the SEC. "The circumstances, I believe, require that your commission investigate the relationship between the unloading of the stock and the current shutdown.

'OPEN TO SUSPICION'

"There are several circumstances that are open to suspicion.

"In the first place, seven insiders disposed of large holdings on the eve of an unusually good business period for the automobile industry.

"Secondly, these Chrysler insiders must have had good knowledge of approaching labor difficulties when they unloaded their stock.

"The suggestion has been made by a Chrysler share-holder that the unloading of the 16,300 shares was part of a deliberate campaign. With the continuation of the shut-down brought on by these insiders it may be expected that the stocks will decline in value. They have already dropped a few points. Persons who bought some of the shares on margin will no doubt be unable to hold onto them. It will then be possible for the original holders, or persons acting for them, to pick up the shares at considerably less than the price they received a month ago."

Scholle Shifted To Detroit

CHICAGO, Nov. 11 — Gus Scholle, CIO regional director in this city for the past several months, is being transferred to a similar position in Detroit.

Scholle will fill the position left vacant by Adolph Germer, who is now CIO regional director in New York City.

Court Hits Girdler's Tactics

Continued from Page Three

these provocations culminated in a series of lockouts of workers at its Canton and Masilon plants. "These lockouts," the court wrote, "coming after a long period of continual drastic anti-union measures, placed the union in a position where it could not hope to preserve itself without immediate resort to action."

This terror had its "tragic result" in the shootings at Massilon, the court pointed out, in clearly laying the blame for all these occurrences on Tom Girdler's doormat.

Summing up, the court declared that these conditions, found to be facts by the Labor Board after exhaustive hearings, were backed by "ample evidence" and "must, therefore, be sustained."

War Boom — Or Boomerang?

CHICAGO, Nov. 11 (FP)—The total number of workers for whom jobs have been provided by the so-called war boom falls short of the number dismissed from WPA under the 18-month clause, Col. F. C. Harrington, WPA administrator, warned in an address here.

"However large our new war-time employment," Harrington declared, "there will still be millions of unemployed in this country.

"Let us bear in mind that next year there will be about 600,000 new young workers entering the labor market in excess of those older workers who leave it. Let us not forget that there are a good many millions of unemployed workers who are not on WPA.

"We shall still need a public works program to provide jobs and wages for the neediest of them."

UNION SHOP PRINTING FOR CIO UNIONS
MID-CITY PRESS
NEWSPAPER — LEAFLETS
JOBWORK — PUBLISHING
N. E. Cor. 9th & Spruce Streets
Philadelphia, Pa.

LARGEST PRODUCER OF ROUGH ROLLED GLASS
MISSISSIPPI GLASS COMPANY
220 FIFTH AVE.
NEW YORK

CORNELIUS PRINTING CO.

Printers for
INTERNATIONAL UNIONS
for more than 30 Years
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
SILVER SPRINGS, MD.

Labor Shows Strength In Off-Year Elections; Big Gains in Detroit

By ROBERT DALE

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11.—Outstanding in Tuesday's off-year election returns was the smashing labor victory in Detroit, important gains in Ohio, scattered successes in New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania, and general increases in labor's vote in all local contests.

The landslide defeat of reactionary Mayor Richard Reading, of Detroit, indicates that the big auto city has definitely broken the stranglehold of the corporations on the city's political life. Edward J. Jeffries, Jr., backed by labor, polled 226,185 to Reading's 108,975.

In a frantic effort to save himself from defeat after he ran far behind in the primary, Reading indulged in a vicious labor-baiting campaign. He made the CIO an election issue and the outcome was hailed by the nation's press as a major CIO victory.

Six councilmanic candidates supported by CIO and Labor's Non-Partisan League forces were also successful in the progressive sweep. Two anti-labor council incumbents went down to defeat with Reading.

A major issue in the Detroit race was removal of Police Commissioner Pickert whom the CIO has charged repeatedly with illegal assaults on workers and other anti-labor activity. Jeffries pledged to fire Pickert and since election has said he intends to do it promptly.

YOUNGSTOWN

Labor voters of Youngstown, O., are celebrating the election of their candidate, William Spagnola, to the mayoralty there. Spagnola, who had Labor's Non-Partisan League endorsement, is a trusted friend of the steel workers who were attacked by ex-Gov. Davey's troops.

In Cleveland, Mayor Harold Burton's expected majority of 80,000 was reduced to 37,000 when labor forces united in the closing week of the campaign behind his opponent, John O'Donnell. The labor majority on the Cleveland school board was re-elected.

LOCAL VICTORIES

While labor lost mayoralty candidates by narrow margins in Akron and Canton, there were many victories in local contests over the state. Two labor-endorsed school board candidates in Toledo were elected. Result of the Toledo council election, with five labor candidates, is delayed due to the proportional representation voting plan there.

Akron voters defeated old-time Republican incumbents in the city council. Labor's Non-Partisan League made six endorsements and four of these were elected, three being members of organized labor. Although the Republican mayor was re-elected by only 6,320 votes, his majority in city council was upset. The council formerly made up of ten machine Republicans and three Democrats is now composed of eight Democrats and five Republicans.

BIGELOW LEADING

Herbert Bigelow, former Ohio Congressman and author of the old-age pension plan which was defeated, was apparently elected a member of the Cincinnati city council with labor support.

In Pennsylvania, labor's political forces marked a number of significant victories though its mayoralty ticket in Philadelphia was nosed out by the close margin of less than 30,000 votes out of a total vote of 751,000. A change of 16,000 votes — slightly more than two per cent — would have reversed the result.

The Republican victory in Philadelphia over the Democratic-Fusion ticket which labor backed was influenced by the fact the GOP made a national issue of the city contest and spent freely to put over its nominee. Pennsylvania Democrats who were badly split last year are still suffering the consequence of their betrayal of labor's candidate for governor, Tom Kennedy, former Lieutenant-Governor and high United Mine Workers official.

Two councilmen endorsed by labor were elected in Philadelphia. Upstate, Judge Vincent J. Dalton won with labor support a seat on the Common Pleas bench. Labor also backed Judge William H. Keller, re-elected to the Superior Court. John E. Sheridan, a Democrat backed by labor, was elected to Congress from Philadelphia.

MANY UPSETS

In the Pittsburgh area, labor forces backed the Democrats who snowed under the Republicans in dozens of local contests. There were a number of surprising upsets of veteran Republican office holders as the Democrats took complete command of the city government.

Other local labor victories in Pennsylvania's balloting included election of a pro-labor mayor of Easton, school board members in Bethlehem, and Clifford Shorts, secretary of SWOC Lodge No. 1211, Aliquippa, to the city council. Labor also elected a Sheriff in Westmoreland county, on the basis of early returns, and city councilmen and mayor in Arnold.

Connecticut and New Jersey also presented some labor victories.

NEW JERSEY

Labor forces lost their fight to elect a mayor in Paterson, N. J., but did win with State Senate candidate Oscar R. Wilensky, Republican, and Assembly candidate William J. Hanna, also Republican. South New Jersey resisted efforts of the Hague Democratic machine to take over there.

Labor's Non-Partisan League victories included election of Assemblyman Samuel S. Ferster in Essex County, Mayor John Gabriel, of Garfield, plus two councilmen there, three councilmen in Gloucester who defeated Democratic incumbents, and an Assemblyman in Mercer County.

It is also noteworthy that though labor's mayoralty candidate lost in Paterson, the campaign manager of his successful rival is a member of Labor's Non-Partisan League. Both candidates showed friendly attitudes to labor.

The League in Connecticut saw the only two men it endorsed elected to the city council in Bridgeport. Michael Flanagan who had League endorsement was the first Democrat named to the council since 1933.

ROSSI WINS AGAIN

San Francisco's re-elected Mayor Angelo Rossi, whom labor had opposed, and California's rejected the "ham and eggs" pension plan, though it rolled up 1,000,000 votes.

Tammany Hall claimed victories in New York on the basis of early returns but results for many offices will be unknown until the proportional representation ballots are counted.

Elected

DETROIT'S REACTIONARY ADMINISTRATION toppled as labor and liberal votes swept Edward Jeffries into the mayor's office by a 2-1 margin over the present incumbent, Richard Reading. Jeffries had active CIO support in his fight against the bitterly anti-union mayor.

Bethlehem Stooge Ousted

One of labor's most sensational triumphs was the decisive defeat of Mayor Daniel J. Shields, of Johnstown, Pa. after a campaign in which Mayor Shield's anti-labor activity two years ago in the steel strike was an issue.

Shields had been exposed by the U. S. Senate Civil Liberties Committee as having received $25,000 from steel firms. His labor-endorsed opponent who won is John A. Conway, Democrat, whose lead was more than 1600 votes.

The Labor Reader—

A Spotlight On Incomes

By C. W. FOWLER

Every worker knows certain basic facts about life in American industrial society. He knows that most frequently he and his fellow workers don't get enough money to buy the things that he and his family need for decent living. He knows that his income, what with hard times, layoffs, unemployment, can't stretch far enough to bring in the food and clothing and shelter that every American family should have.

He suspects further that millions of families like his are in the same leaky economic boat—and that a lucky minority doesn't have to worry or do without the way the majority does.

Every so often, however, the government comes along to remind him of it, and to tell the public at large just what share of the national income the people of America get. This the government has just done in a lengthy and carefully documented study on the incomes of U. S. consumers and how they are spent.

The study is complete, as all government reports are, with statistics, graphs, charts and tables. Out of this statistical welter certain basic and high-powered facts emerge—and some of them are dynamite.

THE FACTS

Some 29,400,300 families and 10,058,000 individuals during the year 1935-36 covered by the study spent $59.3 billion. Most of this (85 per cent) went for current expenses—food, clothing and shelter. Twenty-nine per cent went for food, 16 per cent for housing, almost 10 per cent for clothing, etc.

This was the overall expenditure for all families and individuals covered in the study. But the expenditure wasn't equally laid out by all these millions of people—far from it.

One third spent less than $780 during the year surveyed. One third spent between $780 and $1450, and the top third from $1450 up. The bottom two-thirds didn't hold their expenses down just because they were thrifty—they held them down because that was all they had.

(Incidentally, other government studies have shown that upwards of $2200 is the annual income needed for the full life, if the full life is to proceed according to established minimums for the food, clothing and shelter, plus other goods and services, that an American family should consume.)

A NATIONAL DEFICIT

At that, the lower one third consumed a smaller proportionate share of food than the other groups. Their average income of $471 wouldn't let them buy any more. Worse than that, it forced them into a deficit of $92 per year. In other words, to live, they had to go in the hole for 20 per cent of their expenditure.

The next one third, though the report describes it as "this American middle class," did a little better, but not much. On an average income of $1076, this group managed to get by with a $19 deficit.

"Thus," the report says, "for the poorer two-thirds of the nation, the incomes received during 1935-36 were too low, on the average, to cover current outlays." In other words, two-thirds of 29,000,000 families and 10,000,000 individuals did not make enough money per year to cover expenses they had to lay out in order to survive.

THE TOP THIRD

The top third in the three categories set out by the report, while they did better than the others, weren't all on consumers' easy street. Of this "top third," only 4.5 per cent got more than $3,000 ($800 above the desirable minimum of $2,200), only two per cent got more than $5,000, only one half of one per cent got more than $15,000. But—

"This top half of one per cent," the report says, "received nearly ten per cent of the $59 billion consumer income in 1935-36—almost as much as the whole lower third." And while the lower third had to spend all its money and more on living costs, the top half per cent only had to spend less than half of its take on all costs. The rest went into savings.

"There is plainly urgent need for improvement in the purchasing power of more than half of the nation's consumers, and ample room for a substantial expansion of the American consumer market."

Or as Pres. Lewis put it somewhat more forcefully in his report to the first CIO convention: "Full production in the modern economy is based on effective consuming power. Consuming power must at all times be able to absorb the full product of our economy. Broadly speaking it is the lack of adjustment between consuming power and productive capacity which brings us face to face with the paradox of plenty on the one hand, and on the other, people ill housed, ill clothed and ill fed."

"Consumer Expenditures in the U. S.," report of the National Resources Committee; 195 pages; U. S. Govt. Printing Office, price 50 cents.

CALIFORNIA ELDER CITIZENS shown working in a local office of the $30 Every Thursday plan, which went down to defeat in the state elections on Nov. 7.

By CECIL OWEN

Now that the neutrality debate is ended and Congress ready to go home, the real questions facing the country again appear.

Washington which has a way of attaching more importance to personalities than to policies is vastly concerned with the speculation over a third term for Roosevelt.

Actually, the third-term issue is of secondary importance. The real issue is what are to be Roosevelt's policies. Serious domestic problems have been shelved for months but they still remain and cry aloud for action.

While the war debate has taken all the headlines, a few of the legislators at the Capitol have been quietly thinking about the basic problems. One of these is Rep. Lee E. Geyer, D., Calif., who is circulating among his constituents a proposed program to keep us out of war. It is summarized here for purposes of discussion.

THREE SUGGESTIONS

Geyer's program has three main points: 1. Take all the profits out of war; 2. Guard against incidents such as the sinking of the Lusitania, likely to incite war fever in this country; 3. Preserve and extend democracy at home.

Under the first heading, Geyer would nationalize the munitions industry, curb all profiteering on food and other necessities, and continue protection of labor's right to organize and bargain collectively.

The second heading corresponds with the Administration's neutrality bill excluding American ships and citizens from war zones, curtailing credit to war nations, and the title and carry provisos.

DEMOCRACY AT HOME

Here is the third section about democracy at home:

a. Protect the civil liberties (freedom of speech, press, and assembly) of ALL Americans in order that the desire of the American people to remain at peace may continually be voiced.

b. Allow every group regardless of whether they are in the minority or the majority to continue to exercise the rights of freedom of speech, press, assembly, and worship as guaranteed under the constitution lest this denial become contagious and spread until the privileges be lost.

c. Insist on the right of a job at a decent living wage for every man able to work, and an adequate pension to those past employment age, not as charity, but as a right. This will provide the economic basis of real national unity and patriotism giving no chance for un-American doctrines to gain headway.

APPRENTICE TRAINING

The need of more apprentices in various skilled trades is seen by the Army and Navy Munitions Board which is preparing a report on the subject. It says lack of apprentices in skilled trades may "seriously interfere" with authorized upbuilding of the armed services.

The two federal agencies, the Labor Department and the Office of Education, are sponsoring apprentice training programs. Federal aid is provided in cooperation with employers and labor. Indications are this program may soon be expanded.

While the federal agencies concerned have a good "paper" policy that calls for joint supervision by employers and labor it does not always work out that way. Reports from Ohio tell of a rubber company apprentice program which not only froze out the union but actually implanted anti-labor thoughts in the minds of the students.

Protests to Washington brought promises this situation would be corrected and the company required to conform to policy. Labor elsewhere needs to be on guard against abuse of the apprentice system.

Retail Employes Meet Dec. 11

NEW YORK, Nov. 11.—The United Retail and Wholesale Employes, CIO, will hold its second biennial convention in Huntington, W. Va., on Dec. 11, Pres. Samuel Wolchok announced today.

Hotel Pritchard will be headquarters for the delegates.

Arrangements have been made for special train facilities to take the expected large number of New York delegates to the sessions. Huntington was picked as the convention city, it was pointed out, because of its proximity to organized retail and wholesale centers in the east and middle west.

The union held its first epochal convention in Pittsburgh two years ago. Formation of the URWE marked a new stage in the fight against corruption and inaction in the AFL retail clerks union.

Within the two-year period, the URWE has organized many thousands of retail employes, as well as workers in wholesale and warehouse establishments. The convention, it is expected, will chart plans for an extended drive in all sections of the country.

MONEY TO IWA

Seattle, Wash. — Ray Becker, longtime labor prisoner recently freed, has donated $200 left in his defense committee's treasury, to the Intl. Woodworkers of America.

Radio Code Battle:

Akron CIO Wins Point In Broadcast Fight

MIKE QUILL, head of the Transport Workers Union and candidate for re-election to New York City's Council, does a bit of last-minute campaigning. Results will be known next week.

AKRON, Ohio, Nov. 11.—Akron labor today had regained the use of its radio voice, though wondering if it would again be gagged by local station operators.

The program, the weekly "Voice of Labor" is sponsored by the Akron Industrial Union Council. Last month Mrs. E. F. Melrose, manager of Station WJW, ruled the program off the air, using as her excuse the new code of the National Association of Broadcasters.

The station's retraction of its earlier decision followed admission by Mrs. Melrose that programs contracted for previous to the formulation of the code cannot be ruled off the airwaves. What will happen at the end of three months, when the contract expires, remains to be seen, union leaders said.

PLAN CAMPAIGN

In the meantime the Akron CIO Council is planning a campaign of pressure to secure establishment of labor's right to the air.

The entire subject of labor's demand for radio time was reviewed last week when two representatives of the broadcasters debated Wilmer Tate, Akron labor veteran, and James Wishart, assistant educational director of the United Rubber Workers.

CITE POSITION

"We want the right to buy time like an advertiser with a legitimate product to sell," said Tate. "We are not asking for charity, but for a guarantee that we will not be shoved off the air at the whim of some Chamber of Commerce."

Free forums and debates proposed by the broadcasters as alternatives to the banned labor programs were assailed as "soothing syrup to lull us while we are robbed of our basic rights."

The broadcasters' code of ethics was adopted a few months ago. It forbids discussion of controversial issues on paid time, excepting political campaign discussions.

Estimate 'Blue Card' Back Wages Award At Close to $200,000

By HAROLD ROSSMAN

JOPLIN, Mo., Nov. 11.—Tri-State locals of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, victorious in their long Labor Board struggle against the Eagle-Picher Companies, today invited men who have gone to work since the 1935 strike, to join the union and protect their jobs.

This invitation was voiced by Board Member Tony McTeer of the CIO union as the first flood of wild reports about the decision subsided and the fact emerged that 207 strikers were allowed back pay in the sweeping decision. Of these, 175 were given full reinstatement rights and 18 placed on the preferential hiring list.

To estimate the amount of back pay, according to Hugh E. Sperry, regional NLRB director, would be "sheer guess work," but the award "may not exceed $200,000." Company estimates had risen as high as $1,000,000.

The Board's decision, which found the companies guilty of some of the most outrageous actions yet to come before it, ordered the Eagle-Picher Co. and its wealthy, wholly-owned subsidiary, the Eagle-Picher Mining & Smelting Co., to fire enough men hired after the strike to make places for the workers named in the order.

However, some 300 of these men have accepted the union's bid to join, and these men are unlikely to lose their jobs, McTeer declared.

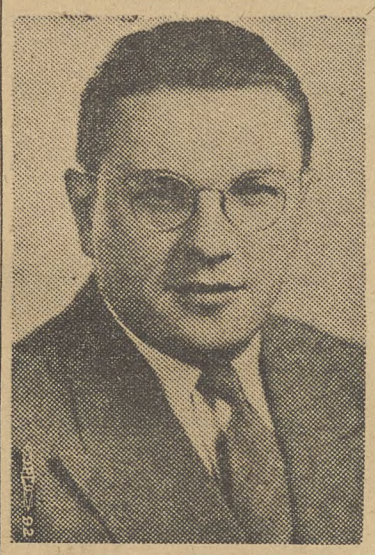
19 SILICOSIS CASES

Some 19 men were disallowed any relief because of the fact that they have contracted lead poisoning and silicosis as a result of their work for the Eagle-Picher Companies under unsafe conditions, and for this reason are unemployable.

The Board's decision spells finis for the AFL's notorious "Blue Card" union, which served as a stooge for operators in the Tri-State area. Time after time the Board order refers to evidence disclosing that Eagle-Picher and other operators in the district were caught red-handed in their violations of the federal laws.

Every known method was used to break the miners' strike. Violence, hiring of thugs and criminals, fake arrests, destruction of union halls, influencing of police authorities, pick-handle parades and payment of $15,000 to the Blue Card union are but a few of the unfair activities exposed and condemned by the Board.

Re-Elected



PRES. REID ROBINSON of the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers was re-elected to office by an overwhelming majority, results of a membership referendum revealed. Robinson was elected a CIO vice-president at the San Francisco convention.

GUILD UNIT

Los Angeles. — An American Newspaper Guild unit has been formed at the Associated Press bureau here.

Order Poll After Year's Delay

Washington, Nov. 11 — An election among employes of the Planters Manufacturing Co., Inc., Portsmouth, Virginia, first ordered by the Labor Board nearly a year ago, and tied up in the courts by opposition of the company, has again been ordered held within 30 days.

Employes whose names appear on any payroll in July, August or September 1939 will be eligible to vote in the election which will determine whether or not they want to be represented by CIO Local Industrial Union 485.

The Board's first election order was issued Dec. 20, 1938, but was postponed at the request of the Baltimore regional director of the Board, pending compliance with the order by the company.

On July 26, 1939, the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit entered a decree enforcing the Board's order. The regional director recommended on October 24 that a poll be scheduled.

Assails Weakening of Wagner Act

Amendments, Sissy Policies Hit By Carey

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11.—A warning that maladministration of the Wagner Act is becoming a greater threat than the drive for amendments to that Act was sounded today by CIO Sec. James B. Carey in a statement filed with the Senate Committee on Education and Labor.

Tracing the history of opposition to the Labor Act through its various stages, Carey — who heads the powerful United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers — charged that "just as those groups sought to wreck the Act through amendments, so do they now seek to wreck it without amendments by influencing the National Labor Relations Board."

PLAYING POLITICS?

Sounding a theme heard frequently at the CIO convention in San Francisco, Carey continued:

"At least a part of that board (the NLRB) appears to have lost sight of the purpose of the Act and to have abandoned to a great degree the rigid and strict furtherance of those purposes, in order that they might indulge in playing politics—adjusting the principles of the law in an outrageous way to 'pressure' and threats from the known and avowed enemies of the Act.

WEIGHS HIS WORDS

"I weigh what I say carefully," the youthful CIO secretary declared, "when I state that in our view it is not beyond possibility that this kind of shabby manipulation of what is a good piece of legislation could very well turn the Act into a deterrent to industrial democracy.

"It is possible indeed, that this might happen to such a degree that organized labor . . . might have to organize its forces to seek to repeal the Act **in toto** if the enemies of the Act continue to be as successful as they have been during recent months in inducing the Board to contravene the purposes of the Act."

Earlier in his statement, Carey told of the great benefits which the electrical and radio workers have received from the Wagner Act, and cited the cases of the RCA Manufacturing Co., Westinghouse Electric and General Electric to prove his case that industrial peace has been gained because of the Act's protection to workers.

QUOTES GE OFFICIAL

He quoted from a speech by W. R. Burrows, General Electric vice-president in charge of labor relations to prove that the Wagner Act is no bar to satisfactory industrial relations. Burrows declared:

"Nine times out of ten, strikes are the management's fault and nine times out of ten when there are grievances, it's the management's fault.

"I can't look upon the CIO with any animosity.

"We have had no trouble with the Wagner labor law, now under fire from many quarters. It was designed to take the part of the employe who can't take care of himself. My suggestion would be to let the Wagner law ride and let some of those employers who haven't tried it, give it a try."

GIVE $100

Columbus, Ohio. — The Ohio Industrial Union Council has donated $100 to the Hearst Chicago strike committee.

Rubber Pact Lifts Wages

Elmhurst, L. I., Nov. 11 — A general five per cent wage increase, a closed shop and check-off of union dues are among the terms provided in a contract signed by Local 153, United Rubber Workers and the Elmhurst Rubber Co.

The contract also provides one year's service, departmental seniority, and protection of seniority in case employes are called into military service.

Grievances which cannot be settled between the union and the management are to be submitted to an arbitration board whose decision will be binding.

Cudahy Fake Union Dies

Washington, Nov. 11—The Cudahy Packing Co., Chicago, has been ordered by the Labor Board to throw out its company union, the Packing House Workers Union, unaffiliated.

A secret election was also ordered at the Kansas City plant to determine whether the production and maintenance employes wish to be represented by the CIO local of the United Packinghouse Workers, or by an AFL union, or neither.

Rap Board Action At Goodrich

AKRON, Ohio, Nov. 11 — Charging that no opportunity for oral arguments had been given to Local 5, United Rubber Workers, by the Labor Board in its decision granting an election to six pattern makers in the giant B. F. Goodrich plant here, a rehearing of the case has been demanded by the CIO union.

In a letter to Chairman J. Warren Madden of the Board, the union's counsel, Stanley Denlinger, said that the decision was announced in the newspapers before the union was informed that it had been rendered.

Jersey Council To Hold Meet In Hague-Town

NEWARK, Nov. 11.—The second annual convention of the New Jersey State Industrial Union Council will be held Saturday and Sunday, November 18 and 19.

The convention will be held in the same city—Jersey City—in which a little over a year ago CIO organizers were beaten and deported. Host to the convention will be the powerfully organized Hudson County Industrial Union Council.

National leaders of the CIO will participate in the celebration and deliberations of the 500 delegates that are expected to attend.

Among those scheduled to speak are CIO Vice Presidents, Philip Murray, R. J. Thomas, S. H. Dalrymple and Reid Robinson and Secretary James Carey. John Brophy will bring the greetings of President John L. Lewis to the delegates.

Council Pres. W. J. Carney in a pre-convention statement hailed the "great victory of the CIO in holding our Second Annual Convention in Jersey City". Pres. Carney pointed out that "the theme of the convention will be organize the unorganized and there is no better place to launch such a drive than in Jersey City. I will be proud to report to the convention that the State CIO membership is 30% greater than it was a year ago.

"This convention will mark a great step forward in the history of the labor movement and will be a progressive step forward in wiping out the sweat-shops that have made the name of our State notorious."

Greater Boston Council Chartered By CIO

BOSTON, Mass., Nov. 11—Another of the nation's big cities today had a functioning CIO industrial union council.

A council for greater Boston—including not only the city itself but some 5 nearby suburbs—received its charter from national CIO headquarters this week.

Donal M. Sullivan, a Newspaper Guild national vice-president, is president of the new group, its vice-president is Charles Higgins of the Mine Workers and James Gavin of the National Maritime Union is secretary-treasurer.

Other unions represented on the executive committee include the clothing workers, furniture workers, packinghouse workers, shipbuilding workers and retail and wholesale employes.

Michael Widman, Jr., who is leaving the CIO directorship post in Boston this month to become assistant director of organization for the CIO, predicted the council will become a powerful influence in the Boston metropolitan area.

Minneapolis Local In Drive

Minneapolis, Nov. 11—Local 1146 of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers is pushing a drive in the city's tractor plants.

The local, which started out as a combination of plant groups forming a machinists local, it now has a growing membership and has raised wages considerably, according to Sec. F. L. Bigham.

See AFL Heading For Fall At RCA

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11. — The AFL electrical workers' union is either "silly or courageous" if it goes ahead with plans for a Labor Board election at the RCA Manufacturing Co. in Camden, N. J., Sec. James Carey of the CIO said today.

Carey, who heads the CIO electrical and radio workers union, presented arguments on the case to National Labor Relations Board officials this week after the Board, ignoring the fact that the CIO has had a contract at the plant for three years, ordered an election among the several thousand employes.

Basis for the poll order was a claim of the AFL Intl. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers that it had signed application cards from 4,000 of the RCA people.

MUSTY CARDS

But Carey said a large majority of the cards were obtained by the IBEW during a 1936 strike, which finally ended in the CIO pact. The IBEW case wobbled even more when its leaders met a request to show the cards with an alibi that they "had been stolen from the office."

The AFL outfit, which has few members at RCA, will probably withdraw from the ballot to avoid a thumping defeat, Carey said.

If it withdraws, there will be no need for a poll, he continued, since it was the AFL union, not the CIO, that asked for the election in the first place.

Reason for the AFL's meddling in the situation, Carey charged, was to injure the CIO's bargaining position in approaching contract discussions.

PAY RAISED

Battle Creek, Mich.—A contract won by the Battle Creek Newspaper Guild at the Enquirer & News has lifted pay $3,000 a year.

Toledo Labor Goes To Town

VOTE LABOR! was the plea of Toledo Labor's Non-Partisan League as it sent this "locomotive" through city streets with advertising for five city council candidates and others on the League-endorsed list.

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II — No. 47 — 20 — Send form 3578-P to 1106 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. — NOVEMBER 20, 1939 — Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 — $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

CIO RADIO WORKERS CRUSH AFL 6 TO 1

Inside The News

CIO Chosen
by thousands of workers in Labor Board elections in radio, shoe industries over AFL interventionists.
PAGE ONE, THREE

Pius XII
defends right of workers to join unions in recent encyclical.
PAGE ONE, FIVE

Seamen
hit refusal of Maritime Commission to carry out President Roosevelt's promise of relief for beached workers.
PAGE SIX

Election
full returns show labor candidates victorious in industrial cities throughout U. S.
PAGE FIVE

'Organize'
the unorganized drives mapped by CIO affiliates in Indiana, Connecticut.
PAGE SEVEN

Labor Rights
assured to CIO steel workers in court decision against Republic Corp.
PAGE EIGHT

Pay-Hour Bureau Opened

New York, Nov. 18 — A free information service on the newly effective wage-hour provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act has been set up nationally by the United Office & Professional Workers, CIO.

The service, which will aid employes in collecting wages due them under the Act and in enforcement of the 42-hour week, is available in the major cities of the country through some 40 of the union's locals in the commercial, publishing, financial and other fields coming under the scope of the Act.

PAMPHLET ISSUED

A special pamphlet, "Your Rights under the Wages and Hours Law", has been printed by the UOPW for free distribution nationally to office and professional employes to acquaint them with the Act's provisions.

The pamphlet points out that while the UOPW is striving to secure shorter hours and better wages than the minimums set by the Wage law, it believes that unorganized employes are entitled to government protection.

The UOPW therefore supported the successful campaign to enact the Wage-Hour Act and is now cooperating with the U. S. Government to have it properly enforced.

Pope Defends Workers' Right to Join Unions

(See Story Page Five)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18—A powerful defense of workers' rights to join unions, and to seek wages sufficient to support their families, was contained in the encyclical issued by Pope Pius XII to the American Catholic hierarchy last week.

Discussing the right of workers to organize, the encyclical noted that "since it is legitimate to promote by common effort decent livelihood, it is not possible without injustice to deny or to limit either to the producers or to the laboring and farming classes the free faculty of uniting in associations by means of which they may defend their proper rights and secure the betterment of the goods of soul and of body, as well as the honest comforts of life."

The Pope's message, which touched upon many aspects of American life, lamented the fact that a large section of our population, "though robust, capable and willing, cannot have the work for which they are anxiously seeking." The Pontiff expressed hope that government, workers and employers would find a solution to the unemployment problem.

Of wages, Pius XII said: "The salaries of the workers, as is just, are to be such that they are sufficient to maintain them and their families." He quoted his predecessor, Pius XI, to show that social reforms should be carried on to reach this goal.

When CIO Pickets Relax

CIO pickets on the San Francisco waterfront, members of the Ship Clerks Union, take it easy between turns on the line. Close to 650 are on strike for improved working conditions.

Brophy To Speak at N. J. Convention

Jersey City, N. J., Nov. 18 — The annual convention of the New Jersey CIO Industrial Union Council opens here today at the Grand View Auditorium. John Brophy of the CIO national office, representing John L. Lewis, and other CIO leaders will speak.

Shoe Workers Add 2 to 1 Vote for CIO

(See Story Page 3)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18. — Two CIO unions this week showed by overwhelming votes that industrial workers, when called on to show their preference, are still choosing CIO industrial unions by large majorities.

In Camden, N. J., 6,294 workers at the Radio Corporation of America plant, biggest radio factory in the world, voted for the CIO United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers to 1,035 for the AFL's Intl. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

In Portsmouth, Ohio, the CIO United Shoe Workers polled 1,379 votes in a runoff election at the Selby Shoe Co., to 884 against. In a previous vote, the AFL polled 751 votes against 1,205 for the CIO, with "no union" getting 498.

The Camden victory was described as a repudiation of AFL tactics of sabotaging CIO organizations, since the AFL claim to an election was based on a shaky claim to representation.

The Electrical and Radio Workers, in protesting the Labor Board order for the election, pointed out that they have held a contract at RCA for three years.

Youch Yells 'Ouch' After U. S. Pinch

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18—Youch and Youch, garment makers in nearby Baltimore, have felt the pinch of the Wage Hour Act in some 29 indictments for chiselling just slapped down on them by the Grand Jury.

The Youch brothers, who employ 175 workers, are charged with failing to pay the legal minimum, failing to pay overtime, failing to keep proper records, with falsifying what records they kept and with shipping goods in interstate commerce in violation of the act.

The Messrs. Youch and Youch, according to the Wage Hour Dept., employ mostly "elderly foreign women, all of whom were paid substantially below the minimum of 25 cents an hour."

The minimum was raised by law on October 24 to 30 cents, which increases the difficulties of the firm of Youch and Youch by five cents an hour.

Big Smelter Bows to Union

PERTH AMBOY, N. J., Nov. 18—Two strike victories were won by CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers here and in Newark, N. J., when employers signed contracts with important gains for the union.

In Perth Amboy, 1,200 workers won improved safety and health conditions, overtime pay for holidays, tighter seniority rules and 62.5 cents an hour for a 40-hour week from the American Smelting and Refining Co.

In Newark, 100 previously unorganized workers who walked out following the Perth Amboy strike won three to 19 cent-an-hour raises and other gains in line with conditions at bigger plants at the Federated Metals Co.

The American Smelting and Refining contract puts a stop to company habits of summarily discharging men with occupational diseases, allows the workers access to the company doctor at any time, whereas before they had to wait his convenience, and puts dismissals under union review.

The company also agreed verbally to a demand for paid vacations.

Many Packinghouse Polls Loom

Copper Tax Cut 'Mistaken'

Washington, D. C., Nov. 18—The federal government had before it today an appeal from President Reid Robinson of the International Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers not only to refrain from reducing the copper import tax but to block loopholes in the present tax, which have made it costly to Uncle Sam and ineffective as a protection for American workers.

Joining with our organizations protesting a two-cent reduction for Chile in the four-cent tax on imported copper-bearing ores and concentrates, President Robinson goes further and contends that the present tax is so full of loopholes that it is worthless.

MISTAKEN

"Bluntly and clearly," declared Robinson, "thos who have gone on the assumption since Congress passed this tax in 1932 that the domestic copper industry is receiving a four-cent-a-pound protection and the government is receiving revenue therefrom have been completely and continually mistaken and deceived.

"There has not been one iota of protection for the domestic industry, nor one cent of revenue for the government from this tax."

In his memorandum submitted to the Committee on Reciprocity Information of the State Department, which is considering the change, Robinson pointed out a number of these loopholes.

He called the committee's attention to the fact the beneficiaries of any reduction would not be Chile, as a nation, but rather the American interests which control its copper deposits—chiefly Anaconda and Kennecott Copper. As shown above, these companies can now bring in all the copper they want without paying the four-cent tax under the drawback set-up.

"The difference is," says Robinson, "that they would use the lower price of copper that would result to close down their comparatively higher-cost domestic operations, bring about wage cuts here, cause more unemployment here—and still have all the cheap copper from abroad to supply their needs."

The memorandum contends that the only result of a reduction in the amount of the tax would be to reduce the price of copper and to reduce wages and employment in domestic copper mines. Added relief costs would be an extra measure of loss to the United States from such a reduction, the report argues.

It concludes:

"It is our contention, now that we have called the above points to your attention, that the State Department and this committee should use this opportunity to recommend that the present four-cent tax really be made effective so that the government may in fact obtain some revenue thereby, and so that the domestic industry may in fact win some protection thereby."

Chicago Armour Workers Vote This Week

CHICAGO, Nov. 18—Labor Board elections in a half-dozen key packinghouse centers appear slated during the next few months as the CIO Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee campaign rolls on towards national contracts with big employers.

The elections are expected to contribute to the already successful organizing drive which the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, under the leadership of Van A. Bittner, has conducted during the past eighteen months.

Topping the list is the vote scheduled for Armour's main Chicago plant, where several thousand workers are slated to give the CIO a thumping majority while laying the ghost of an AFL company union outfit.

"We have an opportunity to bury the AFL disrupters under such an avalanche of votes that they can never again lift their heads among packinghouse workers," PWOC Asst. Director Henry Johnson declared.

The Chicago Armour vote will take place on Nov. 21, just 13 months after another election in which the AFL received a 4-1 thumping. With an even greater majority expected this autumn, one of Armour's pet worries—its concern for the phoney outfit will no longer be able to hold up contract negotiations with the CIO union.

In the Peoria election, the CIO is opposing not only the AFL meat cutters but two craft unions as well. Here, too, PWOC officials promise victory.

Meanwhile, the NLRB has received appeals for an election at the Cudahy plant in Kansas City, where the company has been told to kill a dominated union which attempted unsuccessfully to woo the affections of the plant's 1,000 employes.

IN SOUTH

In the deep south, PWOC Local 78 is awaiting word from the Labor Board on an election at the Cudahy plant in Albany, Ga.

Workers at Wilson Bros. in Chicago may also have a chance to vote for the PWOC. Labor Board hearings are slated for Nov. 20 and the union's arguments favoring a poll will be given to NLRB representatives.

Union Pressure Wins HealthMeasures, Ends 'Gas Fume' Menace

LEWISTOWN, Pa., Nov. 18—A new health program to cover ultimately the 20,000 workers in all plants of the American Viscose Corp. has been put into effect at the company's big plant here, the Textile Workers Union of America has announced.

Pressure brought by the CIO textile union some time ago resulted in a survey being made by the Pennsylvania Dept. of Labor & Industry with the cooperation of the U. S. Dept. of Labor, of the hazards of carbon disulphide poisoning suffered by workers in the production of viscose rayon yarn.

The new health plan which was announced by William D. Silcox, plant manager, will be tried out at the Lewistown plant and when it is functioning successfully, will be extended to the other mills in the Viscoe chain at Marcus Hook and Meadville, Pa.; Roanoke, and Front Royal, Va.; and Parkersburg and Nitro, W. Va.

PUBLICIZED CASE

The rayon division of the CIO textile union shortly after it was formed, brought to the attention of the industry and of the nation for the first time, President Emil Rieve pointed out, that rayon workers were subjected to poison gases.

Findings of the government investigators substantiated the union's charges, declared Herbert W. Payne, director of the Synthetic Yarn Division of the union, and awakened the industry to the dangers of carbon disulphide. The plan of sanitary and health innovations announced by Viscose Corp. is the culmination of these efforts.

Gary CIO Maps Sports Program

Gary, Ind., Nov. 18. — Lake County CIO unions are going in for athletics in a big way, reports Chester Schleff of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee. The Lake County CIO Industrial Union Council is backing both the girls' and boys' basketball teams of the Club Vida. Most of the club belong to the SWOC.

Records of the teams are something to boast about, Schleff says. The girls' team won the Mid-Western IWO League tournament in Chicago, in 1938, won the National semi-final tournament in Cleveland, and took second place in the national tournament in Philadelphia.

In 1939 the boys' team won the Mid-Western IWO League tournament and took third place in the national tournament held in Chicago. This year the winner goes to New York for the national tournament.

The girls' team is entered in the Gary and Calumet City, Ill. leagues while the boys' team is entered in the Armory league in Gary and the IWO league in Chicago.

Labor Law Parley Urges Cooperation Of Government

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 18.—Close cooperation with organized labor was urged by the Sixth National Conference on Labor Legislation at its three-day meeting here this week, based on recognition of the fact that "labor departments are set up to protect the interests of labor."

The conference discussion centered around methods of cooperation between state and federal labor departments in administration of federal labor laws and maintenance of labor standards.

Members of the conference are appointed each year by the U. S. Department of Labor to discuss state labor laws and their administration. Governors send members of their state labor departments and others who have special knowledge in the field of labor legislation are invited by the Secretary of Labor. Many CIO leaders attended this year's sessions.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED

Among the subjects discussed were: More effective administration of state wage-hour laws, strengthening labor departments, repeal of poll taxes, plans to assist agricultural and migratory labor, support of the Wagner Health bill, coordination of labor law administration into one department, apprentice training, child labor and industrial bygiene.

George G. Kidwell, director of California's Department of Industrial Relations told the group that Government cannot hope to take any fundamental steps toward curing our economic ills without an alert labor movement which asserts itself economically and politically.

Among CIO leaders who participated in the Conference were: Allan S. Haywood, national organization director of the CIO; Raymund Edmundson, CIO regional Director from Illinois; Frank Bender, CIO director, from Maryland; Lucy R. Mason, Textile Workers Union; James B. Carey, president of the Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers and CIO Secretary; James Robb, regional director of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee and the CIO in Indiana; Ralph Hetzel, CIO unemployment director; J. T. Alford, Federation of Flat Glass Workers.

Hearst Strikers Win Point

Chicago, Nov. 18—Enforcement of the Chicago Newspaper Guild's injunction against Hearst strike violence took a step ahead here when Judge Lupe ordered the management to "show cause" why it should not be held in contempt of court for repeated violations.

The injunction, obtained Oct. 16, came as a winning move in the Guild's 11-month strike against the two Hearst papers here, which have been reduced to one through losses incurred by management's refusal to bargain collectively with the CIO newsworkers.

Before the Guild injunction was secured, the strike was marked by constant violence of Hearst goon squads against the 500 men and women who walked out nearly a year ago. Guild pickets were beaten up, Guild sound cars dumped in the Chicago river, even a Guild motorboat "torpedoed" at management's orders.

At the same time, management engaged in a legal campaign against striker's rights to picket and to urge advertisers and readers not to use the Hearst papers.

War Or Peace—

Labor's Doings Are Still The Big News For You!

You'll find the best labor stories in—

THE CIO NEWS

$1 a Year

THE CIO NEWS
1106 Connecticut Ave.,
Washington, D. C.

Here's a dollar. Send The CIO NEWS for one year to:

Name .....

Street .....

City ..... State .....

11-20

CIO Radio Vote Blankets AFL By 6-1 Majority

CAMDEN, N. J., Nov. 18.—More than 6,000 workers in the huge RCA plant here, biggest radio factory in the world, showed their preference for the CIO Electrical and Radio Workers over the AFL in the crushing way American workers have been using lately—by a better than six to one majority in a Labor Board election.

The vote, announced by Labor Board officials here, totalled 6,294 for the CIO United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, to 1,035 for the AFL Intl. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Results bore out the first part of a prophecy by James B. Carey, UERMW president, who said last week that the AFL was either "silly or courageous" in going ahead with the election.

VINDICATES CIO

The election, ordered by the Labor Board in spite of protests by the CIO union, was seen in labor circles as a complete vindication of CIO policy and as a rebuke to Board practices of "appeasing" disgruntled anti-industrial union elements.

The AFL pre-election campaign, one of the most intensive anti-CIO drives put on in the industry, brought more than 50 AFL organizers and other officials to Camden in an endeavor to destroy the CIO union.

These individuals slipped quietly out of town before the election results were made public, CIO union officials said today.

Lewis Hails Canada CIO

Washington, Nov. 18.—President John L. Lewis today sent congratulations to the newly formed Canadian Committee of Industrial Organizations, set up at a conference held in Ottawa, Ont., last week as prelude to a nationwide drive for industrial organization. Lewis' letter was sent to Silby Barrett, chairman of the new group.

"I am gratified to know that representatives of the various CIO unions in Canada have joined with you in the establishment of a Canadian Committee of Industrial Organizations," he wrote.

CIO Model

Elaine Fried, 21-year-old member of the Models Division of the United Office and Professional Workers, CIO, was chosen "model model" at union contest. She will preside at the Artists and Models Ball in New York Thanksgiving night.

Back to Work Move Supported By Coughlin Flops

DETROIT, Nov. 18. — The Chrysler Corporation dropped three rounds in rapid fire succession this week in its fight to destroy the union chosen by its employes.

Most eloquent testimony that the Corporation has failed to make a dent in the morale of its locked-out workers was a cheering, enthusiastic meeting of 45,000 CIO members in Cadillac Square last Wednesday.

On the same day a back-to-work movement—inspired by the corporation with attempted stimulation by the three Detroit dailies, Father Charles Coughlin and a former president of the UAW — fell flat on its face. Less than 1,000 of the 55,000 Chrysler workers reported to the eight Detroit plants in response to this phase of the Mohawk Valley Formula.

The third loss sustained by Chrysler was a scathing criticism and denunciation of the Corporation's ally, Father Coughlin, by his own colleagues among the Catholic clergy.

A principle speaker at the Cadillac Square Rally was the Rt. Rev. Monsignor John S. Mies, pastor of Our Lady of the Rosary Church, who attacked Father Coughlin's plea earlier in the week that the government order settlement of the Chrysler dispute.

President R. J. Thomas, announcing at Cadillac Square the collapse of the back to work movement, said: "The corporation now knows how the workers feel about abandoning their union and returning to work without an adjustment of their reasonable demands. I hope the corporation will be dissuaded from further efforts to follow the Mohawk Valley Formula. That formula, pushed to its conclusion, has meant violence and bloodshed, as scores of widows and orphans of workers can testify."

ANOTHER COUGHLIN CRITIC

The severest criticism of Coughlin came from the Rev. Father Raymond C. Clancy, executive secretary of the Archdiocesan Labor Institute in a radio address Wednesday evening.

Earlier in the week Coughlin had declared over the radio that the government was empowered to step in and compel a settlement, that under existing conditions "strikes are neither Christian nor American," and he had quoted from an Encyclical of Pope Pius XI to show that his contentions were in accord with Catholic principles.

"It is not pleasant for me this evening to have to disagree publicly with the statements made by a fellow priest, the Rev. Charles E. Coughlin," Father Clancy said. "Lest these many listeners (Coughlin's) be led astray by the errors into which Father Coughlin has fallen in this present dispute, let us examine the address which was presented . . . last Sunday."

After showing how Coughlin had misinterpreted the Wagner Act and had misrepresented the union demands, Father Clancy said:

MISQUOTED POPE

"We can understand how a priest could be mistaken in his facts and how he could be ignorant of federal law, but there is no excuse for one who is taken by many listeners to be an authority on the Papal Encyclicals to mistake the meaning of the Holy Father. And yet, that is what Father Coughlin did. He misquoted the works of Pius XI; he misinterpreted their meaning; and he inserted his own words in the text with the result that he distorted the thought expressed by the Holy Father."

Steel Prexy Evades Union, Faces New Board Action

NEW YORK, Nov. 18—Their appointment with Pres. Eugene Grace of Bethlehem Steel Corp., disregarded, CIO steel union leaders today planned Labor Board charges against the prosperous anti-union steel fabricator.

E. J. Lever, head of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee's Bethlehem campaign, said that failure of Grace to meet witha SWOC negotiating committee on Nov. 13 had led him to file "refusal to bargain" charges with the National Labor Relations Board.

Lever indicated that the SWOC has also asked the Board for an election to determine the collective bargaining agency for all employes in Bethlehem's far-flung industrial empire. An original plea for a vote filed in 1937 has been held up by the Board pending final outcome of the Board's first case against the corporation—in which it ordered Bethlehem to disband its hoary company union setup.

That case is now in the circuit courts.

NINE WERE PRESENT

The SWOC negotiating committee, comprising nine representatives from the company's eastern mills, visited Grace's offices in New York's Wall Street area at 11 a. m., following out a schedule they had sent to the executive a week before.

Grace made no reply to the union's request that he bargain with the committee.

WANT $5 A DAY

The visit was intended to push the SWOC's demand that Bethlehem immediately establish the $5 a day minimum wage now in effect throughout the remainder of the industry. The steel workers also have demanded an end to the staggered work week, under which the men must work Saturdays and Sundays without extra pay.

Members of the visiting committee included John Ramsay, from Bethlehem, Pa.; John Zeman, Johnstown, Pa.; Bruce Paxton, Steelton, Pa.; Paul Lindemuth, Steelton, Pa.; James Yost, Rankin, Pa.; Edwin Abbot, Sparrows Point, Md., and Harry Mason, Leetsdale, Pa. Accompanying the committee were Lever and Howard T. Curtis, SWOC field representative, both of Bethlehem, Pa.

CIO Ladies Fight 'War' Profiteers

New York, Nov. 18—First action of the newly formed women's auxiliary of the Newspaper Guild here is a sharp attack on profiteering in prices, in the form of a letter suggesting a Price Control Commission sent by the auxiliary to Mayor LaGuardia and Markets Commissioner Wm. Fellowes Morgan, Jr.

"We, the wives, mothers and sisters of organized newspapermen, have, during the past two months, felt the inroads on our purchasing power caused by the unreasonable increase in food prices," the letter said.

"Henceforth, we have been told that all our ills are due to overproduction and a deficiency in purchasing power. Suddenly, within two months, we are expected to believe that the reverse has set in. Of course, this is not true. It is just an example of out-and-out war profiteering. The time has come to put a stop to this raid on the public pocket.

"In an effort to combat these evils, we ask that you appoint a commission to curtail war profiteering. Of course, no such commission will have real value unless the consumer is equally represented."

Gas, Coke Workers Sign New England Pacts

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—A batch of new contracts with gas, coal and coke companies in New England was announced today by Martin Wagner, president of District 50, United Mine Workers.

Negotiations with the Koppers Company, Pres. Wagner said, have resulted in a renewed contract with the Eastern Gas & Fuel Associates, three agreements with the New England Coke Co., and two with the New England Coal & Coke co.

The plant of the Eastern Gas & Fuel Associates, in Everett. Mass., is the largest domestic coke plant in the country.

PAY UP $30,000

The contract with Eastern Gas & Fuel, covering 1,000 workers at its Everett, Mass., plant, which is the largest domestic coke plant in the country, provides for a closed shop and check-off.

Wage adjustments that will bring $30,000 more pay to the workers were effected, and a vacation clause giving two weeks' paid vacation to 96 per cent of the employes was included. The basic common labor rate was raised to 65 cents an hour.

Still to be negotiated are contracts with the Mystic Steamship Co. and the Koppers Tar & Chemical Division, both subsidiaries of the Koppers Co. The same provisions as in the Eastern Gas agreement are expected to be provided.

President Wagner said the contracts should serve "as an object lesson to all reactionary employers who cry out against 'un-American' tactics of labor unions. All these contracts were negotiated in an atmosphere of peaceful labor relations by the proper use of collective bargaining procedure and with proper respect on both sides for the conference table."

900,000 Represented At New York CIO Meet

NEW YORK, Nov. 18—Delegates representing more than 900,000 CIO unionists in the state are attending the second annual convention of the New York State Industrial Union Council which opened here yesterday at Manhattan Center.

The convention will elect a new president to succeed Allan S. Haywood, who is leaving New York to take up his new duties in Washington as national director of organization for the CIO. It will welcome Adolph Germer, formerly CIO regional director in Detroit, who was appointed to succeed Haywood in New York.

LIBERALS SPEAK

U. S. Senator Robert F. Wagner, Governor Herbert H. Lehman and Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia are among the speakers scheduled to address the delegates.

In accordance with policies adopted at the recent CIO national convention in San Francisco, the New York Council will draw up plans for a more intensive organizing drive throughout the state, and will take action on the position of CIO unions in the 1940 presidential elections, the international situation, the National Labor Relations Board, public housing, social security and the Wage-Hour law.

A variety show demonstrating the educational and recreational activities developed by CIO unions during the past year was presented at an extra public session of the convention last night.

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

Congress of Industrial Organizations

John L. Lewis ..... President

Vice-Presidents

Philip Murray — S. H. Dalrymple
Sidney Hillman — Reid Robinson
R. J. Thomas — Emil Rieve

James B. Carey ..... Secretary
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II November 20, 1939 No. 47

The Story Behind the Elections

There is an exciting and significant story behind the recent local elections throughout the United States.

But it is a story you probably haven't seen in the daily press.

Local elections are usually considered to have only local interest. Seldom does the press attempt to make any compilation or analysis of election results in a thousand different counties and cities.

But this year Labor's Non-Partisan League has compiled results affecting labor-endorsed candidates in industrial centers, large and small, throughout the country. These include:

The more than two-to-one defeat of Detroit's anti-CIO Mayor Reading and the election of six League-supported council candidates there.

The election of labor-endorsed mayors in Youngstown, Massillon, Warren, Niles, Campbell and Euclid, Ohio.

The election of ten CIO and League-endorsed councilmanic candidates in Cleveland and of four CIO-backed councilmen apiece in Akron and Canton, Ohio.

The defeat of anti-labor Mayor Shields of Johnstown, Pa., by a League-supported candidate.

The election of scores of CIO-supported candidates, many of them members of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, in steel cities and counties.

The above are just a few samples of the types of election returns that stand out from the still incomplete compilations of Labor's Non-Partisan League.

While it is hard to get a complete picture of the trends revealed by all of the local elections, enough has been reported to show how labor's political strength is becoming organized and effective in every industrial center.

This mobilization of labor's votes for the election of progressive candidates has been made possible, of course, by the growth of industrial organization through the CIO.

In every city and every industrial community now there are CIO unionists who are no longer completely at the mercy of local political bosses, but who can make labor's voice count in the selection and election of candidates pledged to advance labor.

Local elections are not so showy as state or national elections. But nevertheless they are at the grass roots of American politics. and through the local, ward and precinct organization which they develop a firm base is laid for making labor's votes count in elections of wider scope.

The exciting and significant story behind the recent local elections is that through the CIO and Labor's Non-Partisan League, labor is slowly, but surely and demonstrably, developing the organized political power which will win for it the consideration to which it is entitled in the councils of every state and the whole nation.

No Cause to Kid Ourselves

Labor is not letting itself be kidded too much by talk of a war boom.

Industrial production has risen considerably, it is true, and profits are soaring. But on the other hand.

In the past few weeks, the prices of a number of the staple foods have risen as much as 11 per cent.

Due to technological improvements, it takes fewer and fewer workers to produce more and more goods. So recent increases in production are by no means accompanied by increases of similar extent in employment.

Private employment, WPA Commissioner F. C. Harrington revealed in a recent speech, "is not very much higher than it was on January 1." Yet in that period WPA rolls have been reduced by 1,300,000 workers, relatively few of whom have succeeded in getting private jobs.

In addition to the approximately two million WPA workers, he said, there are almost eight million workers completely unemployed—and this at a time when business is supposed to be starting to boom.

The artificial stimulus of war production means big profits for the rich, but for the workers it means rising living costs, which usually outstrip wages; laying off of WPA workers with relatively little increase in private employment; and the prospects of worse economic depression than before when the boom finally collapses.

Certainly there is nothing in this picture to lull workers into a false sense of security. Now more than ever strong unions are needed to eep up labor's end both economically and politically.

Learning the Hard Way

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Crusaders and Sutlers

ONE live fly of truth can be discovered batting its wings in the platitudinous molasses of William Green's recently published book.

In the most purple patch of his drab and sticky prose, Green disclaims any intention on the part of the AFL to be "an army with banners flying, enlisted for a crusade."

Webster defines "crusade" as "vigorous concerted action for the defense of some cause, or the advancement of some idea."

So there will be universal agreement that the AFL, as conceived and led by Green, is in no sense a crusade, with or without banners.

In fact, we can carry our generous agreement with Green's thought to the point of admitting that his leadership represents the very oposite of crusade. Ii might, on the contrary, be described as "feeble divided inaction for the betrayal of labor's cause."

* * *

According to one of those little books that pretends to give you all the facts about everything, the lowest point in the world is the Dead Sea in Palestine, which is 1,290 feet below sea level.

But eminent scientists are now arguing that the AFL news service reached an even lower level when it reprinted as its main story a lengthy article from the anti-labor Chicago Tribune, attacking the CIO with more than usually fantastic inaccuracy.

* * *

There is one thing that can be said for the writers of such attacks on the CIO as the AFL loves to cull from journalistic garbage cans. They have this much respect for the truth, that they keep a most respectful distance from contact with the facts until they have written their pieces.

The particular story referred to was written just about 3,000 miles away from the happenings it purported to report. Yet it pretened to describe intimate scenes of CIO leaders "storming" in and out of rooms arguing about this and that.

Needless to say, the incidents thus imagined never occured and are laughable to anyone who was closer than 3,000 miles to what was going on.

As to storming in and out of rooms and slamming doors, this is the second or third time at least that Chicago Tribune writers, from their vantage point of distance, have thus described CIO leaders behaving in their private conferences.

That may be pattern behavior on the Chicago Tribune. But without wanting to be snobbish or to cramp the Tribune's style, it must be said that in the CIO people are better brought up; they habitually knock on the door before they enter a room and close the door gently but firmly when they go out.

* * *

Some of these people who measure newspaper space like yards of cloth, have estimated that the AFL has devoted some acres of type to knocking the CIO in the past, while CIO retorts can be measured in square inches.

There are several reasons for this geometrical situation.

In the first place, some of the AFL diatribes are so deadly dull that it seems a shame to wake people from the slumbers they induce; while others are wild as the sparring punch-drunk boxer who threatens to knock himself out any moment.

A second reason is that the CIO has more important things to do than to pay attention to the ravings of a little group of frustrated per capita-grabbers.

* * *

Unlike the AFL, the CIO has been proud to call itself a crusade and has no objection whatever to advancing with flying banners.

The CIO has been and still is a crusade to bring the benefits of union organization to millions whom the AFL neglected.

It is a crusade for higher wage and living standards, for greater security and for industrial democracy.

It is a crusade to build up not tear down the strength of organized labor.

And because the leaders and members of the CIO think of themselves as fighters in "an army with banners flying, enlisted for a crusade," they do not react like the sutlers and Hucksters of the AFL camp.

They do not slink in behind the organizers of other unions to trade with labor's enemies; nor have they time or inclination for the endless recriminations and malicious gossip with which some AFL leaders vainly seek to destroy the powerful industrial unions of the CIO.

* * *

Because the CIO is an advancing army, it fully expects to encounter all the poison gas of propaganda at the command of labor's enemies.

If it does not devote all its time to dispelling this gas, it is because its members have the gas masks of their own common sense and because they regard it as more important to concentrate on advancing to their organizational goals.

Memo To Dies:

Probe Lynchings, Texans Demand

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Nov. 18—Congressman Dies, the tireless hunter of "un-Americanism" from Texas, has been challenged to investigate un-American activities in his own political bailiwick of the southwest, in an open letter from the Southern Negro Youth Congress detailing terror and discrimination against Negro citizens.

The letter, signed by Edward E. Strong, Congress secretary, charged that Dies and his Committee have deliberately failed "to investigate the most barbaric hangover from the Dark Ages known to the modern world—the lynching and burning to death of innocent Negro men and women."

CHALLENGE TO DIES

"As a Texan," the letter challenged, "you must know how Negroes are jimcrowed, lynched and segregated in clear violation of the U. S. Constitution. You also know that Negro citizens in Texas are not allowed to participate in the primaries of your own party. We call these practices un-American."

Any Southern Negro can testify to these anti-democratic practices, Strong told Dies, in declaring that "the liberties of Negroes are very much more threatened by Klan-ism in America than by any foreign 'ism' from abroad."

"The test of democracy," he wrote, "as Dr. Frank Graham has pointed out (Dr. Graham is head of the Southern Conference for Social Welfare) is how America treats its Negro minority. This, Congressman Dies, is also the test of your Committee."

CIO Building Workers Urge Gov't Probe

Buffalo, Nov. 18 — Government investigation of the Buffalo Housing Authority has been requested by Julius Goodman Jr., general organizer of the CIO United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, on account of "flagrant violation of the law" in awarding contracts only to those contractors who have the approval of AFL business agents.

The request was made in a telegram to U. S. Attorney General Frank Murphy and a letter to U. S. Attorney George L. Grobe of Buffalo.

Goodman declared there was "a policy of having Harold C. Hanover, Authority secretary and also secretary of the AFL Carpenters District Council, approve all contracts before they were awarded."

Win Cotton Mill Strike

Phoenix, Ariz., Nov. 18—CIO workers in the oil mill plant of the Western Cotton Products here won a substantial victory with a contract providing reinstatement of strikers, union recognition, a grievance committee and monthly meetings with company officials to smooth out disputed points.

The victory was won by members of Local 306 of the Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers. A. M. Collins, local president, described the strike as one of many made necessary by the attitude of the employers, who form "the largest cotton monopoly in California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas."

"Most of the Federal laws, governing social security and protecting wages and hours," he pointed out, "do not apply in the cotton processing industry, which is considered as part of agricultural work. It is, therefore, necessary for us, even more than other workers, to have union protection."

Labor Vote Wins In 7 States, Many Industrial Cities

By ROBERT DALE

WASHINGTON—Candidates supported by labor won many striking victories and made impressive showings everywhere in the Nov. 7 off-year elections. Nearly complete returns have expanded early reports of political gains for labor.

On the basis of a state by state analysis of the results it is apparent that labor voters turned out by the hundreds of thousands and are decisive factors in industrial areas.

MICHIGAN

Supplementing the sensational Detroit victory which saw a liberal mayor and six council candidates elected with CIO and Labor's Non-Partisan League support, voters of nearby Dearborn returned a pro-labor mayor and councilman.

Dearborn, home city of the Ford Motor Company, defeated three anti-labor council candidates, while Judge Leo Schaefer sneaked in by only 420 votes against labor opposition. Clarence Doyle, whom labor backed, got only 8,507 votes to make him third high in the council race.

Ford's service men made an intensive campaign against the CIO-LNPL candidates during which they imported the Rev. Gerald L. K. Smith, Fascist rabble-rouser. Smith got a cold shoulder and his meetings were poorly attended.

Charter amendments in Detroit and Dearborn sought by labor were successful. These related to traffic court, civil service and gas rate subjects.

OHIO

Voters of Ohio's steel areas went down the line for the labor slates and offered tangible evidence of labor's progress in political action.

In addition to Youngstown where sucessful Judge Spagnola had labor backing in the mayoralty race, labor-endorsed mayoralty candidates were elected in five other towns—Massilon, Warren, Niles, Campbell and Euclid.

In Warren, labor support put Mayor W. Strain into office, and also elected J. Fabrizio to the city council. Campbell steel workers elected Anthony Pacella for mayor, and Charles Nelson for city council. William P. Carnel, endorsed by Niles labor, won the mayoralty in that steel city. Euclid, Cleveland suburb, elected pro-labor Kenneth J. Simms

In Akron and Canton where labor's mayoralty candidates lost by narrow margins, voters put four CIO-backed council candidates into office in each city. Akron's council majority was overturned and now has eight Democrats and five Republicans, four of its members being labor union representatives.

Cleveland, where labor entered the campaign late, saw the expected 75,000 margin of Mayor Harold Burton cut down to 37,000 as 11 labor wards went against him. Burton actually ran 16,000 votes behind his primary lead.

Of the 19 councilmanic candidates endorsed by Labor's Non-Partisan League-CIO forces in Cleveland, 10 were elected. Labor scored another victory in the School Board election by renaming two liberal incumbents of its slate of three.

Toledo elected two labor-backed judges—Edgar W. Norris and Harvey G. Straub.

PENNSYLVANIA

Labor in Pennsylvania not only unseated Mayor Daniel Shields, Johnstown, a steel company puppet, but also elected a large number of local candidates in the steel areas.

Endorsed by Labor's Non-Partisan League, the Democratic candidates swept Pittsburgh and elected the largest part of the officials of Allegheny County including two county commissioners.

In Philadelphia, two candidates for city council endorsed by the League were elected and the vacancy caused by the death of Congressman Daly was filled by the League-supported candidate, John E. Sheridan. This makes the Philadelphia delegation to Congress consist of five democrats and two Republicans. In the city-wide election the Democratic-Fusion candidates, support by the League, lost less than 29,500 in a total vote of about 750,000.

In Westmoreland County, Fred J. Broad was elected sheriff and the whole Democratic ticket, supported by the League, was successful.

In Johnstown, Mayor Daniel J. Shields, who acted as the agent of Bethlehem Steel in the strike there, was defeated by the League-supported Democratic candidate John A. Conway. This defeat of Shields was extremely significant, since he fronted for the Bethlehem Steel Corporation against the strikers. Shields had been exposed by the U. S. Senate Civil Liberties Committee as having received $25,000 from steel firms. His labor-endorsed opponent won more than 1,600 votes.

In Lehigh County, the Democratic candidate for mayor of Allentown was re-elected for the county which went Republican in the 1938 congressional fight, is again Democratic.

In Northampton County, home of Bethlehem Steel, Judge Barthold Democrat, supported by the League, was elected to the common pleas court.

In Schuylkill County, Vincent J. Dalton, Democrat, supported by the League for Judge of the common pleas court, was elected.

In Washington County, the League-suported Democrats were elected, including Ross R. Cumsmin, SWOC, as county commissioner.

In Montgomery County, the League-supported candidate for commissioner won the election.

Other candidates supported by the League were elected to local offices throughout the state.

An impressive feature of the returns is the fact that there was wide-spread dissatisfaction and unrest over those in office. This is indicated on the favorable side by the overturn in Sharon, Mercer County, where a democrat, Thomas Dougherty, was elected mayor for the first time in the city's history. In Perry-Juniata District, the Republican incumbent was defeated for judge after 20 years on the bench.

New Jersey and Connecticut labor forces saw many of their local candidates elected, especially in southern New Jersey.

Salt Lake City voters elected David Abbot (Ab) Jenkins, auto race driver, who had labor support, as mayor by a 14-vote lead over Herbert A. Snow, banker and president of the Chamber of Commerce. The labor wards went heavily for Jenkins.

CALIFORNIA

The labor candidate for mayor lost in San Francisco by the narrow margin of 21,000 votes out of a total of 285,745 cast. Congressman Franck R. Havenner, endorsed by Labor's Non-Partisan League, polled 116,256 votes for mayor of San Francisco, despite united newspaper opposition and the fact that he was forced to be away from the city attending to his duties in Congress throughout almost all the campaign. Angelo J. Rossi, incumbent, did not receive a majority, since the total of all opposition candidates exceeded Rossi's total by 8,000 votes.

Two of the state propositions, and all local San Francisco propositions supported by Labor's Non-Partisan League and the Union Labor Party, carried. California rejected "Ham and Eggs" which labor was supporting, but it received about a million votes.

LARGEST PRODUCER OF ROUGH ROLLED GLASS
MISSISSIPPI
GLASS COMPANY
220 FIFTH AVE.
NEW YORK

CORNELIUS PRINTING CO.

Printers for
INTERNATIONAL UNIONS
for more than 30 Years
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
SILVER SPRINGS, MD.

UNION SHOP PRINTING FOR CIO UNIONS
MID-CITY PRESS
NEWSPAPER — LEAFLETS
JOBWORK — PUBLISHING
N. E. Cor. 9th & Spruce Streets
Philadelphia, Pa.

WHOSE POCKETS —

ARE YOU FILLING? When you buy your clothes do you help pay the wage of a union worker, or do you help swell the profits of a sweatshop boss?

• **The Label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America** will give you the answer. When you don't see the label you know that the garment was probably made by an un-American sweatshop chiseler. When you see the Amalgamated label you know that your money will go into the pockets of union workers, earning union pay, working under union conditions.

• **Demand the union label in the clothes you buy** and insure yourself against sweatshop garments, against sweatshop conditions in industry.

You can find the Amalgamated label in union made suits, overcoats, uniforms, work clothes and overalls, workshirts, dress shirts, underwear, gloves, neckties, sheeplined, leather, and sport coats, children's clothing and wash suits.

CIO Seamen Hit U. S. Commission

By C. W. FOWLER

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18—Failure of U. S. Maritime Commission and other government officials to show good faith in carrying out Pres. Roosevelt's order to "consult and cooperate" with the seamen in the present job crisis was sharply criticized by CIO Natl. Maritime Union officials today.

From New York, NMU President Joseph Curran wrote to President Roosevelt that his "excellent plans" for aiding seamen thrown on the beach by neutrality revision "are not being carried out and are, in fact, little less than a joke.'

In the capital, Bjorne Halling, secretary of the CIO Maritime Committee, bluntly declared that the Maritime Commission was "using the present emergency to try to cram an anti-CIO, anti-NMU program down the throats of the seamen."

Both protests came after a National Maritime Union conference at the White House, in which Curran and Halling presented the seamen's point of view, won promises from the President to start Maritime Commission and other relief projects for the beached workers.

HIT COMMISSION

Chief criticism was aimed at the Maritime Commission, long an enemy of CIO maritime unions. Curran's letter to the White House declared that the Commission's conditions for extending relief were unacceptable, since they required enrollment in the Commission's service before any seamen would receive aid.

"It was not our impression that American citizens must be coerced before they can obtain relief," Curran wrote. "The membership of the NMU recognizes and appreciates your sincere desire to aid the seamen and the interest you have manifested in their welfare. We urge that you use their good office to insure immediate and fair action on behalf of the American seamen."

Both NMU President Curran and Maritime Committee Secretary Halling pointed to the union-baiting role of the Maritime Commission in this and previous situations affecting the CIO seamen as examples of the conspiracy against organized maritime labor being conducted from Commission headquarters in Washington.

Curran pointed out that the Commission and its chairman, Admiral Emory S. Land, in requiring seamen to register in their "schools" before getting relief was simply carrying its anti-union program into a new field.

"This means," he wrote Roosevelt, "according to Admiral Land's own words, that a seaman must either enlist in the training service or starve." Halling, commenting on this order, recalled the uncompromising way the Commission has used its training school to fight the NMU from the beginning.

SCHOOL FOR FINKS

"From the beginning," Halling said, "the Commission has used its training program as a school for strikebreakers. The NMU has never been consulted on the school courses or on the personnel, though this was promised. Green people only have been enrolled, and the main effort has been to inculcate them with anti-union teachings. The Commission has run a school for finks, not for seamen."

In New York, NMU officials restated their opposition to the proposed transfer of American ships to foreign registry as a step in evading the Neutrality Act. Wm. L. Standard, NMU attorney, delved into international law to prove that "transfer of American ships to foreign flags does not lessen the menace to the peace of this country," in another letter sent by the NMU to President Roosevelt.

Pope Pius XII Speaks Out In Behalf Of Unions

Following is a section of the encyclical to the American Catholic hierarchy issued in Rome last week by Pope Pius XII:

Now, if the rich and the prosperous are obliged out of ordinary motives of pity to act generously toward the poor, their obligation is all the greater to do them justice. The salaries of the workers, as is just, are to be such that they are sufficient to maintain them and their families. Solemn are the words our predecessor, Pius XI, on this question: "Every effort must therefore be made that fathers of families receive a wage sufficient to meet adequately normal domestic needs. If under present circumstances this is not always feasible, social justice demands that reforms be introduced without delay, which will guarantee such a wage to every adult working man. In this connection, we praise those who have most prudently and usefully attempted various methods by which an increased wage is paid in view of increased family burdens and special provision made for special needs."

May it also be brought about that each and every able-bodied man may receive an equal opportunity for work in order to earn the daily bread for himself and his own. We deeply lament the lot of those — and their number in the United States is large indeed—who, though robust, capable and willing, cannot have the work for which they are anxiously searching.

May the wisdom of the governing powers, a far-seeing generosity on the part of employers, together with the speedy re-establishment of more favorable conditions, effect the realization of these reasonable hopes to the advantage of all.

Because sociability is one of man's natural requirements and since it is legitimate to promote by common effort decent livelihood, it is not possible without injustice to deny or to limit either to the producers or to the laboring and farming classes the free faculty of uniting in associations by means of which they may defend their proper rights and secure the betterment of the goods of soul and of body, as well as the honest comforts of life.

But to unions of this kind, which in past centuries have procured immortal glory for Christianity and for the professions an untarnishable splendor, one cannot everywhere impose an identical discipline and structure, which therefore can be varied to meet the different temperaments of the people and the diverse circumstances of time.

But let the unions in question draw their vital force from principles of wholesome liberty. Let them take their form from them, take their form from the lofty rules of justice and of honesty, and conforming themselves to those norms, let them act in such a manner that in their care for the interests of their class they violate no one's rights; let them continue to strive for harmony and respect for the commonweal of civil society.

CIO Reaffirms Old Age Aid

Washington, Nov. 18—CIO pledges of aid to all progressive old-age pension groups and the CIO program of $60 a month for all people 60 years of age and over were reaffirmed today in a statement by Joseph Kovner, secretary of the CIO Social Security Committee. Kovner's statement read:

"All progressives have recognized that the problems of adequate care for our aged people who can no longer find employment in industry has not been solved by the defeat of the Ham and Eggs Plan in California and the Bigelow Plan in Ohio. Both these movements represented a fundamental demand for meeting this elemental need.

"The 60-60 program of the CIO calling for flat pension payments of $60 per month to all individuals over 60, and $90 to married couples, administered and subsidized by the federal government, now stands out as a practical and effective means of satisfying the needs of our aged population and the economic ills that attend the failure to take care of their wants.

"The CIO is prepared to go forward in cooperation with all progressive and old age groups in the achievement of a sound pension program."

R. I. CIO To Meet

Providence, R. I., Nov. 18 — An official call to the second annual convention of the Rhode Island CIO State Industrial Union Council to be held here at the Crown Hotel, Sunday, December 17, was issued this week to all affiliated CIO groups in the state.

The call was signed by Adelard Gingras, president of the state council and Anne Marsoli, secretary-treasurer.

Send Greetings To Westwood

Sacramento, Calif., Nov. 18. — By unanimous vote the Sacramento CIO Industrial Union Council sent greetings to the Westwood local of the Intl. Woodworkers of America, praising the "splendid organizational progress" being made, in the face of the repeated attacks of vigilantes, provoked by the Red River Lumber Company.

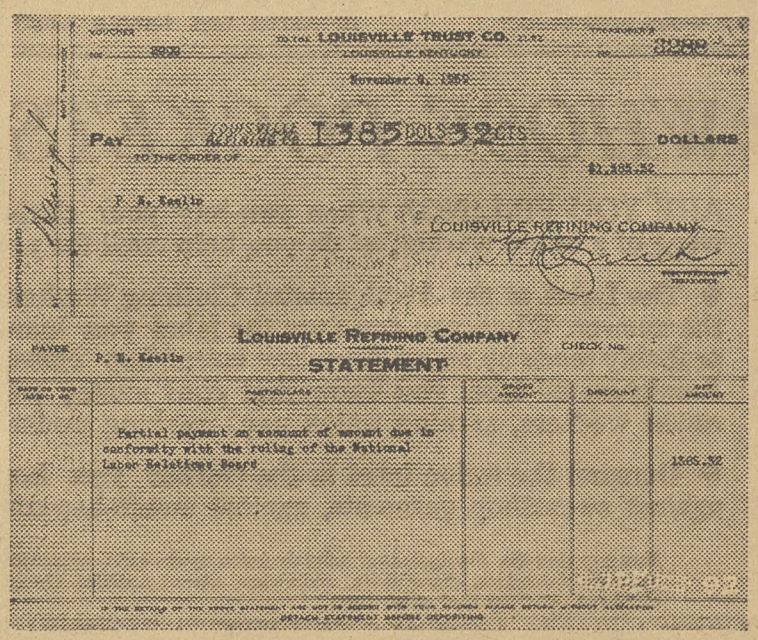
Oregon CIO Office Opened

Portland, Ore., Nov. 18—William Dalrymple, CIO Director for Oregon, has announced the opening of the CIO regional office in the state at 404 Woodlark Building, 813 Southwest Alder Street, Portland.

Dalrymple is planning to visit every local in the state to meet the officers and members as part of his plans to strengthen the CIO in Oregon through cooperation and advice with all affiliates.

"I intend to build our organization so that it will be second to none within this state," the new Oregon Regional Director pledged.

CIO Back Pay Award



This check for $1,385.32 is only one of many totalling $25,000 that was ordered paid to members of CIO Oil Workers Local 211 in Louisville, Ky., as back pay compensation for discharge for union activities. The order came from the Natl. Labor Relations Board, ending a three-year fight by the Louisville Refining Co. to break the union.

Laundry Workers Win Pact

New York, Nov. 18. — A two-year agreement covering 25,000 laundry workers in the Greater New York area, was announced today by Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers. The contract signed between the Laundry Workers' Joint Board, ACW affiliate, and organized laundry owners, was hailed by Hillman as a model, "raising the standards of living for those who needed it most."

Terms provide for a five-day week beginning March 30, 1940, for all inside and outside workers, with all Saturday work forbidden. Minimum wages are to be fixed for each section and department covering all inside workers.

GAINS WON

A survey of wages is to be made immediately and a minimum rate agreed upon with 60 days, though the period may be extended to permit a comprehensive survey. If no agreement is reached on minimum wage classifications after the survey, the question will go to arbitration and the minima will be fixed by the arbitrator. Setting up of a minimum will do away with the present practice of hiring all new workers at 35 cents an hour.

The employer must post a permanent schedule of hours to be worked each day in the week under the agreement. Hours worked over the schedule in any one day must be paid at the rate of time and a half. The schedule can be changed only on one week's notice to the union, which has the right to take the matter to arbitration if it disputes the fairness of the change.

All inside workers are guaranteed not less than 40 hours work per week. This eliminates the present practice of giving permanent employes only one or two days' work a week. At any time during the life of the agreement, the union may request a general wage increase based upon an increase in the cost of living. If the employers refuse the increase, the matter goes to arbitration.

Employers must comply with the decision of the arbitrator in case of disputes, which eliminates the present practice of appealing all arbitrators' decisions to the courts. In discharge cases the arbitrator must make his decision within one week.

Double time must be paid for holiday work with time and a half for holiday make-up. A worker shifted from a lower paid to a higher paid job must be paid the higher rate, and a worker shifted from a higher paid job to a lower paid one must continue to receive the higher rate.

"MOST SWEATED"

Gains won by the laundry workers in the agreement were stressed by President Hillman who pointed out that the laundry industry has always been the most sweated industry in the city, and for years the object of investigations by various social agencies.

"This was the condition until the entrance of the CIO in the laundry field," he said. "We have been able to obtain an agreement for two years which permits the constructive advance of 25,000 laundry workers."

Maryland-D. C. CIO To Meet

Washington, Nov. 18—The third annual convention of the Maryland-District of Columbia CIO Council was set for Baltimore, Nov. 27, by Council President John T. Jones in the official call sent out from headquarters here.

Delegates from the coal mines of western Maryland, from steel mills, clothing shops, textile plants, government offices and a dozen other industries will meet, as Pres. Jones said in the call; "to come to grips with the important problems facing labor in this area and to push forward to greater successes."

Baltimore's official welcome will be given by Mayor Jackson, elected earlier this year with CIO and Labor's Non-Partisan League support. Featured speakers will include Eli Oliver, League executive vice-president. Jack Edelman, Amalgamated Clothing Workers attorney and member of the Baltimore City Council, and others.

Electrical Workers Win Pact

East Pittsburgh, Pa., Nov. 18—An important contract providing for wage increases, a strict union shop and other benefits was signed recently with the Pennsylvania Electric Coil Corp., Pitttsburgh, by Local 615, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers.

The shop manufactures and repairs coils and motors used largely in the bituminous coal mines, which are 100 per cent organized. Local 615, therefore, asks miners' locals to request that the products of this union shop be used in preference to the products now used in many mines in western Pennsylvania from unorganized coil shops.

Minimum wage rates for women were increased 10 per cent and those for men 20 per cent under the terms of the agreement, which also specify a 40-hour week, time and a half for overtime and vacations with pay.

Textile Workers Win Pact

Philadelphia, Pa., Nov. 18—Increases of five cents an hour for all low bracket employes, along with raises for other groups, are part of the three-year closed shop contract just renewed with the Textile Service Company here by the Textile Workers Union.

The 75 workers covered by the agreement also get a week's vacation, seven paid holidays, seniority, a promotion system, the five-day 40-hour week, arbitration of differences, equal division of work in slack seasons, and time and a half for overtime.

Intl. President Emil Rieve signed the agreement for the union, together with TWUA Joint Board Manager Joseph L. Hueter and George M. Powell, Business Agent.

John T. Jones, president of the Maryland-District of Columbia CIO Council, who issued the call for the third annual Council convention to be held in Baltimore, Md., Nov. 27.

Wire Strikers Accept Bid To U. S. Parley

San Francisco, Nov. 18 — CIO organized workers in Western Union, members of the American Communications Assn., accepted Labor Secretary Perkins' bid to discuss settlement of the nine week strike of Western Union workers here, it was announced by ACA President Mervyn Rathborne.

In accepting Miss Perkins' invitation, Rathborne pointed out that Federal Labor Dept. agents and state and city groups in California and San Francisco had tried in vain to bring the company to the conference table.

The Secretary's invitation, he said, was most welcome to the union, since it has tried consistently from the beginning of the strike to bring about a fair settlement, only to be balked by the stubborn refusal of the company to listen to any reasonable proposal.

CITES BOARD ORDER

He cited the recent order of the Natl. Labor Relations Board dissolving the Western Union company union as a vindication of the CIO policy in endeavoring to bring collective bargaining to thousands of exploited telegraph workers.

The San Francisco strike started nine weeks ago, and has won support not only from all CIO affiliates in the area throughout the country but from AFL unions and progressive groups generally.

The Western Union workers here are striking against such conditions as denial of wage-hour law rights, permanent part-time work for veteran employes, arbitrary layoffs, inflated company prices for messengers' bicycles, and union recognition.

CIO Council Asks Relief Session

St. Louis, Nov. 18—The Industrial Union Council here voted full support to the demand of the Board of Aldermen for a special session of the state legislature to deal with the relief problem, Secretary Luther M. Slinkard announced.

"Only additional relief funds voted by such a special session can prevent starvation and evictions from occurring on a mass scale within the near future," the St. Louis CIO'ers said.

They also endorsed the appointment of George Duemler as attorney for the Wage-Hour Division at Kansas City. Senator Bennett C. Clark has attacked Duemler's appointment.

Canadians Report CIO Victories

Toronto, Ont., Nov. 18—The Canadian CIO last week reported continued progress in its drive to organize the unorganized and protect the living standards of its members, according to the national office here.

In Zeballos, B. C., hard-rock miners obtained recognition of their local of the CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union at Privateer Mine.

Recognition of the union by the company came after a week's dispute over discrimination. The discharged employe was reinstated and other concessions were granted under the contract.

WOODWORKERS WIN

The International Woodworkers reported that it obtained a 10 per cent wage raise in two British Columbia camps of the Industrial Timber Mills following an intensive organizing drive.

Members of both crews are preparing to begin negotiations for collective bargaining rights, preferential hiring and safety committees.

In Nova Scotia, 1,400 coal miners returned to work after a seven-day strike when the Provincial Department of Mines agreed to investigate the layoff of four bankhead workers by the Cumberland Railway and Coal Co.

The men struck because the four bankhead workers were laid off without any specific cause.

In Toronto there is intensive activity in the steel plants as a result of the victory gained by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee in the General Steel Wares plant.

In Estevan the Mine Workers continued their strike for a union contract and elimination of a small company union from the Saskatchewan lignite field.

Despite protests from the local population the provincial government has not withdrawn the strong force of Royal Canadian mounted police sent to the strike scene at the request of the operators.

'Organize Unorganized' Drives Set by CIO In Connecticut, Indiana

Fort Wayne, Ind., Nov. 18—This city was chosen as the starting point for an organization drive throughout Indiana in plans launched at a meeting held recently in Indianapolis attended by some 150 organizers, regional directors and representatives of industrial union councils.

A drive on the International Harvester Company and Tokheim Pump, in progress here several weeks before the new drive began, has resulted in hundreds of workers joining the United Automobile Workers and the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers.

Tokheim attempted to stave off organization by raising wages three cents an hour, the Fort Wayne CIO Council reported, but this only strengthened the efforts of the unions.

Plans for the intensive campaign were taken up at a meeting of the Fort Wayne Council held here November 7, and a publicity committee was formed to work under the supervision of President Clem Grabner. Windshield stickers, buttons and union caps were ordered for the drive, and a speakers' bureau set up.

Waterbury, Conn., Nov. 18—"Organize the Unorganized," the keynote of both the CIO national convention in San Francisco and the Connecticut Industrial Union Council convention held here recently, has been taken seriously by the organizing committee of Unity Lodge 251, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, Thomas R. Malloy, president of the state CIO Council, said today.

An open meeting held in Hartford for workers in the P. & W. Aircraft and Hamilton Propeller, both divisions of the United Aircraft Corporation, stirred up much enthusiasm.

Support of the United Automobile Workers, and the entire CIO organization, was pledged by Gene Sorenson, international UAW representative, and Tom Cummings from the CIO regional office. Axel Benson, business agent for Unity Lodge, and a former aircraft worker, was chairman of the meeting. Tom Molloy offered the cooperation of the Connecticut Council as well as Unity Lodge.

A temporary committee was elected at the meeting and hundreds of application cards were given out for distribution in the shop.

Miners Complain:

Boom Stories Go Boom

BUTTE, Mont., Nov. 18. — Reports about Butte's war boom, like the story about Mark Twain's death, have been greatly exaggerated.

Newspaper ballyhoo to create a picture of a great boom in this mining city have been good advertising for Anaconda Copper, local CIO union officials charge, but it's causing disappointment—and hardship—for hundreds of workers who flock to the city in search of non-existent jobs.

Glowing newspaper reports originating in the local papers and reprinted throughout the country omit mention of the real facts—that hundreds of Butte miners are still on WPA, ready, willing and eager to swap WPA's starvation wage scale for a real day's pay in the mines.

WPA officials say that only 275 men have left the government payroll for mining work, while at the end of October there were still 2,650 persons on WPA in Silver Bow County.

List Union Clothing Concerns

New York, Nov. 18 — A directory of firms operating under contract with the Amalgamated Clothing Workers has just been published by the union's label department.

In handy size for carrying, the directory lists several hundred concerns manufacturing all types of men's clothing.

The ACWA has requested all workers to ask for the Amalgamated label when clothes are bought.

"The use of our union label is optional with manufacturers," the ACWA points out. "Instead of compelling them to sew on the label, we strive to make labor and the consuming public union label conscious and we appeal to them to insist that all wearing apparel bear the Amalgamated label."

Information about the directory may be obtained from the Union Label Department, Amalgamated Clothing Workers, 15 Union Square, New York City.

Win First Six Hour Shift

Chicopee Falls, Mass., Nov. 18—A six hour shift, believed to be the first in the textile industry of Massachusetts is to be installed at the Chicopee Manufacturing Corp. here under a contract being negotiated by the Textile Workers Union of America.

The firm is a subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson, internationally famous manufacturers of medical bandages and other cotton cloth.

There will be four shifts running from six in the morning to 12 noon, from noon to six p. m., from six to midnight and from midnight to six a. m. A new shift of about 100 workers will be employed, increasing the output about 20 per cent.

The company has already put a six-hour shift into effect in its Manchester, N. H. plant.

Judge Halts West Coast Vigilantes

Cotton Pickers Union Wins Injunction

MADERA, Calif., Nov. 18—Striking CIO cotton pickers scored a legal point for civil liberties here when Federal Judge Campbell Beaumont granted a temporary injunction to the Cannery and Agricultural Workers restraining Madera County authorities from applying an anti-labor law against picketing.

Earlier, the strikers asserted their rights in the face of extreme vigilante-Associated Farmer terror at a mass meeting called under auspices of Labor's Non-Partisan League and the union.

DOZENS JAILED

Dominant note of the meeting was labor's reply to Associated Farmers' campaign of violence that has sent dozens of workers to hospital, jailed scores, and clubbed and tear-gassed hundreds of men, women and children on the picket line.

Support came from California Governor Olson's office, when Stanley Mosk, the Governor's executive secretary, and K. I. Fulton, another aide, pledged help to the strikers. A major step in this campaign, Mosk pointed out, will come when labor organizes politically to drive reactionaries out of the state legislature as they drove Republican Merriam out of the Governorship.

STARVATION WAGES

The workers, who come from the migratory groups that California keeps in a perpetual state of near-starvation for the sake of growers' profits, are striking for a wage of $1.25 per 100 pounds of cotton. Growers offered 85 cents, though a state commission recently recommended the higher rate.

Highway cops have adopted a "neutral" attitude on the strike, which means allowing Associated Farmers' thugs to beat up strikers and their families, then rushing in with bullets and tear-gas aimed at the picket line.

Seamen To Have Lakes Conference

Cleveland, Nov. 18 — The third and largest post season conference of the National Maritime Union on the Great Lakes will be held in Buffalo as soon as the season ends, NMU headquarters announced here.

Victories will be celebrated at the conference and plans made for future negotiations and organization of the shipping companies that supply American steel mills with raw materials, move coal up the Lakes and bring down grain.

Bethlehem "Wasn't In"

Mr. Eugene Grace, president of Bethlehem Steel, "wasn't in" when a delegation of nine Steel Workers Organizing Committee representatives called on him in New York. The nine delegates filed charges of refusal to bargain with the Natl. Labor Relations Board.

Seated, left to right: Wm. Flesch, E. J. Lever, SWOC Regional Director, John Ramsay, John Zeman. Standing, Ed. Abbott, George McAchren, Bruce Paxton, Jas. Yost, Howard Curtiss, Paul Lindenmuth, Harry Mason.

Homeless Wait Aid

Some of the 400 evicted sharecroppers of southeastern Missouri camp in barrel-stave shacks, waiting and praying for federal aid. They are part of more than 1,500 turned out of their homes last January. The CIO Cannery and Agricultural Workers Union fought for and secured aid for many of them.

Labor and the Law

By Lee Pressman

CIO General Counsel

The recent decision of the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia upholding practically in toto the order of the National Labor Relations Board directed against the Republic Steel Corporation is of deep importance to organized labor.

The order of the Labor Board directed against Republic Steel Corporation found that the Corporation had engaged in a planned campaign to deprive its employes of their rights under the Wagner Act. In this campaign a company union was fostered and maintained.

Employes who attempted to organize into the Steel Workers Organizing Committee were discharged in wholesale lots. Organizers were spied upon and brutally beaten by hired thugs of the Corporation. Two plants were closed down to demoralize the union men. The Board found that the Steel Workers Organizing Committee was forced to call a strike as a result of the Corporation's unfair labor practices to protect its own existence.

On the basis of such findings the Board, in its order, directed Republic to disestablish its company union and to cease and desist from engaging in any unfair labor practices against the SWOC.

In addition the Board ordered the company to reinstate all except a few strikers. Back pay was awarded. The men who had been locked out in the Canton and Massillon plants were given similar relief and in addition were awarded back pay for the period that they were locked out prior to the strike.

It is important to note that the Corporation was directed to dismiss any employes who had been hired subsequent to the strike in order to give preference to the strikers to their jobs.

NO DEDUCTIONS ALLOWED

In regard to the awarding of back pay the order of the Board specifically provided that the Corporation would not be entitled to make any deductions on account of wages earned by the strikers on any State or WPA projects. Instead it was ordered that these amounts be paid by the Corporation to the public authorities that maintained the men.

The Court in reviewing the evidence at Board hearings found plenty to justify the conclusions of the Board. **The Court specifically held that the Board was justified in finding that the unfair labor practices of the Corporation had caused the strike.**

The decision of the Circuit Court of Appeals is of the utmost importance to the Steel Workers Organizing Committee and assures Republic workers the exercise of their rights.

MAKES CORPORATION LIABLE

In addition, the opinion of the Court insures success to the hundreds of individual members of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee who have initiated damage suits against the Corporation for the false arrests and assaults inflicted on them during the strike. These suits involved damages in excess of $2,000,000 for which the Corporation will be liable.

Furthermore, Republic Steel several months ago initiated a suit against the Steel Workers Organizing Committee and the CIO under the anti-trust laws accusing the union of having engaged in the strike for the purpose of interfering with the business and commerce of Republic Steel Corporation. In this suit the Corporation asks for damages of $7,500,000.

The decision of the Circuit Court of Appeals certainly should put an end once and for all to the lawsuit which the Republic had the gall to institute against the CIO and the SWOC.

Charges have also been on file with the Labor Board against Republic in regard to their plants at South Chicago, Illinois; Buffalo, New York, and Munroe, Michigan. These charges also grew out of the activities of the Corporation during the steel strike of 1937. However, the Board has not yet issued any complaint against Republic on these charges. There is no reason now for any further delay on the part of the Labor Board. Hundreds of discharged employes of Republic Steel Corporation at these three plants will become entitled to similar relief.

CIO Steel Officer On U. S. Board

Washington, Nov. 18 — Secretary of Labor Perkins this week appointed Clinton Golden, Northeastern Regional Director of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, CIO, a member of the Federal Committee on Apprenticeship. Miss Perkins announced she is adding Mr. Golden to the Committee in order to provide "broader labor representation."

Previously the only trade union representative has been John P. Frey, President of the AFL Metal Trades Department.

The Federal Committee on Apprenticeship was placed under the U. S. Department of Labor by Congress to supervise a program of apprentice training for young people entering the skilled trades.

Fur Workers Win Pay Boost

Providence, R. I., Nov. 18 — Pay increases ranging from $3.00 to $7.00 a week were won by Providence Fur Workers Local 92, Intl. Fur & Leather Workers Union, in contracts renewed with the Merchant Furriers and department stores here.

The pacts which are effective for one year beginning June 2, 1940, also set a work week of 37½ hours. Max Rotstein of the furriers union was in charge of negotiations.

Joseph Mayo, state CIO director, hailed the agreements as a big achievement for the union won without a single dispute.

Bare Anti-Union Dynamite Plot

SEE STORY PAGE FIVE

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Vol. II — No. 48 20 Send Form 3578-P t... cut Ave., N. W., Wa... EMBER 27, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

EDITH MC MAHON
A F OF L LIBR RM 509
901 MASS AVE N W
WASHINGTON D C

November

CIO WINS ARMOUR POLL

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Construction Union Gets Contract

Inside The News

Bethlehem

Steel Corp. and its president, Eugene Grace, received more communications from the Steel Workers Organizing Committee. Do you intend to bargain, the big steel corporation was asked. SEE PAGE 2

CIO and ILO

finally got together as Pres. Roosevelt named James Carey to the U. S. delegation for the Intl. Labor Organization's Havana conference, and appointed Miss Kathryn Lewis and Miss Dorothy Bellanca as advisors. SEE PAGE 3

AFL Strawbosses

came in for a verbal lashing from a federal court in Washington, which sustained a major Labor Board order against AFL company unionism. SEE PAGE 3

CIO Councils

in New York, New Jersey and Oklahoma held annual conventions last week. SEE PAGE 6

Jobs, Homes, Law-

new trends discussed by CIO officials. SEE PAGE 7

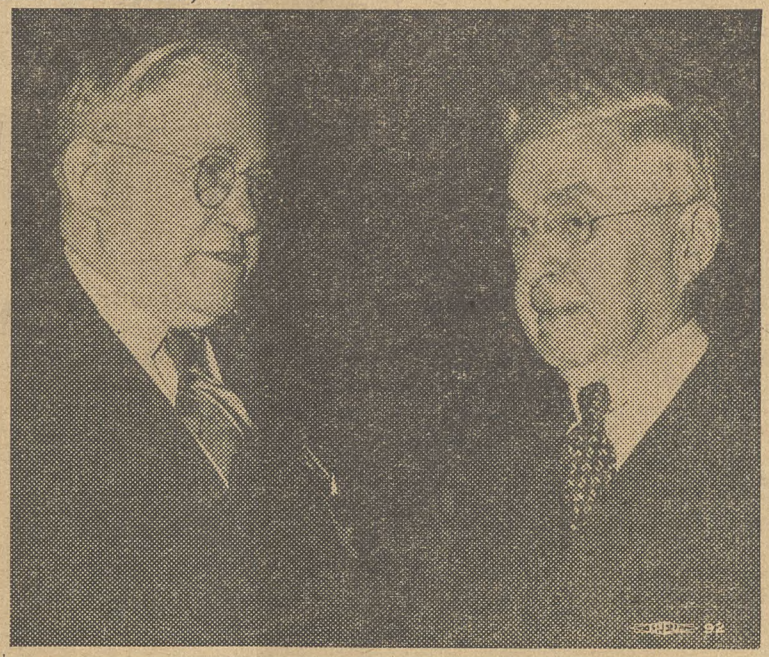
'Ghost Town'

myths about San Francisco, aimed at hurting maritime unions, get smashed to smithereens. SEE PAGE 8

Photo by Striking Hearst Cameraman E. L. Auld

ELEVEN BABIES have been born to wives of striking Chicago Newspaper Guildsmen since they started their battle against Hearst's Herald-American last December 5.

With the strike's first anniversary in the offing, one-candle birthday cakes will be ready for these four of the strike babies shown above. From left to right: Louise Ferragamo, Robert Vingi, Dessa Berg and Jack Chinn, Jr.



OLD AND NEW HEADS of New York CIO. Allan S. Haywood (left) congratulates Gustave A. Strebel of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, who was elected to succeed him as president of the New York Industrial Union Council. Haywood has been appointed national director of organization for the CIO in Washington. See Page 6.

Unions Speed Drive

(See Stories Page Three)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25—The CIO's big organizing campaign scored two more major victories today.

In Chicago, the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee demonstrated its strength in the main plant of the stubbornly anti-union Armour & Co., rolling up an easy 4-1 victory over an AFL stooge union.

The vote was 4,006 for the CIO and only 1,047 for the AFL.

In Washington, meanwhile, the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee demonstrated that it means business by signing the first industrial union contract in the Capital's building industry.

The pact, covering several hundred workers employed by members of the Construction Industry Employers, Inc., was hailed by UCWOC Chairman A. D. Lewis as "one of the most important events in the history of the construction industry."

'Nothing To Gain From War'

Columbus, Ohio, Nov. 25 — Workers have everything to lose and nothing to gain by a war, Ted Silvey, secretary of the Ohio CIO Industrial Union Council said in a radio address here.

"It is utter folly for labor to believe that war commerce will solve the unemployment problem," Silvey asserted. "American industry is more mechanized now than in 1914, and production can be multiplied with relatively few more workmen."

Cite 'Chamber' Chief For Law Violation

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25—A spirited pleader for the sanctity of property rights—Pres. W. Gibson Carey, Jr., of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce—today was on the receiving end of a sharp blast from the National Labor Relations Board.

The Board ordered Yale & Towne Manufacturing Co.—of which Carey is the boss—to stop discouraging its North Chicago, Ill., members from joining a union.

H. L. Murphy, superintendent of the Illinois plant, and other supervisory employes, used all the old war-cries in their fight against the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, the NLRB charged. Murphy sent a letter to the workers with a thinly-veiled warning not to organize, while the straw-bosses circulated "atrocity" stories about the CIO.

Carey, who classes himself as a liberal, has made impassioned speeches against the 40-hour week and begged workers to forget their silly ideas about wanting more leisure time.

Charter Shipyard Local In Canada

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Nov. 25 — The first Canadian local of the CIO Marine & Shipbuilding Workers received its charter today, thereby making the union a truly international union.

The new Local 34 covers workers in the shipyard and repair shop o fthe Halifax Shipyards. Although the plant has been principally concerned with repair work, it is expected that the war may see it embarking upon construction work.

Hosiery Union Sues Firm for $250,000

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Nov. 25. — Suits charging damages that may total $250,000 were filed against the Holston Manufacturing Co. here by members of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, in the third month of their strike against the firm.

The union has also filed additional charges with the Labor Board, charging Holston wtih refusal to bargain collectively.

Legal action was taken after the company refused to meet with Alfred Hoffmann, AFHW vice president, in the office of the mayor, and continued attempting to operate with scabs. The union committee declined to meet with firm representatives unless Hoffmann was present.

Steel Union Puts Heat On Bethlehem

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 25. — Eugene Grace, president of Bethlehem Steel, was bluntly asked whether he would meet with Steel Workers Organizing Committee representatives to work out a contract or compel the CIO union "to resort to other methods to acquire the status guaranteed by the law of the land."

The question came in a letter from SWOC Regional Director Clinton S. Golden, following two occasions on which Grace and his subordinates ran out on scheduled meetings with the union, while local company officials "reinstated a regime of coercion and intimidation designed to discourage Bethlehem employes from remaining members or continuing their lawful activity in behalf of the SWOC."

PIOUS PROCLAMATIONS

Director Golden's letter to Grace cited the obligations of the company under the Wagner Act, and quoted Grace's own statements on the intentions of the company to meet and bargain with the union.

"Thus encouraged," Golden wrote, "the SWOC began to enroll members among your employes. The response from them was immediate. Perhaps they had been influenced by the pious proclamations you had uttered from time to time in respect to your willingness to engage in collective bargaining.

"On Tuesday, Jan. 11, 1938, for example, in a bulletin to your employes, you said: 'Our belief in collective bargaining and our long established policy of meeting, dealing, and negotiating with you through your freely chosen representatives will continue. We stand firmly on that ground'."

According to Golden's letter, SWOC committees called in October on various local plant managers "and presented requests for wage adjustments in order to bring Bethlehem's low rates up to those prevailing generally in the industry. Your plant managers knew our committees were coming. They had been informed days in advance, and took immediate measures to evade the demand.

DISAPPEARING ACT

"Then a singular thing happened," Golden continued. "On the appointed day for presentation of these demands all of your local plant managers disappeared. Nobody seemed to know just what had happened to them. And the same thing happened at every plant where SWOC committees called to present their wage revision demands."

Following this, SWOC officials announced they would call on Grace at his New York office. Golden added, where they met the same complete lack of hospitality — Mr. Grace wasn't in. It was this second evasion that brought Golden's sharp question:

"Are you now prepared to meet with a committee consisting of employes of your company . . . for the purpose of negotiating the terms of a mutually satisfactory collective bargaining contract, reduced to writing . . . or must we be compelled to resort to other means to acquire the status guaranteed by the law of the land?"

Marine Pay At Peak Level

New York, Nov. 25. — The highest wage scales specified in a marine union contract since the World War were announced this week by the National Maritime Union in an agreement signed with nine coal carriers.

Blanket wage increases of $2.50 a month for 1,500 seamen are provided for in the new contract, NMU Vice President Ferdinand C. Smith said.

In addition to wage increases the contract provides new overtime clauses and substantial improvement in working and living conditions on board ship.

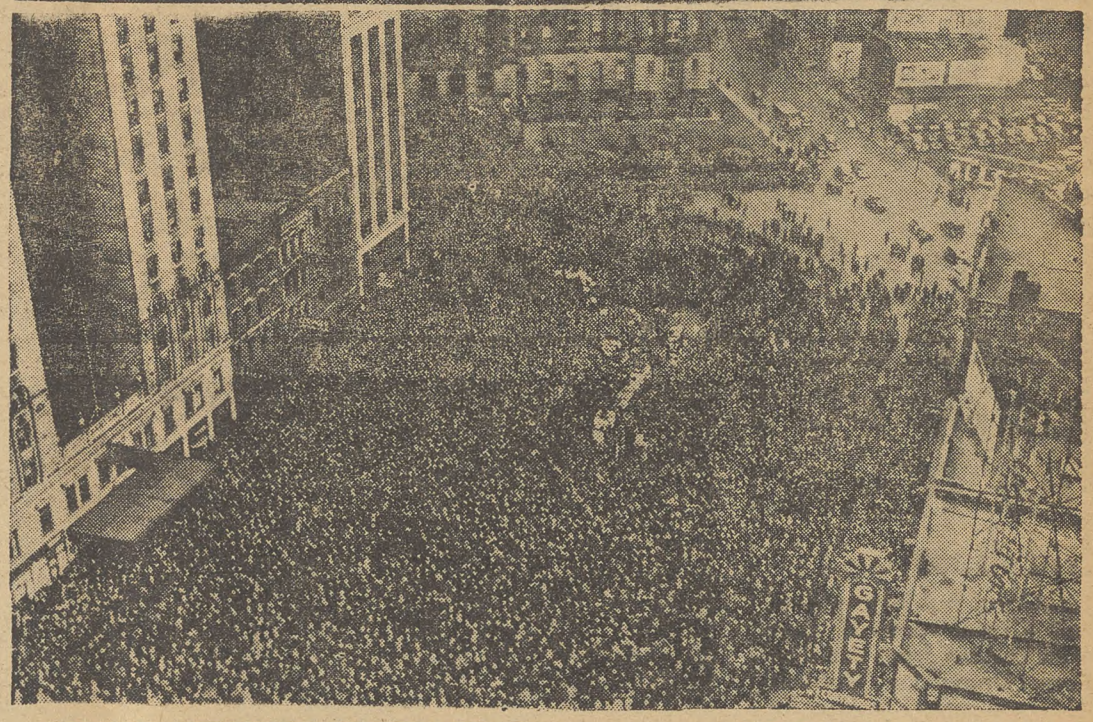
Under the new contract which becomes effective immediately upon ratification by the membership, the increased monthly wages will range from $62.50 to $137.50 in the stewards' department, from $72.50 to $95 in the engine dept., and from $67.50 to $97.50 in the deck dept.

UNION HIRING

These scales are from $10 to $12.50 above those on passenger and general cargo vessels, Smith said. Hiring, as in previous agreements with the coal industry, is completely union controlled, with replacements on a rotary basis from the union halls.

The new agreement, the third to be negotiated by the NMU with the coal carrying industry, will run until March 1, 1941. The old contract has been extended to Nov. 30.

Some 50 ships are covered by the new pact. They run mainly in and out of the ports of Norfolk, Va.; New York; Providence, R. I.; Boston; and Portland, Me.



DISCUSS CHRYSLER CONTRACT: Representatives of CIO United Automobile Workers, the company and the government talk over proposals for ending the long dispute. Left to right, Chrysler Vice Pres. Herman Weckler, U. S. Conciliator James Dewey, Arthur Raab of the State Mediation Board, and Pres. R. J. Thomas, Atty. Maurice Sugar and Richard Frankensteen of the UAW.

Just to show the company that the UAW holds the loyalty of its members, several thousand auto workers demonstrated in Cadillac Square in downtown Detroit, demanded that Chrysler substitute a contract for windy excuses.

Pontiac Unions Fool Foes, Win Americanism Parade

By SWANSON C. SHIELDS

Pontiac, Mich., Nov. 25—Charges by unscrupulous forces that the CIO is "un-American" proved a boomerang Armistice Day when the Pontiac CIO copped honors for having the largest division in a patriotic demonstration.

The impressive showing made by the CIO left the Board of Commerce, the daily newspaper and other anti-labor forces empty handed in their drive to show that the CIO is "unpatriotic."

The AFL Martinites were also conspicuous — for their absence. The few remaining followers of Homer Martin were unable to muster enough support for a place in the parade.

Included in the CIO delegation were large numbers of veterans who served overseas in the last World War.

Echoing John L. Lewis' words at the San Francisco Convention, Pontiac CIO leaders, pointing out that labor furnishes both the man power and materials for war, urged that the United States remain neutral in the European War.

CIO members here are also planning a series of rallies to acquaint the public with the important part that the CIO plays in building Americanism.

Win $8 Increase In Toronto

Toronto, Ont., Nov. 25 — Wage raises by $2 to $8 a week were won from seven Toronto shoe companies by local 157, United Shoe Workers of America, CIO, in past two weeks.

Included in the contract is provision for further adjustment of wages should prices of foodstuffs increase due to the present war situation.

According to the agreements some employes will get the raise immediately and others will receive 10 per cent on December 1 and another five per cent on January 1.

For the first time in Toronto union history, the local obtained a dues check-off agreement, Ken Scott, organizer, announced.

Win Long Strike In South

Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 25 — A two-year strike at the Indian Head Mills of the Nashua Manufacturing Co., Cordova, Alabama, has finally been settled by the signing of a contract with the Textile Workers Union of America, R. R. Lawrence, TWUA regional director said today. About 450 workers are affected.

The Profile Mills of Jacksonville, Alabama, which have been closed down for eight months in what the workers term a lockout, have also signed a contract with the TWUA, Lawrence announced.

Coincidence?

WASHINGTON. — Students of Sherman anti-trust law cases raised their eyebrows when they saw the brief recently submitted by Joseph Padway, AFL general counsel, in a case involving a Chicago AFL milk wagon drivers' union.

Reason for the surprise was its extraordinary likeness to the CIO brief filed last spring in the Apex Hosiery case.

Stranger than coincidence, in the opinion of many, is the fact that Padway not only used many of the same quotations and sources as the CIO legal department, but time after time lifted whole sentences and phrases out of the CIO brief—without crediting the original source!

Certify Auto Union In 12 Chrysler Plants

Washington, Nov. 25 — One point of disagreement in the dispute between the United Automobile Workers, CIO, and the Chrysler Corporation, was settled by the action of the National Labor Relations Board certifying the CIO union as sole bargaining agency for production and maintenance employes in 12 plants.

In the case of the Briggs Manufacturing Co., too, the Board reversed its previous stand in favor of a separate bargaining unit at each of seven plants and has granted the request of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, for a single employer-wide unit and has certified the UAW-CIO as sole bargaining agent.

The Chrysler management which had previously insisted it would write separate but identical contracts covering each plant agreed in view of the Board's decision, to give in to the union's demand for one contract covering all the plants where elections were won.

UAW WON 10 TO 1

The UAW-CIO defeated the AFL by a total vote of 40,564 to 4,744 in elections held at 14 Chrysler plants September 27 and 28.

The Board's action at Briggs was based on the results of seven separate polls conducted in September 14, all won overwhelmingly by the CIO union, which defeated the AFL union 13 to 1.

The total vote won by the CIO at the seven Briggs plants was 13,301. The AFL group received 1,052.

Construction Union Gets First Pact

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25. — Signing of the first industrial union contract in the building industry here was announced today by Chairman A. D. Lewis of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, an affiliate of the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Parties to the contract are the UCWOC and Construction Industry Employers, Inc., an association of local builders and contractors recently organized with headquarters at 1101 Vermont Avenue, N. W. Signatories to the contract for the UCWOC are Chairman Lewis, Thos. P. McTigue, Chairman of the D. C. Construction Workers District Conference, and the officers of Local Union No. 30, UCWOC. For the CIE, Inc., the contract was signed by Richard W. Frey, president of R. W. Frey, Inc., and chairman of the negotiating committee.

Elimination of jurisdictional disputes and other abuses associated with the craft union form of organization is the cardinal objective of the contract. All workers on the job of any contractor no matter what type of work they may do shall belong to the same union.

GRIEVANCE MACHINERY

Grievance machinery to settle disputes without stoppage of work is provided by the contract. Both parties agree there shall be no suspension of work because of any dispute until there has been resort to the grievance machinery. Selection of an umpire is provided to decide cases that are not settled by direct negotiation.

The contract calls for the eight-hour day and the five-day week, with time and a half for overtime and double time on holidays and Sundays. A standard wage scale based on $9 per day for journeymen is embodied in the contract. Safety standards to protect the workers are provided under terms of the contract. There is a check-off for union dues.

Some 30 or 40 contractors covering all types of work, are included in the membership of the Construction Industry Employers, Inc., and the total number of workers covered by the contract will run into thousands. The contract covers all types of work, private and governmental, and stipulates equal treatment of the workers, whether on private or governmental work. The Davis-Bacon Act wage standards apply on government work.

An apprentice system included in the contract offers opportunity for training younger workers under union conditions and eliminates past abuses in this respect.

Continued on Page Five

Civil Rights Probe Starts

Los Angeles, Nov. 25 — The Associated Farmers vigilante outfit was hauled up on the carpet before the Senate Civil Liberties Committee here in the first major move of the group's western investigation.

Purpose of the preliminary hearing was to obtain papers from the Tory farm organization or place it in contempt of Senate if it refuses to turn over the documents to the committee for examination.

A similar procedure will be worked out in San Francisco early next month, with public hearings scheduled for mid-December.

Chrysler Pay Scale Ties Up Negotiations

DETROIT, Nov. 25. — Still haggling over union demands, the Chrysler Corp. maintained its lockout of some 50,000 workers through the Thanksgiving holiday.

Union and company negotiators admitted, however, to seeing better chances for settlement of the long dispute than had been apparent in recent weeks. Only major stumbling block to terminating the shutdown, it was indicated, was the question of wage increases for the Chrysler employes, members of the CIO United Automobile Workers.

Pres. R. J. Thomas issued a statement sharply criticizing the corporation's suggested wage rate, which it made public during the week.

SCORN COMPANY FIGURES

"The 'subsistence' wage for a family of four in Detroit," Thomas pointed out," is $1,423, according to government figures.

"Chrysler production workers do not earn anything near that amount. The average hourly wage in June of this year was 93 cents. Given 40 weeks of work a year, at 32 hours a week, Chrysler workers earn $1,190 a year. That is $233 less than the government says is required to keep a Detroit family of four in the ordinary necessities of life.

WAGES OR SUPER-PROFITS?

"The issue, as we see it, has boiled down to this: more profits for the stockholders and coupon clippers, or better wages for the men and women who work in the plants. That issue alone stands between us and resumption of operations."

CIO Wins Easy Victory In Armour Election

CHICAGO, Nov. 25.—CIO-minded packinghouse workers in the huge Armour plant here handed a stunning defeat to AFL pretensions when they voted four to one for the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee in a National Labor Relations Board election.

The victory, 4006 for the CIO to 1047 for the AFL, was described by PWOC leaders as "the death knell of the despised AFL union" and as a clear direction to Armour officials to negotiate and sign a contract with the CIO union.

The pre-election campaign, according to PWOC officials, included every sort of anti-CIO propaganda, worked out in close collaboration by Armour interests and the AFL Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen. Last minute efforts of Martin Dies and his un-American Committee, which rushed to Chicago to attempt a smear campaign on PWOC leaders, also failed to influence the vote.

CRIMINAL RECORDS

AFL tactics suffered a severe relapse when PWOC officials exposed the criminal record of George Dasho, local president, whose biography, compiled by the police, included trips to state prison and a blotterful of theft, assault and other charges. Revelation of a U. S. Dept. of Justice probe into AFL local connections with Armour management added another crimp to anti-CIO plans.

The PWOC ran its campaign strictly on the record of its achievements for workers in the packing industry in Chicago and other centers throughout the United States.

CIO Gets Position on ILO Delegation to Havana

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25. — A two-year CIO campaign for CIO representation on U. S. delegations to the International Labor Organization met with success today.

Pres. Roosevelt named CIO Sec. James B. Carey as one of the American representatives to the ILO's western hemisphere regional conference at Havana, Cuba. In addition, he selected Miss Kathryn Lewis, assistant to Pres. Lewis, and Vice-Pres. Dorothy Bellanca of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, as expert advisers to the American delegation.

As a delegate to the Havana conference, Carey will split the U. S. government's one vote with George Harrison of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, who represents the AFL.

AFL HAD MONOPOLY

Until now, the AFL has maintained a monopoly on American labor representation to the ILO, an organization affiliated with the League of Nations and maintaining headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. Purpose of the ILO is to secure agreements among the various participating governments for the raising of labor standards.

In a letter to the chairman of the Havana conference, Sec. of Labor Frances Perkins explained the decision to give both CIO and AFL representation at the same time.

"The multidunious problems which face the world as a result of the present emergency and the part that the ILO must play in world reconstruction has led the government of the U. S. to designate two delegates to represent labor at this second conference," she wrote.

Head of the American delegation at Havana is A. J. Altmeyer, chairman of the Social Security Board. Other members, in addition to Carey and Harrison, are Miss Josephine Roche, former Asst. Secretary of the Treasury, and Clarence McDavitt, retired New England telephone company official, who represents employers.

Other labor advisers on the technical staff, in addition to Miss Lewis and Miss Bellanca, are Rev. Francis J. Haas of Catholic University, and Rose Schneiderman of the Women's Trade Union League.

High Court OKs Leaflet Distribution

Washington, Nov. 25 — The Supreme Court last Wednesday declared invalid four different city ordinances each of which attempted to prohibit the distribution of leaflets on city streets and public places.

The decision of the court completely guarantees the right to distribute leaflets. The court ruled that the constitutional right to this distribution could not be adbridged simply because there was some littering of the streets.

Two of the decisions directly involved labor unions and the other two involved organizations making appeals to the public. By these decisions, unions will be free to make reasonable distribution of leaflets on public streets and public places.

A full explanation of the decision, together with an outline of how to take action against public officials who deny these constitutional rights, will be shortly issued by the CIO Legal Department.

Seamen Demand Jobs

A group of seamen, members of the National Maritime Union, picket New York offices of the U. S. Maritime Commission after the neutrality law beached several thousand workers. They want WPA jobs, not relief.

Court Hits 'Stooge-ism' Of AFL

Washington, Nov. 25 — Straw bosses don't make bona fide union organizers in the eyes of the law.

That was the tenor of a major decision affecting the National Labor Relations Board handed down by the federal circuit court of the District of Columbia over the wails of the AFL's chief legal lights.

By a 2-1 ruling, the court threw out an AFL closed shop contract at the Serrick Corp. in Muncie, Ind., told the company to quit its unfair labor practices and recognize the CIO United Automobile Workers, and gave the AFL a thorough tongue-lashing for using supervisory employes as organizers.

WIDE EFFECT

The case, which will probably go to the U. S. Supreme Court, will have wide effect on a half-dozen other situations where AFL closed shop contracts have been outlawed by the Labor Board on evidence of shady organizing practices or outright collusion between boss, straw-boss and AFL officials.

In the Serrick case, it was the Intl. Assn. of Machinists which was involved. The Board held that two locals were "company unions" pointing out that six of the local's officials were straw bosses closely tied to the employer.

The court's majority found that the "evidence fully sustains the findings of the Labor Board that the employer unlawfully assisted IAM to organize the tool shop and secure the closed shop contract."

THE CIO NEWS

Official Weekly Publication of the

Congress of Industrial Organizations

John L. Lewis ..... President

Vice-Presidents

Philip Murray — S. H. Dalrymple
Sidney Hillman — Reid Robinson
R. J. Thomas — Emil Rieve

James B. Carey ..... Secretary
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price .....$1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II November 27, 1939 No. 48

CIO Wins Again—and Again

The four-to-one victory of the CIO Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee in the Labor Board election last week at the big Chicago plant of Armour & Co. reflects the growing esteem in which the CIO is held by American industrial workers.

Following shortly after the six-to-one victory of the CIO United Electrical & Radio Workers at RCA in Camden, the world's biggest radio plant, it is also another resounding rebuke to the pitiful union-splitting attempts of the American Federation of Labor.

In both these cases, the CIO unions had organized the workers and won earlier elections which should have entitled them to sole collective bargaining rights without question. In the case of RCA the CIO even had a contract.

But AFL unions entered the picture in both cases in an attempt to break the CIO industrial unions chosen by the workers, and the Labor Board called new elections to put these would-be union-busters on the ballot.

The results speak for themselves. At both Armour's and RCA, the vote for the CIO increased tremendously in the second elections over the first. So far from weakening the CIO unions, the AFL splitters succeeded only in strengthening them and in demonstrating their own weakness and futility.

These elections continue the trend that has been in evidence for some time. It is a trend of overwhelming and ever-increasing preference for CIO representation on the part of American industrial workers.

Getting Acquainted

Movies, radio and automobiles are doing a lot of things besides developing glamorous stars, insipid crooners and speed maniacs.

Producers, advertisers and auto manufacturers may be, and probably are, innocent of all social purpose when they put their money into developing these mediums of communication and transportation.

But nevertheless they have by-products which are of definite social significance.

For one thing, as Archie Wright of the Dairy Farmers' Union pointed out at the recent New York CIO convention, they are among the factors that are bringing city and country closer together physically and mentally, industrially and socially. And as farmer and city worker become better acquainted, there are important results.

For instance, Wright said: "The country worker, the farmer, finds the city worker has serious problems. The farmer has heard of the dollar-an-hour, 40-hour-a-week city worker, and he has been filled with envy. This has made him an easy mark for the barbed shafts of propaganda shot in the interest of the employing class. On acquaintance the farmer finds the city worker has a hard time to make both ends meet.

"The farmer is appalled at the city rent figures and he can see little or no relation between what the city worker pays for food and what he gets for producing it. In addition to this, the farmer finds among city workers a constant fear of insecurity, unemployment and penniless old age.

"One bit of understanding by farmers of the problems of the city worker and all opposition to WPA, militant trade unions and old age pensions disappears."

The city worker, on the other hand, Wright pointed out, finds on acquaintance that the farmer too has problems of much the same basic nature as his own.

"First," he said, "the farmer is a worker, and a worker who always seems to have a job in front of him. The average day on a northeastern dairy farm is 12 to 14 hours, seven days a week and 365 days a year. Furthermore, the farm is a family proposition. The whole family works those hours.

"The city worker discovers, what the farmer himself is just coming to realize, that the farmer is a piece worker in many instances who holds title or possession to a piece of farm property only on the sufferance of his creditors who are merely waiting a favorable opportunity to dispossess him. The price of the product is unbelievably below the cost of production."

The cordial and practical cooperation between the CIO and the Dairy Farmers Union in New York state, which was the main subject of Wright's speech, is just a sample of the mutual benefits to be derived from farmers and city workers getting together. Both the CIO and forward-looking farmers desire and expect more and more cooperation for economic and progressive political purposes, as both groups of producers become better and better acquainted.

Thanksgiving — Here and There

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Tolerance

MORE people are crowded into less space in New York City than almost anywhere else in the world.

Mankind's heavenward aspirations combine with the business instincts of real estate owners to produce soaring edifices whose pinnacles poke holes in the clouds.

As the gaping visitor admires the fairyland of window lights piled shelf upon shelf against the evening sky, he may try to calculate how many more thousands of people can be made to pay rent through such vertical accommodation than could be given even standing room on the plots of land from which the skyscrapers rise.

And burrowing below the earth, he can see miracles of rapid transportation performed by CIO subway workers for millions more people than the streets above could carry marching by the dozen abreast.

Towers of Babel

New York has produced towers of Babel that do not fall.

Every race, nationality, religion and political belief is represented among the millions who daily mount skyward in elevators or hurtle through Manhattan's subterranean tunnels.

New York, a cosmopolitan curiosity to all of America west of the Hudson, is yet a most typical American city, depending socially upon a quality which is basic to American civilization.

New York is a city which is perforce founded on tolerance. The American people are immigrants all, and New York is a port of arrival, in which succeeding generations of immigrants have first learned to live together as Americans all.

An Organizer's Tale

Two years ago, New York added one more to its population of immigrants—this time from Ilinois. A two-fisted labor organizer arrived, a stranger to the city, under instructions to build the CIO.

Before he left New York, a few days ago, for other duties, he bade farewell to a state convention there representing 900,000 organized CIO workers. Governor, Mayor, United State Senators and many other leaders in public life came to pay their respects to the power and success of this great New York labor movement.

After the convention a dinner was given in honor of the departing labor organizer. There he told the tale of his sojourn in New York and of some of the things it had taught him.

New Union Life

Allan Haywood admitted that he had not wanted to come to New York. He hated to leave his earlier assignments in the auto and rubber industries, where workers by the tens of thousand were flocking to the CIO—new converts to unionism with life, vigor, enthusiasm and militancy that was sweeping all before them.

But now, he said, he hated to leave New York. He related his early difficulties as a stranger in this strange city. He told how the Amalgamated Clothing Workers had been his first host, when it was hard even to find office space, and how Sidney Hillman had been his wise and ever-ready counsellor.

In New York City Haywood found men and women of every race and creed, white-collar and manual workers, conservatives and radicals, every variety of the human race, ready and eager to cooperate in a common cause, the building of the CIO.

CIO Growth in New York

Just as he had seen in Detroit and Akron the rise of the auto and rubber workers unions, so in New York City he found subway, street car and taxi workers joining with equal enthusiasm, under the inspiration of the CIO, to build the great Transport Workers Union. He saw the big department stores being organized; the union spirit spreading to factories of every kind; white-collar workers, newspapermen, insurance employes, civil servants, standing up for their union rights side by side with industrial workers.

And out of it all had grown a powerful CIO in New York, with which the biggest corporations had to reckon and bargain, and to which the highest-placed in political life paid their respects.

But the note that Haywood stressed most of all was that all of this growth depended upon a spirit of tolerance. Jews and gentiles, Catholics and Protestants, Negro and white, American-born and foreign-born, workers of every creed, race and politics, had to work together with some degree of mutual tolerance, for unionism to succeed.

Basic to Labor Success

Intolerance is a meatgrinder which can reduce the most solid steak to the most disintegrated hash. It can reduce strong unions into quarreling factions.

But the New York CIO convention, and the whole growth of the movement there, shows that through industrial organization even the most diversified groups of workers can learn the self-control, the mutual respect and the tolerance without which no disciplined and effective labor movement can exist.

Closed Shop Pact In Law Office

San Francisco, Nov. 25—(FP)—The first closed shop contract signed with a Pacific Coast law office by the United Office & Professional Workers, CIO, covers the firm of Gladstein, Grossman & Margolis, attorneys for the state CIO council and numerous unions.

An unusual feature is a clause providing maternity leave for three to six months. The pact calls for the 38-hour week.

CIO Construction Union Wins Contract

Continued from Page Three

There is a graduated wage scale for apprentices based on time worked in the industry.

Commenting on signing of the contract, a joint statement by Mr. Lewis and Mr. Frey said:

"The completion of this contract is one of the most important events in the history of the construction industry. It marks the beginning of a new day for builders, workers and the public.

"The wage scale will standardize the largest single cost factor in building and provides continuity of work and harmonious relationships on the part of employes and employers toward the problems confronting the industry.

"The District of Columbia is to be congratulated on being one of the first cities of the nation to adopt the modern industrialized form of organization in the building industry. Industrial unionism offers the only effective answer to ancient craft union abuses with which the industry has been confronted for 50 years."

Haywood Announces Four Appointments

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—New appointments in four key CIO areas were announced today by Allan S. Haywood, national organization director of the CIO. The appointments were made in New York, Boston, Chicago and New Orleans, and were necessitated by recent CIO Executive Board action in shifting Haywood and Michael F. Widman to Washington as director and assistant director, respectively.

In New York, where Director Haywood built up CIO organization as Regional Director, Harry Straub was appointed to head the Utility Workers Organizing Committee, which Haywood also headed while stationed in the city.

In Boston, where Assistant Director Widman acted as Regional CIO Director, Hugh Lyons was appointed to head up CIO work in the area. Lyons, a member of the Executive Board of the United Mine Workers in Illinois, was active as well in organizing steel in the midwest.

In Chicago, Ernest B. Pugh was appointed to be Regional Director in place of August Scholle, recently transferred to Detroit, and in New Orleans Fred Pieper, formerly with the United Automobile Workers, was made Director of the new Regional Office opened there.

CIO — UNION MADE
HOSIERY
FULL FASHIONED • SHEER
LISLES • RAYONS
Write: Adler's Hosiery
Room 505—799 Bdwy., N.Y.C.
DISCOUNT TO UNION MEMBERS

LARGEST PRODUCER OF ROUGH ROLLED GLASS
MISSISSIPPI
GLASS COMPANY
220 FIFTH AVE.
NEW YORK

CORNELIUS PRINTING CO.

Printers for
INTERNATIONAL UNIONS
for more than 30 Years
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
SILVER SPRINGS, MD.

UNION SHOP
PRINTING
FOR CIO UNIONS
MID-CITY PRESS
NEWSPAPER — LEAFLETS
JOBWORK — PUBLISHING
N. E. Cor. 9th & Spruce Streets
Philadelphia, Pa.

CIO Seamen Hit Back At Admiral

New York, Nov. 25—Admiral Wiley of the U. S. Maritime Commission, who undertook last week to scold Joe Curran and the Natl. Maritime Union he heads, was told in very plain and vigorous language just what the seamen thought of him and his Commission. The telling was done by Curran, in a letter replying to Wiley's charges that the NMU was "betraying" the seamen and was "dominated by outside interests."

Curran flatly contradicted the Admiral on his charge that the seamen had refused to cooperate with the Commission on the training school issue, citing the recent order of Pres. Roosevelt to Chairman Emory S. Land, also an Admiral, to "cooperate with the representatives of labor."

COMMISSION FAILED

This, as Curran pointed out, is exactly what the Commission has failed to do. On the contrary, he wrote: "If anyone is victimizing the seamen, it is the Commission. The Commission is forcing them to enlist in a Coast Guard School as a prerequisite to obtaining relief. You cannot deny this. We have affidavits showing that the 'enlist or starve' order went into effect immediately after the President had ordered Admiral Land to cooperate with the seamen."

And what is more, Curran added, the Commission has failed in its most important duty — to build up an American merchant marine. ". . . it is high time," he wrote, "that Congress realized that such a vast program should not be entrusted to a Maritime Commission composed of two lawyers, two retired Admirals and one insurance broker."

JOBLESS MAY MARCH

Chicago—(FP)—Predictions of a march of Illinois unemployed to the state capitol were heard when Gov. Horner indicated he would not include relief in the special legislative call.

Mid-Continent Official Plotted Bombing to Hurt CIO Union, Board Hears

(By Federated Press)

TULSA, Okla., Nov. 25.—A former U. S. marshal, employed as chief of guards for the struck Mid-Continent Petroleum Corp., was charged here with having tried last March to bribe members of the CIO Oil Workers Intl. Union into dynamiting the company's pipelines.

The man accused of this attempt to discredit the union in its fight against the bitterly anti-labor corporation is John M. Vickrey. The accusation came during the course of a National Labor Relations Board hearing.

R. C. Walker of Ada, a union member but not a striker, testified that Vickrey gave him his orders in an Ada hotel room on March 30. Previously Walker had told Jack Neal, a company investigator, that he would spy on the union.

Vickrey's aim was to catch the strikers in the act of blasting the company's pipelines and cripple the strike through indictment of its leaders, Walker explained.

"We want you to get in with Chaffin (C. H. Chaffin, a union leader) and the other boys and try to get them to blow up one of our pipelines," Vickrey told him in the hotel, Walker revealed.

"I told him that I would," Walker continued. "Then Vickrey said: 'That'll be fine. That'd be worth more to the oil companies of this state than anything that could happen.'

COMPANY WORRIED

"Vickrey told me to be damn careful not to get Mid-Continent involved in the thing," Walker added. He also said Vickrey had declared that the union couldn't win "because Red Phillips (Gov. Leon C. Phillips) was behind the oil companies."

Walker related that his cousin, a man named Byrd, was offered cash and $6 a day while in jail if he would dynamite the line. He also testified that Jim Bracewell, a pipeline worker, had told Vice-Pres. J. C. Denton of Mid-Continent in a telephone conversation that the dynamiting couldn't be handled for less than $2,500.

LONG HEARING

Lawyers for Mid-Continent were grieved to learn that Walker had been reporting the company's activities to the union. They said that Vickrey, who was out of town at some place where he could not be reached by phone, would explain everything later.

The hearing is in its seventh month and may last as much as a year. The strike, stil lstrong, was called Dec. 22. The workers have the full support of the CIO, which at its San Francisco convention, placed the Mid-Continent corporation on its national unfair list until it signs a union agreement.

HOUSING PROJECT

Marshall, Tex.— (FP) —A $1,000,000 slum clearance project will be inaugurated here shortly with the razing of 200 rent houses for Negroes and whites.

The Labor Reader:

The Politics of Misery

By C. W. FOWLER

America's No. 1 problem area, the South, has been frequently spotted by all kinds of Federal Government leaders and agencies, from the President of the U. S. down to the numerous government fact-finding bureaus and statistics mills. Its economic difficulties have been treated in detail, the misery of the sharecroppers, the low wages of industrial workers, set down in any number of studies and reports.

The CIO has made the South a major concentration area for organization—thereby becoming the first agency to propose a practical remedy for the problems everyone sees. The CIO is also the first to recognize the existence of sinister political forces behind the misery of millions of white and Negro working men and women—again a contribution that no other agency has been able, or has seen fit, to make.

CIO's President John L. Lewis put a finger dramatically and effectively on this when he described Vice-President John Nance Garner to the people of America last spring as the source of Congressional reactionarjes' attacks on labor, as the "labor-baiting, poker-playing, whisky-drinking evil old man" whose knife was "searching for the quivering, pulsating heart of labor."

A BACKGROUND

Now there's a book about these political forces behind the misery of the South, "Dixie Demagogues," by two young CIO Newspaper Guildsmen, Alan Michie and Frank Rhylick, that fills in a background of political and social history on more than a score of Southern politicos like Garner and his pupils and teachers.

The South, the authors point out, has always been a stamping ground for unscrupulous demagogues, since Reconstruction and before. They live and thrive on the poverty and the consequent backwardness of those they permit to vote, turning their poverty and their backwardness to the interest of reaction. This of course is not unique to the South, nor traceable to any inherent stupidity in Southern citizens, any more than political corruption under Tammany was due to the ignorance of New Yorkers or the looting of Chicago under Big Bill Thompson due to a low mentality among Chicagoans.

It is due, they point out, to just the conditions the Southern demagogues know so well how to exploit—the poverty and misery of masses of industrial and agricultural workers.

"It is hard," they write in the opening chapter, "to see how the South's agrarian workers, driven so low that they are hardly fit for further exploitation, can peacefully endure more suffering. They need food . . . They need clothing . . . They need medical care . . .

"They need housing. Surveys show that four million Southern families, over half the families in the entire region, should be rehoused. They need sanitary facilities . . ."

WHAT THEY DON'T NEED

The things they don't need, the authors point out in detailing the character and exploits of demagogues and tories like Garner, Dies, Glass, "The Man" Bilbo, the late Kingfish, and a dozen others, are politicians, but the supply seems to be inexhaustible.

"A great majority of the black and white citizens of the South have been unable to raise their voices in effective protest against this dominance of outside corporations and a decadent plantation system since the close of the Reconstruction. They have been forced to submit abjectly to taxation which favors absentee landlords and collects on the average of 59 cents of every revenue dollar by a sales tax on consumers' goods. They have been compelled to accept as their 'elected representatives' political tools of the dominant hierachy. This complete negation of the most elemental and political rights is the bitter fruit of the South's 'Poll Tax Democracy'."

The poll tax, denounced by every progressive organization in the U. S., target of CIO convention resolutions, disfranchises an overwhelming majority not only of Negro voters but of white citizens as well. Poverty, malnutrition, disease, almost complete absence of even elementary education in many sections do the rest.

HOPE IN ORGANIZATION

But the picture of the South is far from hopeless. New forces are rising, the authors point out, that will sweep away the Garner boys and bring democracy and human decency to 36,000,000 Americans. Greatest of all hopes is organization—organization the CIO way. This is how they conclude:

"A militant trade union movement under the CIO is slowly but surely welding urban and rural workers of both races into a common front. This is the very essence of the struggle to bring democracy to the South . . .

"There is a will to freedom and a lust for a better life. The fulfillment or denial of these aspirations in the New South will play a vital role in America's climb to greater democracy or descent to fascism."

"Dixie Demagogues," by Alan Michie and Frank Rhylick; 298 pp; Vanguard Press; price $2.50.

Fishermen's Convention December 4

Seattle, Wash., Nov. 25 — The annual convention of the International Fishermen's & Allied Workers of America will meet in Bellingham, Washington, December 4, President William Hecker announced here.

Main points to be taken up at the convention are conservation, legislation, economic conditions faced the affiliated locals, and plans for organizing the 100,000 workers in the fishing industry into one industrial union.

New York, Jersey Drives Planned

Empire State CIO Sets Goal

NEW YORK, Nov. 25. — Intensifying organization of the unorganized was the keynote of the second annual convention of the New York State Industrial Union Council of CIO affiliates held here last week.

The officers' report, submitted by retiring Pres. Allan S. Haywood and Secretary-Treasurer Gustave A. Strebel reported a gain of more than 100,000 new members for the CIO in the Empire state from September, 1938 to October, 1939.

"This is a good record, but not good enough," declared Haygood.

"If we are to realize the goal of ten million members by 1944 set by President Lewis in San Francisco, then New York State must double its membership to retain its place in the vanguard of the great CIO," Haywood said.

Virtually every national CIO union and organizing committee have large memberships in New York, with the CIO roster in and about Gotham town soaring up toward the million mark.

ELECT STREBEL

Gustave A. Strebel, general organizer for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, was unanimously elected president of the council to succeed Allan S. Haywood, newly-appointed national director of organization for the CIO.

Hugh Thompson, sub-regional director of Buffalo, was elected secretary-treasurer.

Haywood's remarks on organizing the unorganized were echoed and emphasized by every CIO officer who addressed the 800 delegates. National CIO Vice-President Sidney Hillman, Thomas Kennedy, John Brophy, Vice-President Sherman Dalrymple and Michael J. Quill, Transport Workers president, were among the boosters for greater organizing activities.

RESOLUTIONS

Condemnation of the Dies Committee, support of the National Maritime Union's fight against unemployment due to the European war; condemnation of the anti-labor policies of the Metropolitan Life Insurance and Consolidated Edison Companies; support of collective bargaining rights for transit workers on municipal transit lines; condemnation of discrimination against Negroes in employment and support of a third term for President Roosevelt were embodied in resolutions adopted by the convention.

The same neutrality resolution passed at the recent national CIO convention in San Francisco was unanimously reaffirmed and adopted by the New York State body.

LEWIS SENDS MESSAGE

The delegates were reminded of the CIO's position on the European war in a telegram of greeting from President John L. Lewis. The telegram read:

"Please convey my warmest greetings to the delegates to the New York State Industrial Union convention. The workers of the greatest industrial state in the Union look to the Council for progressive leadership.

"These days of alarms and war are ones which call for the wisest guidance on the part of the leadership of labor. There must be no compromise with the determination to stay out of war nor any slackening of the struggle to better the conditions of the working men and women within our own nation."

The convention greeted with enthusiasm a report by Mrs. Mary Santo that ladies auxiliaries are being established virtually by all CIO affiliates and that a Ladies Auxiliary Council has been established and is ready to coordinate all auxiliary work in New York State.

Speakers at the convention included United States Senators Robert F. Wagner and James M. Mead; Gov. Herbert H. Lehman and Lt.-Gov. Charles A. Poletti; Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia; Rev. John P. Boland, N. Y. State Labor Relations Board; Mrs. Frieda Miller, N. Y. State Industrial Commissioner; Archie Wright, president N. Y. State Dairy Farmers Union; Elmer Brown, president, N. Y. Typographical Union (AFL); Len De Caux, editor of The CIO NEWS and Ralph Hetzel, director of the CIO Unemployment Committee.

ADOLPH GERMER, new CIO regional director in New York, pictured at the state convention of the New York CIO unions.

Oklahoma CIO Maps Campaign

Drumright, Okla., Nov. 25. —One hundred delegates at the annual convention of the Oklahoma Industrial Union Council flashed the "go" signal to plans for CIO organizing throughout this state.

Unanimous and harmonious, the convention voted full approval to the decisions of the CIO San Francisco meeting and voiced their 100 per cent backing to the goal of five million new members set by Pres. Lewis last month, according to Davis Fowler, CIO regional director.

The convention adjourned after electing the following officers: C. A. McPeak, Oil Workers, president; A. M. Duncan, Glass Workers, vice-president; Jim Johnson, United Mine Workers, secretary-treasurer.

Maryland Convention In Baltimore

Baltimore, Nov. 25—Delegates to the third annual convention of the Maryland-District of Columbia Industrial Union Council will hear Philip Murray, Chairman of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee and CIO Vice President, speak at a mass meeting here Monday night.

John T. Jones, President of the State CIO, will preside at the meeting, which will be held in convention headquarters, Moose Hall, 410 West Fayette Street.

Considerable interest in Murray's appearance has been expressed by workers at the Sparrows Point mill of Bethlehem Steel, just outside Baltimore. State CIO leaders expect many steel workers will turn out to hear Murray, especially in view of SWOC's demands for collective bargaining with the anti-union Bethlehem Steel Corp.

Delegates to the convention will be officially welcomed to the city by Mayor Jackson. Jack Edelman, attorney for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, who is also a member of the Baltimore City Council, is scheduled to address the three-day sessions, as is E. L. Oliver, Vice President of Labor's Non-Partisan League.

Joint Board Chairman Ulisse DeDominicis announced that the Amalgamated Clothing Workers will be hosts to the delegates at a party on Tuesday night.

Hague Stronghold Site of Meeting

JERSEY CITY, N. J., Nov. 25. — Representatives of over 200,000 New Jersey CIO workers, meeting in second annual convention here, made organization of the unorganized in basic industries—and particularly in the state's huge munitions plants —their goal for the next 12 months.

They met in a city where a year ago they had been banned, and thus carried out a pledge made at last year's convention of the Jersey Industrial Union Council.

The CIO's symbolic "conquest" of the Hague stronghold was matched by definite and concrete gains throughout the state, Pres. William Carney reported to the more than 300 delegates present at the sessions.

WILLIAM CARNEY, who was re-elected president of the New Jersey Industrial Union Council at its second annual convention in Jersey City last week.

CIO unions in New Jersey have registered a 30% membership gain during the past year, he and Sec. Leonard Goldsmith told the convention, and were responsible for an $11,000,000 raise in the wages.

LIST STEPS AHEAD

In speeches outlining the tasks ahead, Carney commented on the need for bringing the benefits of organization to the state's still-unorganized army of workers, while Goldsmith warned state unemployment compensation directors to change their anti-labor bias.

The convention was opened with an address of welcome to Hague-town by John Dempsey, head of the newly-created Hudson County Industrial Union Council. Others who appeared on the speakers' platform were CIO Vice-Presidents Dalrymple and Robinson, Sec. James Carey and John Brophy, director of local industrial unions.

Brophy urged the Jersey workers to continue their progress, and warned that unless the nation's economic problems are solved, democracy is endangered.

"The best way to preserve democracy is to organize," he added, "especially with the opportunity to do so that the improved job situation brings."

MANY RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions calling upon CIO locals to affiliate with state and city industrial union councils and to support Labor's Non-Partisan League brought strong approval from the delegates. Other expressions called for endorsing the drive of the CIO Musicians locals, intensified organizing campaigns by all locals, extension of the government's food stamp plan, a third-term for the President, extension of WPA and elimination of the 18-month period.

Carney was re-elected president of the council and Carl Holderman of the Textile Workers Union treasurer. Seven vice-presidents were also named.

New York Unionists Honor Haywood

NEW YORK, Nov. 25.—Allan Haywood, the Scot, couldn't leave New York without one grand dinner—free.

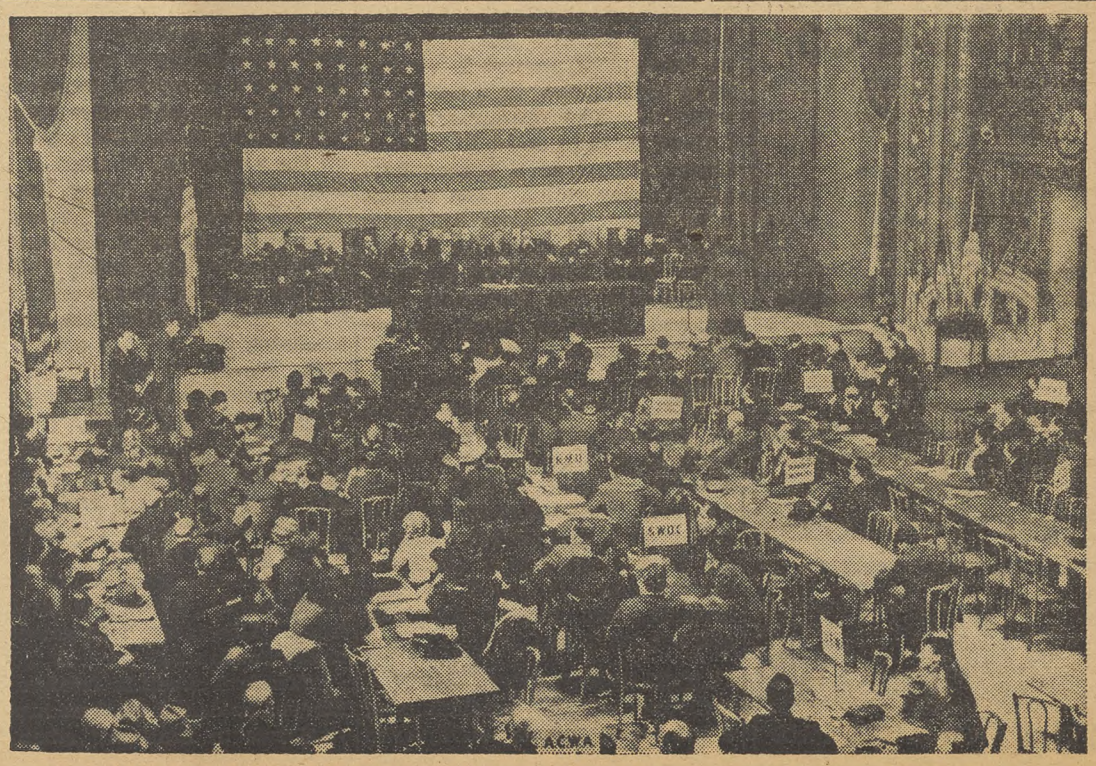
About 500 active CIO unionists and officers (all paying guests) joined Haywood at the dinner, a testimonial, in the Cocoanut Grove room atop New York City's Park Central Hotel the night of Saturday, Nov. 18.

Haywood, who has just assumed his new post as national director for the CIO with headquarters in Washington, received a large bronze plaque—as a token of esteem from the New York State Industrial Union Council.

Michael Quill, New York's leading Kerryman, presented Haywood with a blackthorn stick (not a shillelah). He also received gifts from the Utility Workers, Photographic Employes and the CIO staff.

Among those who paid their respects to Haywood were National Vice-President Sidney Hillman, Sherman Dalrymple, Emil Rieve, Reid Robinson, Thomas E. Kennedy, the Rev. John P. Boland U. S. Senator James M. Mead, Walter Smethurst, Ralph Hetzel, Len De Caux, Adolph Germer, Gustave Strebel, Ben Gold, Samuel Wolchok, Abram Flaxer, Hugh Thompson, John Santo, Henry Wenning, Austin Hogan, Milton Kaufman Carl Randau, Morris Watson, Irving Potash, D. William Leider and Harry Sacher.

Alex Ravitch headed the arrangements committee.



READY TO PUSH ANOTHER BIG DRIVE, delegates to the second annual convention of the New York State Industrial Union Council met in Manhattan and discussed where to concentrate organizing efforts.

Your WPA Job:

Recognizing Needs of Youth

By RALPH HETZEL
CIO Unemployment Director

"Every young person who does not desire to continue in school after 16, and who cannot get a job in private enterprise, should be provided under public auspices with employment in some form of service."

This sentence is not from a resolution by the CIO. It comes from a report of the American Youth Commission whose acting chairman is Owen D. Young, former head of the General Electric Company. Other members of the Commission include Henry I. Harriman, former president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, Ralph Budd, president of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railway and Robert E. Wood, chairman of the board of Sears, Roebuck & Co.

Unquestionably this conclusion upon the part of such a body as the American Youth Commission, heavily representing the viewpoint of large American industry, will do much to further the kind of a program that has been fought for by the CIO. It provides a substantial basis for cooperation in backing a program for young people that will move boldly to solve what is in a way the first problem of the nation.

RECOGNITION OF FACTS

The report is a recognition that the problem of young people is not one mainly of providing schools. It is mainly a problem of unemployment and the lack of economic opportunity. Such an attitude is a very refreshing note of realism. It bodes well for a renewed attack upon the problem of unemployed youth in the coming Congress.

Those in the Administration and in Congress who are now filling the newspapers with anonymous predictions that provision for the unemployed will be sharply reduced are clearly revealed by this report as attacking the national welfare. The CIO will fight vigorously, as was made clear at the San Francisco Convention, against the attempt to destroy adequate provisions for young people and the unemployed on the excuse that a lot of money will be spent for armaments.

The American Youth Commission sounds the same note: "There is grave danger in the widespread belief that a war boom will solve all our unemployment problems, including the special problems of unemployed youth."

The Commission goes on to say—and remember who is on it—that "it is frankly advocating a program which will add to the federal budget."

NO SUBSTITUTION!

The CIO believes that the American people will not stand for the substitution of an armament program for the New Deal. That is the solution of totalitarian states. The CIO has strongly expressed its conviction in President Lewis' Report that our first line of national defense must be the solution of our internal problems, especially that of unemployment.

And much in line with this position the report of the American Youth Commission goes on to point out: "Society in each generation has an obligation to provide for youth full opportunities for vocational exploration, training and public service."

The report states that "the rate of unemployment is higher among youth between 20 and 24 than in any older age group and highest of all for young people between 15 and 20 who are out of school and seeking work." It goes on to show that there are at present at least four million unemployed young people between the ages of 15 and 25 and that "as a result of population trends and the general changes in industrial conditions, aggravated by the long period of severe unemployment for workers of all ages, we now have a generation of youth containing an unusually high proportion without work experience or training."

PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAM

The report advocates a public works program "designed to provide constructive work experience in such a manner that the work done is a true service to the community . . . (and) should be planned with special regard to its education quality."

They emphasized the educational character of the program and state that: "It should provide an opportunity to try various kinds of work, so that the young person may find his own aptitudes and abilities and may be given some guidance in preparing for private employment in a field where he can be most useful and successful."

But they go much further than that and suggest that the young people be put to "producing the goods and services which are needed by the young people themselves and by others who are unemployed and in need. The Commission does not regard this as competition with private business, although it may be so considered by some persons.

"In any event, it is far preferable to unemployment or to the levels of taxation which would be necessary to support a decent level of subsistence for those in need if they are not to be allowed to do anything for themselves."

Standard of Panama!

OUT-DOING THE LEOPARD, who can never change his spots, Standard Oil switched nationalities on this oil tanker with all the nonchalance of a sleight-of-hand artist. The tanker took on the flag of Panama, and, while anchored in Boston, replaced American seamen with others imported from Nova Scotia.

New Homes for Old:

How About Housing?

By THOMAS HUMPHRIES

"Shall the low-rent housing program be strangled to death in its very infancy?"

This is a question that faces every American worker and his family.

Somewhere in the House of Representatives there is a dusty filing cabinet wherein lies a bill entitled "S-591." It's full of legal phrases and big-looking figures: $800,000,000 more in loans and $45,000,000 more in annual subsidies for the United States Housing Authority. Frankly, it makes dull reading!

But if you look behind the phrases and behind the figures, you'll find a story that will hit you like a pair of brass knuckles. NEW HOMES FOR 240,000 FAMILIES WHO ARE NOW LIVING IN BAD HOUSING! JOBS FOR THOUSANDS OF WORKERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING MATERIALS INDUSTRIES!

22 VERSUS 240,000

But why is this bill gathering dust in a filing cabinet? Why has it not been written into the law of the land?

The answer is that although the Senate passed the bill 2 to 1 at the last session, the House dodged the issue. By a vote of 191 to 169, it **voted against voting** on the bill.

In other words, 22 Nays doomed 240,000 ill-housed families to wait still longer for the day when they will leave the slums. . . .

A NEW BATTLE CRY

In only a few weeks the House of Representatives will meet in regular session. S-591 will be on the order of business once again.

And once more the reactionaries will try to gang up on housing. Capitol Hill in Washington will crawl with lobbyists. Congressmen will be told once again that more low-rent public housing will ruin business, bankrupt the nations, lead us straight toward the per-r-r-ilous paths of socialism.

But this year a new war cry will be heard among the tents of the anti-housers. Last year they beat the drums for economy. This year they will beat the drums for higher and higher war appropriations—and with the din will try to drown out any voice that calls for improved working and living conditions.

A concerted attempt will be made to finance defense appropriations at the expense of low-rent housing and other vital government activities!

HOUSING MUST GO ON

If S-591 is defeated at the coming session, the flourishing low-rent housing movement will be halted in its tracks.

Scores of local housing authorities will have their applications for USHA loans rejected. Those that have already started projects will find that they can only do a fraction of the slum clearance needed in their localities. Local authorities that have not yet swung into action will remain penniless.

The USHA program will continue a little while on its own momentum—like an automobile after the gas has run out. One hundred and sixty thousand low-rent homes will get under construction—and nothing more: a pitifully small drop in an amazingly large bucket.

But labor can't afford to see this happen.

We need the jobs that the expanded program would create. And above all, we need better housing at rents we can afford to pay. We must tell our Representatives in Congress now—even before Congress opens in January—that "housing must go on!"

Labor And The Law:

Serrick Ruling Hits AFL Leaders

By LEE PRESSMAN
CIO General Counsel

The CIO has scored another substantial victory in Labor Board court cases. The Federal Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia turned down the appeal of the AFL from the Board order setting aside a collusive closed shop contract between the AFL Machinists Union and the Serrick Corporation. Just as the Republic Steel decision is an answer to the drive by the NAM and the Chamber of Commerce to amend the Wagner Act, so this decision is an answer to the wild charges made by the AFL officials.

GREEN OVER-RULED

In his testimony before the Senate Committee, William Green charged that the decision of the Labor Board in the Serrick Case was "arbitrary and without foundation in fact or reason."

Answering Green, the Federal Court said: "The evidence was clearly sufficient to sustain the Board's finding that the employer gave unlawful aid to the IAM and to show that its decision was not arbitrary."

The facts in the case are a typical example of collusive contracts. When the CIO Automobile Workers began an aggressive organizing campaign, the company first tried to stop the campaign with a Welfare Association, and then, with an out-and-out company union. After these two measures failed, it turned to open collusion with the AFL and signed a closed shop contract, notwithstanding the CIO majority.

CIO HAD MAJORITY

The first argument made by the AFL was that although the UAW undoubtedly had a majority at the time it requested the company to bargain with it, since the hearing, the majority of the employes had shifted to the AFL. The AFL therefore argued that the Board ought to call an immediate election instead of directing the Company to bargain with the CIO union. But the Court ruled that the Board might very well require a reasonable period to pass before it would have to order any election.

The second important point in the case is that the AFL tried to have the Court judge the negotiations between the AFL and the company entirely apart from the whole background of the company's open hostility to the CIO, and its attack against the CIO with the aid of the Welfare Association and with the company union. But the Court ruled that any reasonable person would have to take into consideration all the events leading up to the AFL collusive contract.

COMPANY STOOGES

The third important point related to the use of company "stooges" and supervisory employes to get members for the AFL.

What happened in this case was that the principal organizers for the AFL were straw bosses and old cronies of the general manager, the superintendent and the personnel director. One of them, suspiciously enough, was transferred to the plant at the time the CIO organizing campaign began and left it immediately after the AFL closed shop contract was signed. The court said that it was impossible for such men who had been active in the company union and in the Welfare Association to "regain independence overnight," in other words, to be whitewashed by the AFL.

The fourth important point is the fact that the court condemned secret back-door agreements between the AFL and employers. In this case, what happened was that the AFL entered into negotiations for a closed shop covering the tool room before it had a majority. When the contract was actually signed, it was dated back, in order to offset the CIO majority demand for collective bargaining made before the actual date of the fake contract. The Court threw this scheme out.

The last important point deals with the appropriate unit. In this case the AFL first got a closed shop agreement covering only the tool room employes, intending to use this contract to break down the CIO majority in the whole plant.

Because of this collusion, the Board refused to establish the tool room as a separate unit. The AFL has protested this decision, claiming that it was clear evidence of the bias on the part of the Labor Board in favor of the CIO and of its intent to destroy genuine AFL craft units. But the court upheld the Board order, saying that there was no question that the tool room was strategic in the organizing campaign and that the separate collusive contract for the tool room was only a scheme to help the company lick the CIO.

The decision in the Serrick case was handed down by a majority of New Deal judges.

Explanation

Little Amos: "Pop, what is labor trouble?"

Father: "Labor trouble, my boy, is a newspaper term to describe the results of employer trouble."

Canadian Miners' Strike Gets Support

Fight 15c-Hour Wages

ESTEVAN, Sask., Nov. 25.—A wide boycott of Estevan coal has been started by western Canadian communities in protest against the refusal of Western Dominion Coal Mines to bargain with its striking employes, members of the United Mine Workers of America.

One of the first municipalities to head the boycott call of the Winnipeg and Regina trades and labor councils was the town council of Transcona which decided to stop purchases of Estevan coal until the mine operators bargain with the mine workers.

Organized farmers in Elfros, Saskatchewan, approved the boycott move and in addition demanded that the 150 members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, now stationed in the strike area, should be withdrawn immediately.

AFL GROUP HELPS

The Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council, composed of majority of AFL affiliates, is taking steps to have the Manitoba government refuse to accept tenders for coal supplies from Estevan. The Regina central labor body has approved similar measures.

The Saskatchewan government has been accused by Pat Conroy, vice-president of District 18 of the UMW as a "strike-breaker" for despatching the federal police to the strike area.

"The life of these miners and their wives and children is one of the most pathetic things in our dominion," Conroy declared. "Wages per hour are as low as 22½ cents. Many young men are even forced to work for less, and sometimes at 15 cents an hour.

"Miners are paid 15 cents a ton for digging coal which sells for $5.50 in Regina," the UMW leader charged.

OPERATORS STUBBORN

He told how the operators refused to recognize the findings of a conciliation board which recommended a minimum wage of 40 cents an hour and recognition of the United Mine Workers.

"The operators brought in the Canadian Federation of Labor," Conroy protested. "That this boss union is looked upon with contempt by the majority of the workers is proven by the vote taken by the representative of the federal government when 84.6 per cent of the men voted for the UMW and when 90 per cent desired the board of conciliation to intervene.

"Since when are 150 police, armed to the teeth, needed to maintain law and order over two or three hundred half-starved miners who have scrupulously adhered to orderly conduct?" he asked.

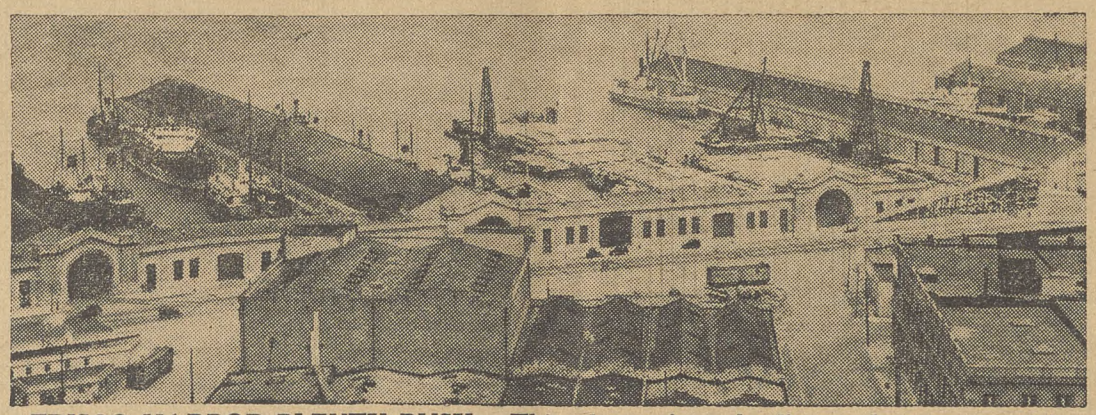
Conroy said that over 100 miners in the strike area joined the army yet at the same time "there's an attempt to do away with democracy and institute Hitlerite methods right here at home."

Maytag Parleys

Newton, Ia., Nov. 25—Negotiations with the Maytag Company, manufacturers of washing machines, will be resumed early in December, the local office of the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers announced here.

The renewed talks on negotiations come as a result of the satisfactory working out of a rehire agreement, the UERMW local said, whereby unions members were guaranteed to return to work in proper proportion to a union, non-union percentage in each department.

Figures Refute Anti-Union Fables About San Francisco



FRISCO HARBOR PLENTY BUSY: This photo gives the lie to ghost town stories, San Francisco maritime leaders say. Note the number of ships lined up along the wharves.

By MIRIAM ALLEN deFORD
Federated Press

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 25.—Just as the Associated Farmers wreak their spite on strongly-unionized San Francisco by calling it a "ghost town," so have other anti-labor organizations and individuals publicized the irresponsible charge that because of the union shop established by the maritime unions in the successful strikes of 1934 and 1936, San Francisco harbor is now a "ghost port."

Official figures from the Chief of Engineers of the U. S. Army tell a different story. In every year from 1932 to 1937 (the last year for which figures are available) both the tonnage and the value of cargoes cleared through the port of San Francisco have increased.

INCREASING BUSINESS

This consistent increase has been made despite a 10-year depression. It is continuing despite the nationwide upset in shipping because of the European war.

In 1932 the port's commerce was 25,295,205 tons, valued at $969,241,474. In 1935, after the 1934 strike, it was 26,962,032 tons, valued at $1,122,566,999. The tonnage for 1937, after the 1936 strike, was 28,812,967, valued at $1,209,541,226.

Unofficial but reliable figures for 1938 show further increases in both tonnage and value. Maritime commerce in September 1939 was 13% above September 1938, and for the first nine months of 1938 was 8% higher than for the same period in 1937.

In the ranking of U. S. ports according to value of cargo, San Francisco is second, outranked only by New York. Los Angeles is fourth. Seattle and Portland are eleventh and twelfth respectively.

REPEAT THE FABLE

Yet many San Franciscans, ordinary citizens as well as employers who can presumably read the official figures, persist in saying that the waterfront has been turned into a graveyard by the unions. They can't explain why union members would wish to commit economic suicide, and they don't defend the notrious shape-up system and fink hiring halls that victimized longshoremen and seamen before unionism swept the waterfront.

"But look at the docks!" these people say. "There used to be ships at almost every pier. Longshoremen and truckers were busy. Now there's hardly any work. It's one strike after another."

What these critics don't look at is the official reports of maritime commerce. What they fail to understand is that although cargo is not moved when the unions are forced to strike, the temporary reduction is made up very quickly when the employers — who still hope to bust the unions and go back to the old system — decide that peace is better than strife.

RAISED BUYING POWER

And let it not be forgotten also that the strong organization of the maritime unions in San Francisco, their equalization of work through the hiring hall and stabilization of pay at a decent subsistence level, mean a perceptible increase in the buying power of thousands of waterfront and maritime workers and their families.

If San Francisco is a ghost port, it is the liveliest, healthiest, and most material ghost in the annals of phychic research.

Marine Union Payroll Holdup Suspect Caught

NEW YORK, Nov. 25.—The round-up of shipowners' labor spies that tried to wreck the Natl. Maritime Union, CIO, is "practically complete," with the arrest of John Gallagher for complicity in a payroll holdup here, the NMU announced.

Gallagher was seized by New York police as one of a group that stole the NMP payroll from headquarters last March. His arrest brings to seven the number picked up in connection with the robbery.

Of the seven, the NMU pointed out, four were members of the executive committee of the "Mariners' Club," exposed by the union as a shipowners' organization whose function was to spread dissension and "to deliver the union into the hands of the shipowners."

The expose was made in a pamphlet called "Labor Spies in the NMU," which can be obtained from NMU headquarters at 126 — 11th Ave., New York.

Gold Miners Demand $1 Raise

Vancouver, B. C., Nov. 25 — Organized labor in British Columbia is rallying to the defense of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union strike in Pioneer Gold Mines whose employes are seeking a $1 a day pay boost.

At its last meeting, the Vancouver and New Westminster Trades and Labor Council, went on record to support the strike and also urged its affiliates to do the same.

Recently the court convicted four of the union's officers on charges of calling an "illegal" strike. As a result of the conviction organized labor is making preparations to seek amendments to the provinicial labor laws so that such affairs will not happen in the future.

Seamen Eat Union Turkey

New York, Nov. 25 — Close to 3,000 CIO seamen, thrown out of jobs by revision of the Neutrality Act, ate turkey with dressing, mince pie, pumpkin pie, cranberry sauce and all the fixings at a huge Thanksgiving dinner held in Natl. Maritime Union headquarters here.

The dinners were furnished by the NMU Women's Auxiliary, of which Miss Frances Bryant, stewardess' organizer, is chairman.

Youngstown Booms

Youngstown, Ohio, Nov. 25 — Things are looking up in Youngstown, in the heart of Ohio's steel belt, according to John L. Mayo, district director for the Steel Workers Organizing Committee.

Election of Judge William Spagnola as mayor with the help of organized labor is expected to give labor its rightful place in this industrial city's political life. Formation of a Mahoning Valley Industrial Union Council is also helping to coordinate CIO activities.

Three new SWOC lodges have been chartered within recent months, and several more are expected soon, Mayor said.

Seek Peace In Wire Walkout

Washington, Nov. 25 — Moves to settle the 10 week old Western Union strike in San Francisco brought Mervyn Rathborne, CIO American Communications Assn. president, to confer with U. S. Labor Secretary Frances Perkins here.

Miss Perkins heard Rathborne describe the origins of the strike, which was provoked by refusal of Western Union officials to bargain collectively with the union. She asked for additional information, which Rathborne said would be delivered later in the week.

Rathborne was accompanied by Joseph Selley, ACA vice-president, and Daniel Driesen, legislative representative.

The Natl. Labor Relations Board recently ordered Western Union to abandon its company union, described as one of the oldest in the world, and to refund company union dues checked off from workers' pay.

Union Puts Waterman on Unfair List

Jersey City, N. J., Nov. 25. — Members of the United Rubber Workers today placed Waterman fountain pens and Waterman's ink on their unfair list as they continued to fight the company's bitter anti-union attitude.

Though calling off a strike which has been in effect at the plant here for some time, the union announced that it will continue to push its Labor Board discrimination cases against the firm, as well as intensifying the consumer campaign.

John Baldante, international representative for the United Rubber Workers supported the local in its move, calling attention to the firing of union leaders and refusal to bargain which has marked the company's labor relations policy.

Push Steel Campaign

Indiana Harbor, Ind., Nov. 25 — Progress of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee in the Chicago-Gary district was spotlighted at a recent convention attended by delegates from all lodges in the area.

District Director Nicholas Fontecchio revealed that six new lodges have been formed in recent months, and that union shop, check-off agreements have been signed with a number of companies.

Seniority systems instituted by the SWOC have been followed very closely in the rehiring of men for Chicago's humming steel industry, Fonteccio said, and as the men come back to the job they are becoming active members in good standing with the union.

Resolutions passed by the delegates pledged support to decisions of the CIO at its second convention, called for organization of all unorganized workers in steel and criticized the National Labor Relations Board for decisions appeasing AFL and industrial critics of the Wagner Act.

CIO Wins Apex Case Reversal

SEE PAGES THREE AND SEVEN

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Official Weekly Publication of the
Congress of Industrial Organizations

Vol. II — No. 49 | Send form 3578-P to 1106 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. | DECEMBER 4, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

CHRYSLER PACT BIG CIO VICTORY

Their Ranks Held Firm

PICKETS — AND LOTS OF THEM — defeated Chrysler Corp.'s union-busting back-to-work efforts and helped win another big victory for the United Automobile Workers, CIO. Company attempts at provocation, used as a last resort, failed to split the solid union ranks.

Best Among Major Firms, Union Says

(See Story Page Three)

DETROIT, Dec. 2. — Fifty thousand Chrysler Corp. employes were back at work today after a smashing union victory had brought them a $6,000,000 yearly pay increase and one of the best contracts in the automobile industry.

The eight-week lockout and strike ended happily for the Chrysler employes, who had been suffering under a vicious speed-up system. In a joint statement, CIO Vice-Pres. Philip Murray and Pres. R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers, declared:

"It represents a major accomplishment for the CIO . . . the greatest gains made for the Chrysler workers since the inception of unionism in the plants of the corporations."

Murray had assisted the UAW-CIO representatives in the final days of the negotiations with the company.

With the troublesome Chrysler dispute ended, UAW-CIO leaders plan to institute a new campaign to organize the nation's booming low-wage aircraft industry. Allan S. Haywood, national CIO director, said an organizing committee representing the union and the CIO, may soon be formed.

Propose Settling Wire Strike

Washington, Dec. 1.—Proposals of Frances Perkins, U. S. Secretary of Labor, for settlement of the prolonged Western Union strike in San Francisco will be presented to the local of CIO American Communications Association involved. Mervyn Rathborne, ACA President, said here on receiving the Secretary's proposed settlement.

The Secretary's plan called for three things: return to work without discrimination against any striker on any grounds, revival of grievance machinery in use before strike began, and immediate calling off of the strike.

Anniversary Reward

Chicago, Dec. 2 — As part of the first anniversary celebration of their strike here, CIO Guildsmen posted rewards of $1,000 for the arrest of Hearst thugs who tried to kill two pickets recently, latest development in a 12-month campaign of Hearst violence and intimidation.

Sign Construction Contract

SIGNING ON THE DOTTED LINE are leaders of the CIO's United Construction Workers Organizing Committee and Washington, D. C., building contractors. The contract is the first industrial union pact in the capital's history. Shown signing are: Chairman Thomas P. McTigue of the D. C. UCWOC committee; Richard W. Frey, chairman of the Construction Industry Employers, Inc., negotiating committee; Edmund J. Grady, CIE organizer; and A. D. Lewis, UCWOC chairman.

Inside The News

Labor's Voice
was heard at Havana, Cuba, ILO Conference, where CIO Sec. James B. Carey demanded labor representation on government bodies.
SEE PAGE 3

CIO Plans
are discussed by Allan S. Haywood, new national director of organization.
SEE PAGE 5

Ends Log-Jam
that's long-run effect of CIO's industrial union construction contract, housing experts say.
SEE PAGE 6

Silicosis
runs wild in midwest's "Tri-District," sensational report discloses.
SEE PAGE 6

'Organize'
was keynote of Maryland-D. C. CIO Convention at Baltimore last week.
SEE PAGE 8

CIO Chemical Workers Fight Starvation Pay

EAST CHICAGO, Ind., Dec. 1.—In protest against refusal of the management of the Harbison-Walker refractories plant here to bargain with Local 12120, United Mine Workers, 250 workers walked out on strike, charging the company with paying starvation wages. The men cleared the plant in five minutes, taking the bosses out with them.

The union demands are for a five cent hourly wage increase to bring pay up to the level prevailing in the Calumet district; vacations with pay and installation of adequate machinery to control the silica dust which is said to have caused some 80 deaths in the past 15 years.

Denying the company's claim that the dust control system is the "most modern and efficient known to science," the union pointed out that one of the workers, Emmet Jones, died of silicosis before the strike was a week old.

"The industrial murder of Emmet Jones galvanized the attention of the city to the working condition at the Harbison Walker plant," a statement issued by a union official declared.

"An investigation was promptly launched and startling facts were soon uncovered.

"A search of the files of the East Chicago Public Health Office testified that the men of the Harbison Walker plant were working in a 'death mill.' These records revealed that in the last 11 years, 28 men had died from silicosis and coincident diseases of the chest and lungs induced by silicosis."

The union also declared that four other workers died from silicosis during the last year.

Irving Meyers, young labor lawyer who is handling the legal claims of the workers for compensation, called the plant a "death mill."

"The men go there to work," he said, "but they leave there to die."

Oil Union Rings Up Two Wins

Washington, Dec., 2—Two recent successes of the Oil Workers International Union were reported here by President John L. Coulter of the Oil Workers International Union.

At the Louisville (Ky.) Refining Company, where a Labor Board case has been in the courts for some time, the company has reinstated with back pay the union members involved and has now signed an agreement with the Oil Workers International Union.

At Port Neches, Tex., the Oil Workers Union recently won a Labor Board election at the Pure Oil Company by an overwhelming majority.

TOO HOT TO BURN

St. Louis, Mo.—The local Library Board has decided that John Steinbeck's novel of migratory workers, "Grapes of Wrath," is too hot to burn, reversing the previous five to zero vote for public cremation a la Nazi book-burnings.

Win 2nd War Bonus At RCA

New York, Dec. 2—For the second time within two months, RCA Communications Company, Inc., has agreed in negotiations with the American Communications Association, CIO, to pay a "war bonus" to 1,700 of its employes, in the form of 5 per cent of the total October earnings of eligible employes.

The latest war bonus which will total about $12.000, the union estimated, will go to all company employes in the United States, Philippine Islands, Hawaii, the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico who earn less than $5,000 a year.

Last month the ACA negotiated a war bonus which totalled about $25,000 in payments ranging as high as $50.

None of the employes who will receive the special bonus are engaged in hazardous work. The demand for the bonus payments was made because of the additional burden placed upon employes as the result of increased war business and the rising cost of living.

Order Big Poll At Shoe Plants

Washington, Dec. 2 — Another mammoth election has been placed on the schedule books of the National Labor Relations Board.

Within the next 60 days, some 18,000 employes of Endicott-Johnson, big shoe manufacturer, will determine if they wish to be represented by the CIO United Shoe Workers or by the Boot & Shoe Workers, AFL. It was the AFL affiliate which petitioned for the poll, and the date was set over the objections of the CIO union.

Representatives of the USWA claimed that further time should be granted for the effects of the corporation's anti-union practices to be dissipated.

In setting the election date, the Board ordered the voting unit to be industrial — thereby including all plants of the company in Binghamton, Endicott, Johnson and Owego, N. Y.

BACK ON AIR

Akron, Ohio—The CIO radio program, "The Voice of Labor," banned by a local Akron station under the National Association of Broadcasters' code, was back on the air this week with a broadcast over WADC of the Columbia network. The Akron Industrial Union Council, which sponsors the program, has signed a year's contract with the station.

Suffering Acute As Relief Trickles Out In Cleveland

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 2.—Demanding action to forestall outright starvation for thousands, a delegation of CIO leaders from all parts of Ohio today conferred with Gov. Bricker in an effort to solve the relief crisis in Cleveland, Toledo and other industrial centers.

In Cleveland, Mayor Burton stopped all relief for 16,000 adults in order that children of the unemployed might eat.

A Cleveland nutrition expert said she knew of a family of five, including a new-born baby and its nursing mother, which had had no food in six days except cornmeal and coffee.

Two threatened suicides have been attributed to the relief situation. A woman was found walking near the lake front. "I'll kill myself if you don't get food for my children," she said.

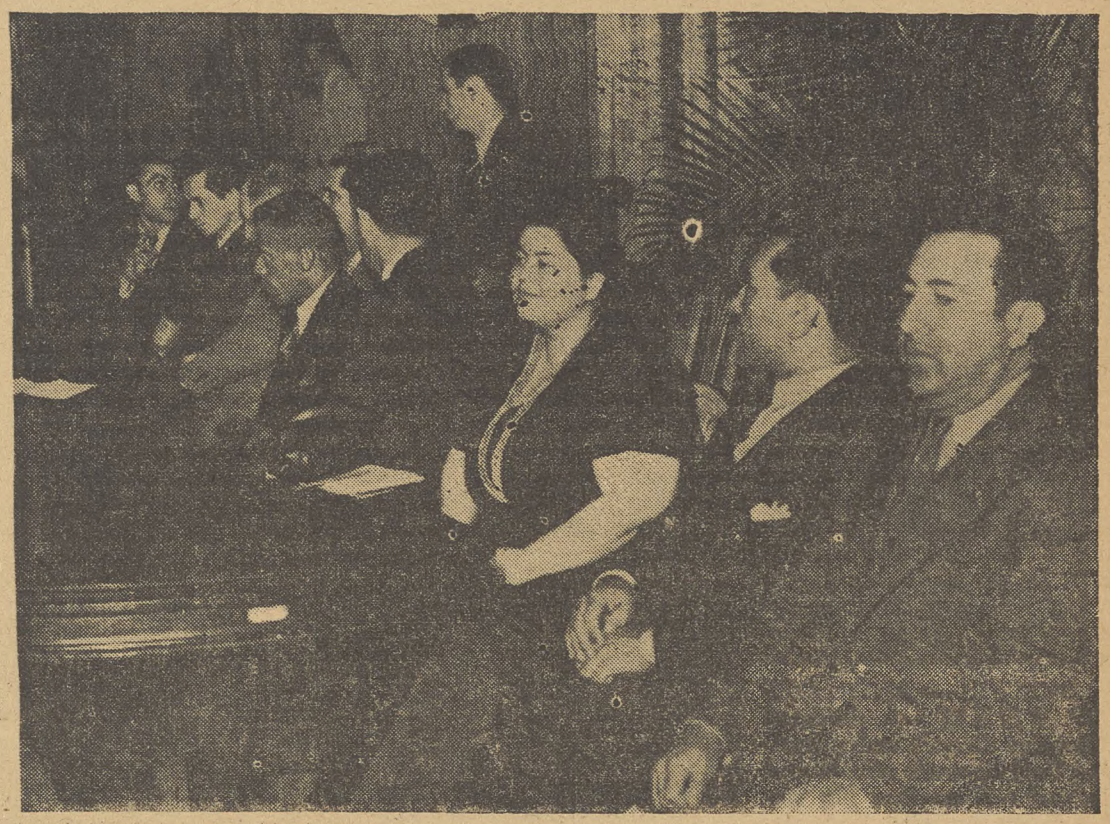
CIO COUNCIL TAKES ACTION

With the situation becoming increasingly critical, the Cleveland Industrial Union Council called upon the Ohio CIO body to order a special meeting of its executive board for state-wide action to meet the crisis.

Present relief funds in Cleveland were made available by the state, after the city's appropriation was exhausted.

However, Sidney Rowlery, assistant relief commissioner in Cleveland, said it is an "almost impossible task" to make the present funds last for "the most needy and most helpless" until the end of the present year.

Discuss Pan-American Problems



LEADERS OF LABOR from all the American nations gathered in Havana for the ILO's regional conference. Shown on the platform are Sec. James B. Carey, first CIO official appointed as delegate to an ILO meeting; Miss Kathryn Lewis, a labor advisor on the American delegation; and Vicente Lombardo Toledano, head of Mexican labor's powerful CTM.

Locked Out Fishermen Form Co-op

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 2—Locked out by two cold storage companies after they sought union recognition, 647 CIO fishermen and fish handlers here have set up their own business, catching, processing and marketing fish on a cooperative basis.

They are being backed by some 15,000 CIO steel and mine workers in the vicinity who have pledged as far as possible to buy fish from the new cooperative.

Securing an option on a disused plant, the union fishermen and handlers announced that they would stay in business until their demands were met, and perhaps longer.

They are asking union contracts with the two companies, covering wages and working conditions and providing for the reinstatement of all the locked out workers.

7½% INCREASE

NEW YORK—The Imperial Rayon Co. of Gloucester, N. J. has granted a 7½% wage increase in a new contract with the Textile Workers Union.

Marshall Field Mills Sign With Union

DRAPER, N. C., Dec. 2.—Dixie workers chalked up another CIO victory today as 3,000 textile workers in three North Carolina towns ratified the Textile Workers Union newly-signed contract with the Marshall Field & Co., owner of five mills.

The agreement, announced by TWU Pres. Emil Rieve in New York, was given the workers' stamp of approval at overflow meetings. George Baldanzi, TWU executive vice-president, presented the contract to the union locals.

A week's paid vacation, the 40-hour week, seniority and grievance machinery were included in the contract, which is hailed as a major step in the CIO campaign to free southern workers from industrial feudalism.

The contract is the first in the 85-year history of the Marshall Field mills. It followed a union victory in a Natl. Labor Relations Board election earlier this year.

The mills manufacture bedspreads, blankets, rugs, woolens and sheeting.

PUSH FOOD PLAN

Washington, Dec. 2—The Food Order Stamp plan for distributing agricultural surpluses will be extended to include Sioux City, Ia., Pulaski County, Ark., Minnehaha County, S. D., Bismarck and Mandan, N. D., Denver, Colo., and Wichita County, Tex., Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace announced recently.

41 W. Va. Mine Deaths In Month

MORGANTOWN, W. Va. — "Too much carelessness on the part of supervisory employes" resulted in West Virginia coal mine accidents during the month of October which took the lives of 41 men, the West Virginia Department of Mines announced.

The shocking increase in fatal accidents has caused the Department to inaugurate a campaign to enforce the observance of safety laws.

New Pact Benefits Gotham Shoe Workers

NEW YORK, Dec. 2. — An agreement covering about 3,000 workers in 13 New York shoe plants was signed this week between Joint Council 13, United Shoe Workers of America, CIO, and the Shoe Manufacturers Board of Trade. It provides for pay increases ranging from two to eight per cent.

The contract which will run for two years, was ratified at a membership meeting attended by some 1,500 shoe workers. According to Isidore Rosenberg, manager of the Joint Council, the contract will be used to cover an additional 3,000 workers in independent shops.

Chrysler Pact Brings Big Gains

Heed Voice Of Labor -- Carey

Havana, Cuba, Dec. 2 — The voice of labor must be heard in all government agencies throughout the world.

Calling for labor participation both in the peace settlement which follows the present European war and in those government agencies which enforce international agreements on labor questions, CIO Sec. James B. Carey brought this message to representatives of Latin American workers attending the Inter-American Labor Conference here.

The conference is sponsored by the Intl. Labor Office, which has headquarters in Geneva. Nineteen of the western hemisphere's 22 nations are represented at the sessions here.

Appointment of Carey by Pres. Roosevelt marked the first time that the CIO had been given representation on an ILO delegation. Here for the conference by Presidential appointment are Miss Kathryn Lewis, executive secretary to her father, the head of the United Mine Workers; and Miss Dorothy Bellanca, a vice-president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers. Both are worker advisors to the American delegation.

LABOR AND PEACE

A peace agreement no better than the Treaty of Versailles will result unless labor gets full recognition at the next peace conference, Carey predicted. Only by giving labor participation, he went on, "can we insure a peace settlement unlike that of 1919, that is based upon justice for all peoples of all nations."

Both Carey and Miss Lewis spoke at a huge mass meeting last Sunday under the auspices of the Cuban Labor Federation. Some 4,000 people who crowded into the National Theater heard Miss Lewis speak in Spanish.

"Labor in the United States cannot solve its problems unless Latin America solves its political and economic problems," Carey said in a plea for close cooperation among the various labor groups.

Convention Proceedings Available

Washington, Dec. 2—Complete proceedings of the second CIO constitutional convention, held at San Francisco, are available at National CIO Headquarters this week. The proceedings are bound in one volume, and include all material in the daily proceedings issued at the time of the meeting.

In addition, a series of pamphlets on main convention subjects such as CIO organizing drives, labor and the war, and several of Pres. Lewis' speeches are in preparation.

Copies of the CIO constitution as amended at the second convention are also obtainable, priced at five cents per single copy, $4.00 per 100.

Proceedings and pamphlets as well as the revised constitution can be obtained from CIO National Office, 1106 Connecticut Ave., NW, Washington, D. C.

MIGHTY INTERESTED is this tot as she peers at the candle on the first birthday cake of the Chicago Hearst strikers. Just a year ago the Chicago Newspaper Guild called its strike for job security on the Windy City papers, and they're still getting national support for their valiant struggle.

Circuit Court Kills Apex Anti-CIO Case

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 2.—Efforts of the Apex Hosiery to use the Sherman Anti-Trust law against the American Federation of Hosiery Workers ran up against a stone wall in federal circuit court of appeals here.

Reversing the federal district court, the three judges set aside the $711,000 judgment previously awarded the Philadelphia company against the CIO hosiery workers union.

The Apex company has not yet announced whether it will take the case to the U. S. Supreme Court.

'VINDICATES CIO'

In Washington, Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, said the decision "is a further vindication of the CIO stand that anti-trust laws to not apply to labor unions engaged in the struggle to establish collective bargaining.

"The decision clearly disposes of the claims in the widely-publicized suit by Tom Girdler's Republic Steel Corp. against the Steel Workers Organizing Committee and the CIO for $7,500,000 damages."

If Apex wants to sue for any alleged damages sustained during the 1937 seven-week sitdown strike for union recognition, the court decision held, the proper procedure is to sue for damages in the state court. But, the judges said, the anti-trust law cannot be applied to unions seeking to organize a plant and to win collective bargaining.

CIO 'NOT GUILTY'

"The effect upon interstate commerce was merely indirect, incidental and remote," the judges declared. "The appellants therefore were not guilty of engaging in a combination of conspiracy to restrain commerce."

$6,000,000 Raise Won By Union

By FRANK WINN

DETROIT, Dec. 2.—Chrysler workers won a $6,000,000 a year pay increase, one of the best union contracts in the industry, and a smashing victory for the CIO this week when they ratified an agreement settling the eight-week old dispute between the United Automobile Workers CIO, and the corporation.

In a joint statement, Vice-Pres. Philip Murray of the CIO and Pres. R. J. Thomas of the UAW - CIO characterized the agreement as representing the "greatest gains made for the Chrysler workers since the inception of unionism in the plants of the corporation. It represents a major accomplishment of the CIO."

"The Chrysler workers may be proud of the fact that their contract ranks highest in the automobile industry," the CIO leaders said.

"For this great victory, credit is due to the magnificent, disciplined solidarity of the thousands of Chrysler workers, and to the able negotiating committee headed by Richard T. Frankensteen, Morris Field and the spokesmen of the respective Chrysler locals."

The negotiators reached an agreement last Tuesday night, two days after Murray had come to Detroit to participate in the conferences.

Members ratified the settlement in local meetings Wednesday, which were climaxed by a gigantic meeting Wednesday evening of some 20,000 Dodge workers at the State Fair Coliseum. By Thursday the first groups of the 57,000 Chrysler workers had already started back to work and production was expected to be in full swing by next week.

The union victory thwarted a back-to-work movement in which the corporation was aided by Homer Martin, Father Charles Coughlin and Gerald L. K. Smith. President Thomas had charged Chrysler with attempting to incite race hatreds when the Dodge plant opened its gates this week to a few hundred Negro workers who had been duped by unscrupulous leadership.

Just before the settlement, the corporation announced that Chrysler workers had lost $15,000,000 in wages in strikes and stoppages since 1937. The union promptly countered by pointing out that the employes had gained over $67,000,000 in wage increases, due exclusively to the union, since 1936. It was also pointed out that auto workers seldom suffer permanent loss of wages due to strikes, since the season is extended to make up the lost time.

BLANKET RAISE

Thomas and Murray estimated that increases won in the present contract amount to between $5,600,000 and $6,000,000 a year. They are embodied in several different provisions. One calls for a blanket pay raise of 3c an hour for all employes, the first general increase granted by any corporation since 1937.

In addition to the blanket raise, differentials between Detroit plants and plants outside Detroit were narrowed by 1c, second and third shift workers get a 5c an hour bonus, thousands of workers received additional increases in the adjustments of wages in various classifications, tool and die, maintenance and engineering workers were raised to the top rates paid similar workers by General Motors. The total increases established the highest wages in the industry at Chrysler.

The wage issue may be reopen-

Continued on Page Five

Discuss Aircraft Campaign

Detroit, Dec. 2—A big campaign to organize the nation's high-profit, low-wage aircraft industry will soon get under way.

In the motor industry capital to confer with leaders of the United Automobile Workers, Allan S. Haywood, CIO national director of organization, announced:

"The CIO and the UAW have made tentative plans for an aircraft drive headed by a director and four representatives from the CIO and four from the UAW on the committee. We hope to have Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman (CIO vice-presidents) on the committee.

"We shall co-operate with the government and protect the workers from unfair labor practices and low wages on the part of the companies. The plan for the campaign is subject to ratification by the executive board of the UAW, which is to meet next Monday in Chicago."

Attend Havana Confab

KATHRYN LEWIS

JAMES CAREY

DOROTHY BELLANCA

CIO WON REPRESENTATION on Intl. Labor Organization delegations when Pres. Roosevelt named Sec. Carey, Miss Lewis and Miss Bellanca to attend the ILO's Pan-American conference at Havana, Cuba.

Oil Union Executive Dies

TOLEDO, Dec. 2. — Harry Staton of Cushing, Okla., intenational vice-president of the Oil Workers International Union, died suddenly here last week. He was in Toledo on organizational work.

The autopsy showed that his death was from natural causes. The funeral was held in Coffeyville, Kans., November 28.

THE CIO NEWS

Congress of Industrial Organizations

John L. Lewis ..... President

Vice-Presidents

Philip Murray — S. H. Dalrymple
Sidney Hillman — Reid Robinson
R. J. Thomas — Emil Rieve

James B. Carey ..... Secretary
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price .....$1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II December 4, 1939 No. 49

A Major Accomplishment

The new contract agreed upon by the Chrysler Corporation and the CIO United Automobile Workers of America puts tens of thousands of workers back on the job with increased wages, improved working conditions and greater security than has ever been their lot before.

"The Chrysler workers may be proud of the fact that their contract ranks highest in the automobile industry," CIO Vice-President Philip Murray and President R. J. Thomas of the UAW point out in a joint statement.

Besides bringing wage increases of close to six million dollars to 57,000 employes, the new contract represents an advance for the workers on each of the subjects covered by their original demands.

The agreement as a whole "represents the greatest gains made for the Chrysler workers since the inception of unionism in the plants of the corporation," the statement declares. "It represents a major accomplishment of the CIO."

As originally demanded by the union, there is now a single agreement covering the 11 major Chrysler plants. The UAW-CIO is granted exclusive bargaining rights for all employes, and the corporation is pledged not to encourage or deal with any other organization.

There are many other features of the agreement that represent substantial gains for the workers.

The whole represents a great union victory for which the major credit is due, as the CIO leaders point out, to "the magnificent, disciplined solidarity of the thousands of Chrysler workers", who held their ranks solid for so long to make it possible.

The Chrysler victory will lend encouragement to every CIO union. The auto workers have demonstrated once more their loyalty to the CIO, the strength of their great industrial union and its ability to advance to new gains.

Their advance is part of the general advance of the whole CIO at the present time in every industry, as shown by many striking election victories and new contracts won, bringing better wages and conditions to countless American workers.

Part of CIO's Contribution

Within the past three months, the CIO Textile Workers Union has succeeded in raising the annual wages of 75,000 workers in more than 100 plants by $5,000,000, reports Pres. Emil Rieve.

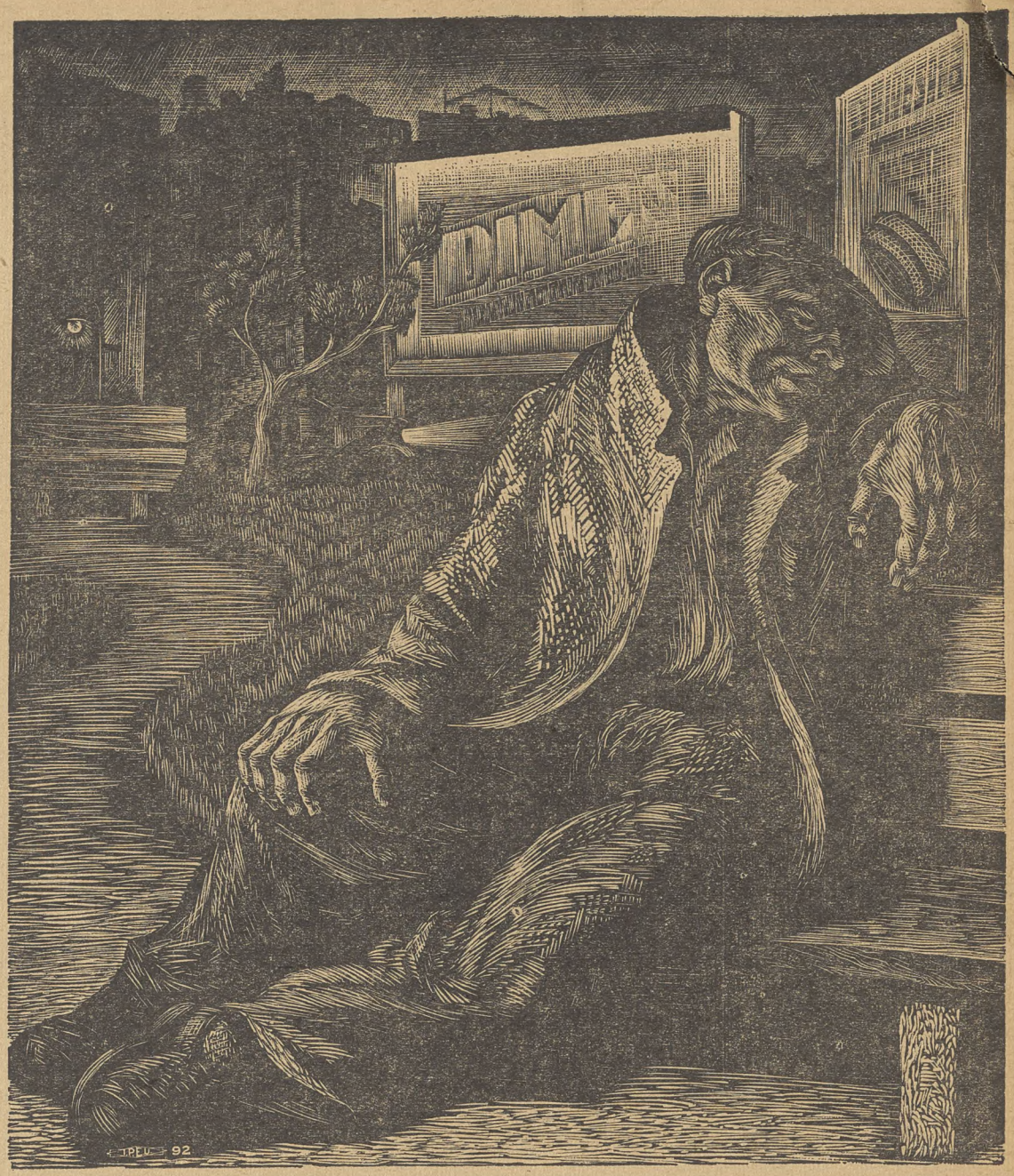
This, he says, represents but the beginning of "a whole new series of increases which will be announced as soon as negotiations are concluded."

Add this to the millions of dollars in increased wages won by the CIO auto workers in the recent Chrysler agreement. Add to it the millions more won in scores of new agreements in nearly every industry where the CIO is operating.

All of these additions to the pay envelopes of American workers in the recent past are good news not only for the workers directly concerned but for the whole country.

More money in the workers' pay envelopes means a little better life for them and their families. It means more money paid to storekeepers for goods, which in turn means more demand for the production of new goods. This again means better business and more employment in other industries.

Altogether the wage increases recently won by the Textile Workers, the Auto Workers and dozens of other CIO unions represent a most substantial and constructive contribution by the CIO to the welfare of all sections of the American population.



Unemployment—Still America's No. 1 Problem

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Good News For Labor

EVERY union man and woman in the United States can breathe a bit easier as a result of a court decision recently handed down in Philadelphia.

When the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals there reversed the verdict in the Apex Hosiery Co. case, it was helping to remove a threat to the wages, working conditions and general welfare of Millions of American workers.

You don't have to be a lawyer to know that there's dirty work somewhere at the crossroads, when a court socks a fine of more than $700,000 on a local union for conducting a strike.

So the whole labor movement became aroused when a verdict of this character was rendered against the Hosiery Workers union in Philadelphia, on account of its 1937 strike against the Apex Hosiery Co.

If this verdict were allowed to stand, every unionist knew, no labor organization would be safe from similar court action designed to bankrupt it and put it out of business.

Anti-union employers were also quick to realize the meaning of the Apex verdict. They immediately began filing a whole series of suits against other labor unions, on similar grounds to those advanced in the Apex case. Among these was the demand of the Republic Steel Corporation for $7,500,000 damages from the Steel Workers Organizing Committee and the CIO, on account of the 1937 steel strike.

A Great Victory

The reversal of the Apex verdict knocks the bottom out of all these anti-union suits.

The Apex company claimed that it was entitled to triple damages from the union under the Sherman anti-trust act, on the grounds that the strike was a conspiracy to interfere with interstate commerce.

The union and the CIO, in appealing the verdict, pointed out that the anti-trust laws were passed to protect consumers and little businessmen from trusts and monopolies, and were never intended to apply to labor unions engaged in the struggle to establish collective bargaining.

The action of the Circuit Court of Appeals in setting aside the Apex case is justly hailed as a great victory for labor.

It represents a definite check to the whole campaign of anti-union employers to use the courts to smash labor organizations which they have not been able to destroy in any other way.

New Day in Building

The industrial union contract recently signed by the CIO United Construction Workers with an association of some 40 Washington contractors, is yet another piece of good news of far-reaching significance.

The idea that the building industry is a well-organized, high-wage industry is a fallacy.

The English curate who was polite enough to describe the over-ripe egg he tried to eat as "good in spots," might be equally charitable about the American building industry.

But the facts are that there are some two million unorganized construction workers in the United States; non-union wages are deplorably low; and even where the craft unions hold sway, there is so much rottenness and racketeering, and so many abuses and jurisdictional disputes, that the good effects as often as not are negated by the bad.

The CIO has only recently entered the construction industry, but already it has close to 70 locals chartered, and the Washington agreement is a forerunner of many similar contracts.

Besides substantially increasing the wages of previously unorganized workers, this contract will show what clean industrial unionism can do both for the workers and the industry, by ending jurisdictional disputes, establishing better conditions and spreading collective bargaining through the industry.

Haywood Tells Plans For Big CIO Drive

Widman Has Long Career In Unions

Washington, Dec. 2 — Michael F. Widman, assistant national organization director of the CIO, was a miner at 18, going to work in the Vermillion Co., Illinois mines as the first world war was drawing to a close. Like Director Haywood, Widman was a union man from the first day on the job.

He was an active union man, right from the beginning. In 1921 he was trustee of his local, in 1924 financial secretary. For four years he acted as President of Sub-District 3, going in 1933 to the Dist 12 Ill. legislative work in the state capitol, while at the same time carrying on general field organizing work in the great early New Deal organizing drives.

EARLY IN CIO

Widman was early active in the CIO, being assigned as international representative to District 50 of the United Mine Workers, where he helped set up industrial unionism in the gas, coke and chemical industries. He served with District 50 until 1937, when he was sent to direct CIO activity in New England.

Here Widman's work covered six states, and a variety of industries, ranging from steel, textiles, rubber, oil, leather, electrical, shoes, to paper, drugs, manufacturing and service trades and professions. During his term as New England CIO Regional Director, he aided negotiations for contracts covering more than 220,000 workers, took an indirect part in the great shoe strikes in Maine, when CIO organizers were arrested and jailed for crossing streets.

BIG JOB AHEAD

Widman agrees with Director Haywood that the CIO has an even greater future before it than it had in the beginning.

MICHAEL WIDMAN, JR.
Assistant CIO Director of Organizations

"Our job is to organize," he said. "That's all we have to worry about. There are millions of American working men and women waiting for the CIO. First, last and always our job is to bring them the CIO message.

"The rest — in better living and working conditions, more industrial democracy — will follow from that."

Sees Chance To Serve U.S. Workers

Washington, Dec. 2—More than 30 years ago a Yorkshire boy of 12 quit school, packed a lunchbox, and went to work in the mines. Two days before his mother had died, but the family needed the two shillings a day a 12-year-old miner could earn as a lamp carrier for the older men.

The first day on the job, the boy joined the British Miners Union, as his father and his grandfather had done when they went to work. He knew about labor's struggle for collective bargaining, having gone, with his family and thousands of other British miner families, through the historic three months' strike of 1893.

The boy was Allan S. Haywood, today national organization director of the CIO. A union man at 12, he has been continuously a member and an active worker in organized labor since that time. At 17 he came to the United States with his transfer card to the United Mine Workers of America in his pocket.

LEADER IN ILLINOIS

Haywood went from Yorkshire to the coal fields of Illinois. In a short time he was president of his local of the UMWA; following that sub-district vice-president, president, and district Executive Board member.

When the CIO began its work of organizing the unorganized, Haywood was soon entrusted with important work in tackling the first of the big mass production industries to come under the CIO drive. In 1936, he was sent to the rubber plants of Ohio to help the workers there win collective bargaining rights from reluctant employers. He went through the great strikes forced on the workers by the employers, helped on the picket lines, and helped negotiate the contract with Firestone, first big agreement in the industry.

After rubber, Haywood went to automobiles, where thousands of workers were making the first effort to unionize an industry that had been open shop from its earliest history. He was in the great General Motors strike, advising and aiding the newly organized auto workers. Here again he helped negotiate basic contracts, in GM, in Reo at Lansing, Mich., in Midland, at Cleveland Autolite.

From the industtrial midwest, Haywood was appointed to the post of CIO regional director in New York, where for two and a half years he worked in the building of powerful CIO unions that today represent hundreds of thousands of industrial, white-collar and professional men and women workers.

In New York, in addition to all his other duties, he functioned as active chairman of the Utility Workers Organizing Committee, set up to organize in an industtry dominated by the most powerful Wall Street lobby in the nation.

ALLAN S. HAYWOOD
CIO National Director of Organizations

Today, Director Haywood sees opportunities opening before the CIO as great as any it ever had, with this added advantage—the CIO today has a firm base in mass production throughout the national economy.

Organizing drives are scheduled, Director Haywood indicated, in all industrial areas where large groups of unorganized workers still exist. The need for organization is there, he says, and "the CIO will organize wherever the workers of America need collective bargaining to protect and improve their living standards.

"We have a great opportunity to serve the American worker and the nation," Haywood told THE CIO NEWS. "I know that the CIO will seize this opportunity, as it has done in its brief three-year history. I know, too, that we can count on the support of the American people. They need the CIO, and they seem to prefer our methods. You have only to look at the Labor Board election returns to know that."

Worcester CIO Council Acts Fast

Worcester, Mass., Dec. 2 — The CIO Council here is quick to take advantage of last week's U. S. Supreme Court decision upholding the right to distribute leaflets on city streets.

Within two days of the decision they had a leaflet out explaining the situation, calling on city authorities to uphold it by rescinding their own ban on free speech, and urging Worcester workers to join the CIO.

Chrysler Workers Win Gains

Continued from Page Three

ed by the union at any time.

OTHER GAINS

Other important gains are:

An equal voice by the workers in the final adjustment of grievances. Unsettled grievances are to be submitted to an Appeal Board of four—two from the corporation and two from the union. The board must render a decision in thirty days. Arbitration may be used by the board if it finds it necessary.

Exclusive bargaining rights in the eleven major Chrysler plants. The corporation pledges not to encourage or deal with any other organization.

A former iron-clad "no-strike" clause is eliminated. The union may now strike after grievance procedure is exhausted.

Reinstatement of 128 Dodge workers discharged for not keeping pace with, or protesting against the speed of the line.

Union committeemen must be notified immediately of any future discharges.

OVERTIME PAY RATES

Overtime pay provisions written into the contract for the first time.

A vastly improved bargaining procedure which allows for the shop steward system and a more rapid settlement of grievances.

Substantial gains in seniority.

"The great improvements in wage standards and working conditions won by the Chrysler workers will benefit the entire city of Detroit," Murray and Thomas said.

"It is unfortunate that the corporation's concessions were not forthcoming two months ago. The lockout and the strike might thus have been averted. However, we have no desire further to prolong the dispute.

Textile Union Proud Of Record

New York, Dec. 2 — Pres. Emil Rieve of the Textile Workers Union "pointed with pride" today to the union's three-month record of achievement.

During the quarter-year, he noted, the TWU has negotiated wage raises totaling $5,000,000 annually for 75,000 workers in 100 textile mills.

The wage increases, Rieve said, "herald a whole series of additional raises now being negotiated."

TWU's campaign for higher pay was launched at the end of September by the executive council with a call on leading textile manufacturers for wage conferences. The union pointed out that wages should go up in line with "rising business, swelling profits and the spurting cost of living."

WIN RAISE

New York City — An increase of 7½ per cent was obtained in negotiations between the Imperial Rayon Co. of Gloucester, New Jersey and the Textile Workers Union of America, Emil Rieve, TWUA General President announced.

CIO — UNION MADE
HOSIERY
FULL FASHIONED • SHEER LISLES • RAYONS
Write: Adler's Hosiery Room 505—799 Bdwy., N.Y.C.
DISCOUNT TO UNION MEMBERS

UNION SHOP PRINTING FOR CIO UNIONS
MID-CITY PRESS
NEWSPAPER — LEAFLETS JOBWORK — PUBLISHING
N. E. Cor. 9th & Spruce Streets Philadelphia, Pa.

LARGEST PRODUCER OF ROUGH ROLLED GLASS
MISSISSIPPI GLASS COMPANY
220 FIFTH AVE. NEW YORK

CORNELIUS PRINTING CO.

Printers for INTERNATIONAL UNIONS for more than 30 Years
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
SILVER SPRINGS, MD.

WHOSE POCKETS —

ARE YOU FILLING? When you buy your clothes do you help pay the wage of a union worker, or do you help swell the profits of a sweatshop boss?

• **The Label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America** will give you the answer. When you don't see the label you know that the garment was probably made by an un-American sweatshop chiseler. When you see the Amalgamated label you know that your money will go into the pockets of union workers, earning union pay, working under union conditions.

• **Demand the union label in the clothes you buy** and insure yourself against sweatshop garments, against sweatshop conditions in industry.

You can find the Amalgamated label in union made suits, overcoats, uniforms, work clothes and overalls, workshirts, dress shirts, underwear, gloves, neckties, sheeplined, leather, and sport coats, children's clothing and wash suits.

Bare Tri-State Silicosis Plague

Disease Rate Soars Among Miners

NEW YORK, Dec. 2 — Out in the Tri-state where a high percentage of the world's zinc and lead comes from, the chat dust from the mine waste blows into the houses, into the food, into the beds, into the lungs of the men and women and children who live and work there.

The streets are made of chat, the school playgrounds are chat, and the kids kick it up in the clouds when they run.

Chat dust is almost pure silica. Silica, breathed into the lungs year after year, does what ground glass taken into the stomach would do—it destroys them, slowly at first, painfully, with devastating weakness for the patient and ultimate collapse and death.

THE WARNINGS

First the miner notices that he is getting shortwinded. Scar tissue forming on the lungs breaks down the breathing surface. Then follows weakness, with resistance lowered to vanishing point. T. B. and every other respiratory disease finds the silicosis victim the perfect host. Death is slow, with possibly years of suffering before it comes.

The miners get it the worst, since they work in unprotected mines where little is done to keep the dust down. The T. B. and other respiratory diseases they pass on to their wives and their children—because the housing is so bad, because there is no sanitation, because the wives and the kids are worn down from overwork and undernourishment.

THE PROFITS

The Tri-State area, a corner of Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma, is enormously profitable. Since the 1880's, when large scale mining got under way, close to a billion dollars has come out of it—for the companies. The miner's average wage is currently around $12 a week. It has been lower.

NO RELIEF

And now a study, put out by the Tri-State Survey Committee of New York, shows what this means to the thousands of Tri-State workers and their families—in terms of starvation wages, sub-human housing, under-nourishment, silicosis and death. The condition is not new. A survey in 1914—25 years ago—found that 433 workers of 720 examined had silicosis, blamed it on the same conditions of housing, wages and neglect.

The condition is just as bad today. Little is done by the companies, by the local health authorities, by the relief agencies. A silicotic miner starves today as he starved 25 years ago. His family starves with him, and his kids get tuberculosis to help death along. This is what one of them told the Survey Committee:

"The little kids seem alright," he said, "except that they're kinda thin, but I can't help that 'cause I only make $35 a month on WPA an' it ain't enough to feed 10 people. I hope these kids are alright but I can't help worryin' some because the older ones looked well enough, too, when they wuz little."

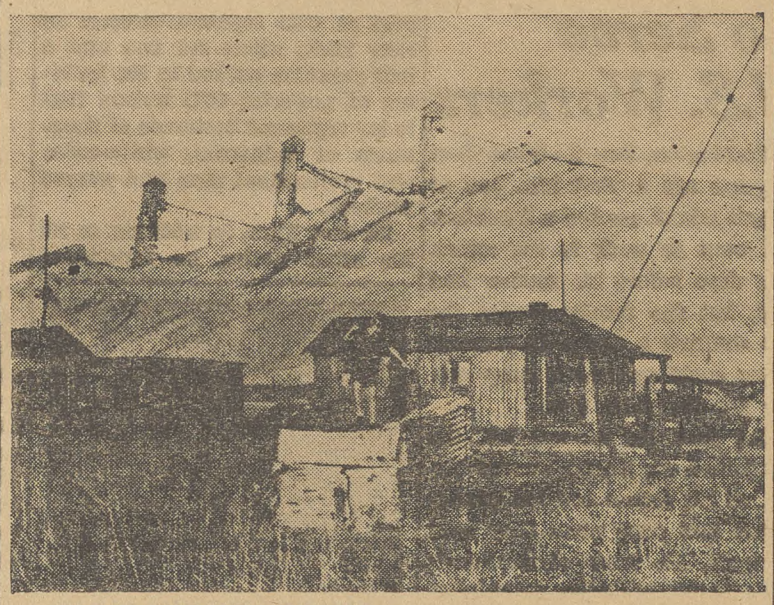
(Of the three older ones, one is in the state sanitarium, another has "weak lungs," the third has had a cough for "the last three years steady," the report added.)

THE CURE

The cure for these conditions, which the report describes as "a national health menace," lies in proper safety conditions, dust control in the mines, decent housing, relief, and living wages. The companies aren't giving these things of their own free will—especially not Eagle-Picher, dominant in the industry.

So the CIO, through the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, is in the Tri-State to show the workers how to get the things they need to free themselves from misery and death—by organization.

Cause!



FROM MOUNTAINS OF DUST heaped near miners' homes in the Tri-State area of Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, blow deadly clouds of sharp silica. Zinc and lead miners — poorly housed, poorly paid, poorly fed — fall victims to dread lung diseases like silicosis and tuberculosis. With adequate medical and hospital facilities, the sick spend their final weeks in miserable shacks. (See picture below.) CIO Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers are entering big campaign to correct the situation.

Effect!

Melting Pot!

San Francisco, Dec. 2—A true American radial "melting pot" is the Alaska Cannery Workers Union, CIO affiliate.

Answering foes of labor who try to stir up mistrust among various race groups, the local re-elected George Woolf to the presidency, and named a Japanese, two Chinese, a Filipino and a Mexican to other offices. Every nationality in the union is represented on the local's 26-man executive board.

7-1 Victory For CIO

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 2—CIO scored a 7-1 Labor Board election victory in the Labor Board poll at the Planters Manufacturing Co. in Portmouth.

Local Industrial Union 485 polled 383 votes, to only 55 against the union, Ray Thomson, CIO regional director, announced.

CIO Construction Pact Hailed As Solution To Housing Problem

By CECIL OWEN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2. — The first over-all attack on America's building problem, for years hailed by economists as the No. 1 hope for a real recovery, was speeded here by CIO progress in bringing industrial unionism to the construction industry.

Advance of the CIO through its affiliate, the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, in the construction field marked the first genuine effort to break one of the major log jams that has prevented the long-awaited building boom.

Government experts, contractors, and the more than two million unorganized construction workers, joined this week in welcoming news of the first contract between the UCWOC and an association of contractors. This contract was negotiated by A. D. Lewis, chairman of the UCWOC, with a large group of contractors in the nation's capitol.

Independent observers were quick to recognize the CIO's three-sided interest in construction as: (1) producers of the raw materials, (2) construction workers, and (3) consumers. This is a complete change from the outworn craft set-up, which looked at construction only from the angle of an individual craft union on a single building job.

CIO HOMES

The millions of members of CIO unions throughout the nation are preparing to seize their first opportunity to live in CIO-built houses. Housing and other construction programs may now be supported by the entire CIO with the realization that benefits of such programs will go to CIO construction workers, something not possible until the UCWOC was established.

Word went forth from Chairman Lewis this week to CIO directors to carry the slogan, "CIO-Built Houses for CIO Members," into every nook and cranny of the vast CIO territory. Now that the UCWOC is here, CIO workers are demanding houses built by their brothers of the CIO who enjoy the equality and benefits that accrue to CIO membership.

It is a reflection on the sad state of organization of the construction industry under the old craft set-up that millions of members of organized labor have been forced to occupy homes built under non-union conditions. Only a fraction of the nation's building workers have ever enjoyed the privilege of unionism. The great bulk of the construction workers were frozen out by the craft unions.

MANY UNORGANIZED

Of some 3,000,000 construction workers in the United States, far less than a third have ever been organized. Restrictions on membership by craft unions would prolong this condition for many years to come. Even now, under the impact of CIO organization, craft unions are making last-minute efforts to obtain new members, but only on the discriminatory basis of Class B status.

Already, more than 70 local unions have been set up by the UCWOC in 20 states and the District of Columbia, while its Washington contract means breaking of the former stranglehold of the crafts on important government and other construction in the nation's capital. Government workers who have long occupied a "no man's land" of housing, being ineligible for government-financed low-rent projects and unable to pay for higher-cost private housing, were cheered by the CIO advance in Washington and moved to take prompt advantage of it.

Dollars For CIO Workers In U. S. Housing Program

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2. — There is more than one powerful reason why everybody in the CIO from President John L. Lewis to the newest union member is 100 per cent behind the UCWOC drive to organize the construction industry.

Industrial unions in the construction industry are recognized as the answer to the much talked of housing dilemma. It means an end of obsolete craft practices that have kept the industry lagging far behind in the recovery parade.

And housing for the CIO means not only jobs for its construction workers, not only homes for its millions of members, but also dollars and cents in the pockets of every CIO member in the mass industries. For it is the mass industries of America that will benefit from a housing boom.

Materials that go into construction are produced by CIO workers from Maine to California. A single government program (USHA) estimates its money spent for materials in this table:

Electric wiring and fixtures	$ 27,363,000
Lumber and timber	22,720,000
Millwork	19,270,000
Metal doors, windows (glazed)	30,403,000
Hardware	9,121,000
Metal lath and channels	5,588,000
Reinforcing and structural steel	28,966,000
Wirework products	1,151,000
Other iron and steel	15,284,000
Composition flooring, Linoleum	5,753,000
Paints and varnishes	4,930,000
Heating and ventilating	44,702,000
Plumbing fixtures	53,575,000
Roofing and roof insulation	9,983,000
Sheet metal (copper)	2,794,000
Brick (hollow tile)	40,305,000
Cement	15,941,000
Ceramic tile	3,123,000
Concrete products	38,785,000
Glass	2,712,000
Marble, Granite, etc.	4,355,000
Sand and gravel	9,450,000
Wall plaster, wall board	10,230,000
Materials not classified	4,355,000
Equipment and other materials	26,225,000
Total	$437,084,000

Six-Hour Day Won In Textile

Chicopee Falls, Mass., Dec. 2 — The first six-hour day contract in the textile industry was won here by the Textile Workers Union, Valery Burati, union representative, announced today.

Signed with the Chicopee Manufacturing Co., the pact calls for equal division of work during slack times and seven holidays with pay.

Labor and the Law:

The Apex Verdict

By LEE PRESSMAN
CIO General Counsel

Another definite victory has been scored by the CIO in the Apex Hosiery case decided by the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia, Pa.

The American Federation of Hosiery Workers, CIO, had attempted to organize the Apex plant in Philadelphia. Because of the refusal of the company to accede to the union demand for a closed-shop agreement, a strike resulted. The company contended that in the strike certain alleged unlawful acts were committed which resulted in serious property damage.

After the strike was settled and a contract entered into, the company sued the union on the ground that it had engaged in an unlawful conspiracy in restraint of trade and therefore came within the prohibitions of the anti-trust acts. The lower court imposed damages on the union for over $700,000.

'EXTREMELY SERIOUS'

This litigation involved an extremely serious problem for organized labor. The suit was the opening gun in a campaign on the part of anti-labor corporations to deprive labor of its hard won gains under recent social and labor legislation. If the contentions of the Apex Company had been upheld no labor union in this country would have been safe from attack by any corporation whose plants were being organized. In effect, the Apex Hosiery Company claimed that merely because it was engaged in interstate commerce and the Union in attempting to organize its plant had stopped its production and had committed certain unlawful acts, the Union should be held liable for treble damages under the Anti-trust Act.

To appreciate the importance of this suit it should be realized that immediately following the decision of the lower court, the Republic Steel Corporation initiated its suit against the SWOC and the CIO claiming $7,500,000 damages resulting from the "Little Steel" strike of 1937.

The opinion of the Circuit Court, reversing this verdict of the lower court, rests fundamentally upon the ground that since the Hosiery Workers union was engaged in organizing the plant of the Apex Hosiery Company this activity could not be held to show any intention on the part of the Union to interfere with interstate commerce, the basic requirement under the anti-trust legislation.

In other words, labor unions organizing workers for collective bargaining are completely protected and cannot be sued under the anti-trust laws for such activities, even though they may result in strikes. The Court also stated that the mere fact that certain alleged unlawful acts were committed by the members of the union or its officials during the strike was completely irrelevant and furnished no reason for invoking the anti-trust laws.

In addition, the Court placed an additional obstacle in the path of anti-trust suits against labor unions by pointing out that if the business of the Apex Hosiery Company were quadrupled it would have amounted to less than three per cent of the national total output of the industry. The interference with the business of the Apex Hosiery Company as a result of the strike could not be held, in the opinion of the Court, to be such an interference with interstate commerce as to justify the application of the anti-trust laws against the Union.

This case should definitely put an end to any anticipated wave of similar law suits against unions under the anti-trust laws. The restrictions laid down by the Court in this case preclude any recovery in such a suit as was initiated by the Republic Steel Corporation against the SWOC and the CIO.

WHAT COURT DIDN'T DO

The Court did not accept the contention of the CIO that the legislative history of the Clayton Anti-trust Act demonstrates that Congress had intended to exclude labor unions and labor disputes.

This conclusion, if accepted by the Courts, would furnish complete safety to labor unions from any attack by anti-labor employers under the anti-trust laws.

In the event the Apex Hosiery Company appeals from the decision of the Federal Circuit Court, the CIO will be in a position to urge the United States Supreme Court to accept this analysis by reversing previous decisions of the Supreme Court rendered at a time when liberalism was foreign to that Court.

Seek Data About Scandinavians

Washington, Dec. 2.—Scandinavians who have been active in the trade union movement in America, or connected with the independent movement of Scandinavian workers in this country are being asked to aid in collecting material to be used in writing a history of such activity.

A committee formed in New York City a few months ago is cooperating with a Stockholm committee for the Archive of the Swedish Labor Movement in Stockholm, according to C. A. Thorsberg, one of the members of the Stockholm committee, in collecting the necessary material.

The materials should be sent to: Carl Dahlen, 629 Third avenue, New York City, or directly to: The Archive of the Swedish Labor Movement, Uppsalagatan 2, Stockholm, Sweden.

District 50 Wires N. H. Polls

Boston, Mass., Dec. 2—A Labor Board election at the Johns-Manville asbestos plant in Nashua, N. H., was won, 218 to 148, by District 50, United Mine Workers, the CIO regional office here announced today.

District 50 was also certified by the Board as sole bargaining agent at the American Cyanimide plant at Maynard, Mass.

Vigilantes Lose To CIO Farm Workers

Madera, Calif., Dec. 2—The half-Nelson which Associated Farmers have been practicing on labor in the cotton fields of California has been broken by signed agreements between the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers, CIO, on behalf of striking cotton pickers, and individual growers' associations.

Thirteen growers in the independent Mineral King Farm Association signed a contract with UCAPAWA to pay $1 per 100 pounds of cotton. The 17,000-acre farm of E. C. Von Glahn, near Tulare, agreed to pay $1 for the first picking and $1.25 for a second picking.

STRUCK IN OCTOBER

The Associated Farmers scale was 60 cents per 100 pounds of cotton. Thousands of migratory cotton pickers struck against that wage early last October.

Armed gangs of Associated Farmers moved all over the strike area in the San Joaquin Valley trying to break the union ranks by violence.

"When 15,000 striking cotton pickers kick the Associated Farmers in the pants," said Donald Henderson, president of UCAPAWA, "its something to be shouted from the housetops."

Mayo Heads New Council

Youngstown, Ohio, Dec. 2 — John Mayo, veteran CIO steel organizer, was elected first president of the newly-formed Mahoning County Industrial Union Council.

John Pollack of the Rubber Workers was named vice-president, Miss G. Lookabaugh, SWOC, recording secretary; and Thomas Phillips, construction workers, treasurer.

The Labor Reader:

The Negro and the CIO

By C. W. FOWLER

One of the annual events at American Federation of Labor conventions just as regular as the re-election of Bill Green and other extinct volcanoes to the AFL leadership, is a pious resolution of discrimination against Negro workers. Annually the resolution is passed, with favorable comment, and annually ignored. AFL unions, having voted for the resolution, go home to continue what they have always practiced — with honorable exceptions — the rule of exclusion and Jim Crow against Negro workers.

It took the advent of the CIO to change this age-old custom, just as it took the CIO to bring organization to the masses of industrial workers in the United States. There is no discrimination in CIO unions. The constitution of the CIO expressly forbids it, all CIO affiliates have consistently refused to practice it, just as an industrial union refuses to discriminate against a worker because of skill or occupation, so it cannot discriminate against a worker because of race — and remain an industrial union.

The CIO doesn't need any pious resolutions on discrimination to remind it of certain basic facts, ably stated in the introduction to "Black Workers and the News Unions," a new study by Horace R. Cayton and George S. Mitchell. The CIO has been aware from the beginning, as the authors say, that:

PROFITS IN PREJUDICE

"The employer class has found racial prejudice a profitable thing, for since the Negro has not been drawn into working class organizations, he has been available for the exercise of the 'divide and rule' policy in connection with labor disputes. During a strike, the employer could import from another region Negroes who felt no solidarity with his employes and who were well beyond the control of the local public opinion which supported the strikers.

"Another advantage for the employers was the adoption of a lower wage scale which the Negro accepted because of the difficulty in obtaining other employment. As a rule a prerequisite to employment was that Negroes would not demand the wage and working conditions granted the white workers."

This advantage is something, as the authors point out, that anti-union employers have never hesitated to use, as long as the labor movement allowed them to. Negro workers were brought in to break strikes in the north as early as 1875, when they first came into the steel industry. Thirty thousand of them were imported as strikebreakers in 1919, as before in the great Homestead walkout of 1890.

UNION MEN TODAY

The same technique was used in other basic industries. In the packing industry, now organized like steel by the CIO, Negroes were imported to break the back of organizing effort after the first world war and in sporadic outbursts before. The employers succeeded then, to the point of provoking disastrous race riots.

They are not succeeding now, as the overwhelming success of the CIO Packinghouse Workers union shows. Here again, as in other CIO organizing drives, Negro workers take their full place in the membership and in the leadership of the new industrial union. The packing industry has a high percentage of Negro workers, and the percentage of Negro leaders, from the Assistant National Director to local officials, is equally high.

This is the way the CIO organizes industrial workers, not, as Cayton and Mitchell point out, in the way the AFL and some other organizations have attempted to organize, by discrimination and Jim Crow.

* * * *

"Black Workers and the New Unions," by Horace R. Cayton and George S. Mitchell; 473 pp; University of North Carolina Press; price $4.00.

California Strike Scene

LIKE A CHAPTER FROM 'GRAPES OF WRATH' is this California strike scene as Madera County CIO fruit pickers fight for their civil rights. Arrest of 13 union leaders brought these members of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers to the county jail. Placards, in Spanish, say: "Give Us Liberty," "We Are Not Slaves." Strike leaders are held in $2,500 bail.

Lift Membership 50%, Goal of Maryland CIO

By FRED D'AVILA

BALTIMORE, Dec. 2.—The biggest and best convention ever held by the Maryland and District of Columbia Industrial Union Council closed this week with delegates pledged to carry back to their locals the stimulus for an organizational drive to increase membership at least 50 per cent before the next meeting, a year hence.

The drive to carry out the mandate of the national CIO convention to organize at least a 10,000,000 membership within 5 years will concentrate in six basic fields: steel, aviation, auto, shoe, construction and the federal government.

The third annual convention, which was attended by 153 delegates representing 68 locals and three local industrial union councils, re-elected President John T. Jones of the United Mine Workers Union and Sec.-Treas. Sidney Katz, of Washington.

NEED TO ORGANIZE

In his report to the Convention, Jones stressed the need for organization with redoubled energy, particularly because of increased industrial production due to war conditions.

"A large CIO labor movement, two and a half times the present 4,000,000 members, will be of tremendous benefit, for it will strengthen that great voice of ours so that when we make requests speaking for labor that voice will represent a much larger and stronger group," Jones said in his report.

He cited gains in textile, mining, shipyard, clothing, steel, maritime, federal, rubber, restaurant, auto and construction organization, among others.

Allan S. Haywood, CIO organization director, urged the Convention to see that every CIO member organizes another member.

"It is necessary to organize if we are going to conserve democracy, if we are going to be a shining light for a war-stricken world," he declared.

Other CIO speakers who stressed the timeliness and need for a great organizing drive were: Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel; E. L. Oliver, of Labor's Non-Partisan League; E. J. Lever, in charge of SWOC's Bethlehem campaign; Powers Hapgood, of the United Shoe Workers, and Charles Ervin of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

JOHN T. JONES
Head of Maryland-D.C. Industrial Union Council.

Resolutions adopted urged: opposition to changes which would weaken the Wagner Act, but condemnation of the Labor Board for favoring craft organization; criticism of the Maritime Commission; opposition to our entry in the war; demand that President Roosevelt issue an executive order requiring firms filling government contracts to bargain collectively; condemnation of the Dies Committee; demand for state wage-hour and "baby" Wagner acts; liberalization of unemployment compensation; and support of the labor press.

Bethlehem Attacked By Employes

Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 2 — Bethlehem Steel's power plant employes today had joined hands with thousands of production workers in demands for a union contract from the big anti-labor corporation, second largest steel producer in the nation.

Meeting here, 99 delegates from seven of Bethlehem's eastern plants passed a resolution charging that "pious proclamations and sanctimonious claims" issued by the company's president, Eugene Grace, have "reached the saturation point."

Object of the power house employes' attack was a Grace assertion praising conditions among the company's workers.

"From the point of view of our many years' experience as employes in the mills, the published statements of Mr. Grace have little or no relation to the actual facts," the statement declared.

MANY GRIEVANCES

In joining with the Steel Workers Organizing Committee's demand for a written agreement, the power plant workers pointed to "stacks of grievances," which they said "indicate the injustices employes have suffered for many years."

"We warn Mr. Grace," the statement continued, "that his employes no longer stand alone, subject only to his mercy. Today we are members of the SWOC, which for three years has defended our legitimate right to collective bargaining and we will no longer be trifled with."

ASK INCREASE

Demands for a 25% increase for all combustion, steam and gas power plant employes at Bethlehem, also were approved by the meeting.

The SWOC has demanded that the big corporation, employing close to 100,000 workers, negotiate an agreement with the union, which has a majority in the plants in Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York and the far West.

Football Team Bum? Blame The CIO!

By RAY PASNICK

UNION CITY, N. J.—The CIO is now blamed for "slowing down" a college football team!

That is the intimation seriously advanced by the anti-labor Hudson-Dispatch daily in an editorial titled "What's The Matter?" which appeared in a recent issue.

In criticizing the lack of do-or-bust spirit ascribed to two Yale football players, both accused of being "indifferent" on the gridiron, the Hague-city paper says:

"Can it be possible that the 'slow down' of American industry by the un-American CIO has, wittingly or unwittingly, been taken up by the youth of a nation, as exemplified by a college football team?"

Bemoaning the possibility that present day youth does not appreciate "opportunity" as it should, the editorial runs on to say: "It would be a bad deal if *opportunity* were ever swapped for *security*, which is talked about so much in these times."

Rah! Rah! Rah!

Steel Workers Hail Court Slap At Girdler

CLEVELAND, Dec. 2.—Workers in Tom Girdler's Republic Steel were warned today by William Donovan, Steel Workers Organizing Committee district director, to beware of being "killed with kindness" by the anti-union corporation boss.

Donovan's warning was sounded as Republic Steel embarked on a program of banquet for the workers, presumably to win them away from the SWOC.

"Don't let Tom Girdler appeal to your stomach to put over his program," Donovan asked local steel workers. "Don't gamble with your industrial freedom, which is far more important than all the turkey dinners."

The warning was made at a mass meeting called to celebrate the circuit court victory over Republic Steel, which followed a convention of district SWOC leaders.

PREDICTS VICTORY

Van A. Bittner, SWOC regional director, told the lodge officials that Girdler would eventually be defeated and CIO industrial democracy would prevail in Republic's mills.

Bittner said that the court decision, which held that Republic Steel must reinstate men who went out on strike and pay them back wages, was the finest decision upholding the right of men to strike that ever was rendered by a higher court in the United States.

"THE REAL ENEMY"

Bittner hammered home to the men and women the importance of going out and enrolling the workers in the steel mills until the union has 100 per cent organization.

"The real enemy of the union," Bittner said, "is not Tom Girdler, but the man who works in the steel mill and does not belong to the union. He is the real enemy."

Act in Emergency:

1,500 Thank Pontiac CIO for 'Mass Feast'

By SWANSON C. SHIELDS

PONTIAC, Mich., Dec. 4—In what was described as the biggest "mass feast" in this city's history, the Pontiac CIO Industrial Union Council furnished Thanksgiving dinners to over 1500 poverty-stricken citizens last week.

Abandonment of relief in Pontiac, plus widespread unemployment that is found here, prompted CIO members to sponsor a public dinner so that the city's needy would not go hungry on a holiday that is dedicated to a full dinner table.

The CIO mobilized all the forces at its command to assure the unemployed of a "bona fide" Thanksgiving meal. Food and cash donations were received from business groups, churches and civic organizations. CIO solicitors received generous contributions from industrial workers.

Supervision of the preparation and serving of the food was assumed by the Women's Auxiliaries. Several churches offered the CIO the use of their kitchens and other equipment. Many charitable organizations dropped plans for separate dinners and threw their full support behind the CIO.

As a result of the CIO's well-directed campaign, the more than 1500 men, women and children who packed into the market building for the feast were served a Thanksgiving dinner that had all the trimmings. Over 400 pounds of turkey were served. Other delicacies such as roast chicken, pork and lamb and pumpkin pie gave the affair a real Thanksgiving theme—and a hearty appetite to the hungry.

A Pontiac minister gave grace and praised the CIO members for their "sympathy to the poor" and described the affair as an "inspiring example of true Christianity."

Severno Pollo, assistant State CIO Director, spoke briefly after all had enjoyed a wholesome meal.

"The CIO fights for the unemployed just as hard as it does for the employed," he pointed out, in stressing that a "contented people is the strongest defense for democracy."

Gratified over the success of its Thanksgiving dinner, the CIO Council is mapping plans for a huge Christmas party for the unemployed and their families.

CIO members prepare Thanksgiving dinners for Pontiac, Mich., jobless.

LaFollette Hearings Open On Coast

SEE STORY PAGE SEVEN

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Official Weekly Publication of the
Congress of Industrial Organizations

Vol. II — No. 50 | Send Form 3578-P to 1106 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. | DECEMBER 11, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

Vermont Marble Co. Grants Demands Of CIO Quarry Union

Long Dispute Ends

BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 9.—Successful termination of one of the most heroic labor struggles in New England was anounced here today by the Quarry Workers Intl. Union, CIO affiliate.

Sec.-Treas. John C. Lawson revealed that the union, in negotiations sponsored by the Natl. Labor Relations Board, had won major demands from the Vermont Marble Co., most powerful firm in the Green Mountain state.

The firm, which waged a bitter fight against the union during a nine-month strike in 1935-36, agreed to disestablish its company-dominated Works Council, to reinstate large numbers of the union workers involved in the strike, and to award pensions and cash settlements to workers who have reached an advanced age.

The agreement resulted from the filing of NLRB charges against the company last May, when the Quarry Workers charged Vermont Marble with unfair labor practices, maintaining a company union and discriminating against union members by refusing to rehire workers who had participated in the 1935 strike.

1,000 MEN INVOLVED

That dispute started in the Danby, Vt., quarry of the company on October 16, 1935 and continued in all the corporation's quarries in the Rutland area until July 27 of the following year. Altogether, about 1,000 men participated.

National attention was focused on the strike, and the issues involved were even debated on the floor of Congress.

At the time of the strike, the union was affiliated with the AFL, which completely deserted it during the fight. The strike was marked by the use of over 100 special deputies, and the union charged that workers' civil liberties were flouted by the state and city officials.

A number of strikers were evicted from their company-owned homes, and numerous others were sent to the state prison.

AFL DESERTION

Despite these overwhelming

Continued on Page Eight

Steinway Learns Union Tune

New York City, Dec. 9. — Steinway & Sons, makers of the famous pianos used by some of the world's outstanding musicians, has signed an agreement with the United Furniture Workers, CIO, covering the 650 workers employed by the company.

The contract provides for a union shop under which the employes become members of the union and remain members for the next two years. Wage increases ranging from 2½ per cent for the production employes to 7½ per cent for other groups, brings pay up from $3 to $8 a month, under the terms of the pact.

WAR SERVICE CLAUSE

A war service clause states that in case of a declared or undeclared war, all employes entering military service will be taken back after the conflict is over.

In announcing the agreement the union stated: "Steinway & Sons now become a 100 per cent union shop and should receive the full support of organized labor as far as purchasing power is concerned."

PUSH DRIVE IN BUILDING, LEWIS ASKS

(See Story Page Five)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—In letters to all CIO councils and regional directors, Pres. John L. Lewis pointed to recent gains by the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee and called for increased cooperation from CIO affiliates.

Declaring that "the time is here for action," Pres. Lewis noted that the UCWOC has chartered 70 locals in 20 states and has made considerable headway in its drive to organize the construction industry, eliminate graft and the abuses of craft unionism, and bring to the workers the benefits of CIO industrial unionism.

"Let no feeling of consideration for the adversaries of our movement weaken your resolve nor lessen your efforts," Lewis wrote. "Our movement derives its support from its own members, and our first obligation is one of loyalty to our own objectives, our own ideals and our own membership."

Meanwhile, UCWOC Chairman A. D. Lewis called for support for the union's program of "CIO-Built Homes for CIO Workers" and pointed to the advantages to all CIO unions in a big home building program utilizing CIO labor.

Hungry

LIKE THOUSANDS OF OTHER Cleveland jobless families, this woman and child wait patiently for food during the city's relief crisis. Gov. Bricker, Republican, refused to call for state legislative action. Situation was critical until WPA and the Federal Surplus Commodities Corp. rushed food and jobs to the hungry.

Inside The News

Detroit
is host to the second convention of the CIO United Retail & Wholesale Employes. Sessions open Dec. 11.
SEE PAGE 2

10—1
was CIO United Automobile Workers' margin of victory in Labor Board poll at Kelsey-Hayes Wheel Co.
SEE PAGE 3

Broun
breaks with Scripps-Howard chain. SEE PAGE 6

High Court
makes precedent-setting ruling to protect workers' rights during corporation mergers.
SEE PAGE 7

Youch-Youch Case Echoes

Baltimore, Dec. 9 — Echoes of the case of wage-hour law violations by the firm of Youch and Youch, garment makers pinched for consistent chiselling on the act, were heard in recommendations of the local grand jury for increased prosecutions of similar violators.

The jury, very much stirred by this and other evidence of law-breaking by sweatshop employers, urged the local division of the Wage Hour agency to increased vigilance in bringing up indictments.

Commenting on the jury's action, Washington wage-hour officials declared: "There is no better guage of public sentiment with regard to a criminal Federal statue than the expression of a Federal grand jury which has heard cases arising under the act in question."

'Frisco Handbill Ban Ruled Illegal

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 9.—The anti-handbill ordinance of this city has been declared unconstitutional in a ruling handed down by Superior Judge Thomas Foley in connection with the arrest of Mervyn Rathborne, president of the American Communications Association, CIO, and John Forbes, a striking Western Union operator.

The two men were arrested for passing out handbills on the picket line in front of the struck Western Union office. The leaflets were notices of the public forum which was held on the WU strike.

The strikers were defended by George Anderson. Judge Foley stated in his decision that the ordinances prohibiting distribution of handbills "were an unwarranted and unjustified interference with the constitutional guarantees of free speech and free press."

Douglas Ward, chairman of the WU strike committee, said that "organized labor in San Francisco has for years been endeavoring to have these ordinances repealed.

"We feel that by refusing to bow to these unconstitutional ordinances and insisting on our rights, we have won a great victory for the labor and liberal movement of San Francisco."

Hearst Strike One Year Old

Chicago—The strike of the Chicago Newspaper Guild against the Hearst-owned Herald - American became one year old on December 5.

Pledges of support from unions all over the nation continue to reach strike headquarters.

4c-An-Hour Raise Gained

Eau Claire, Wisc., Dec. 9—Four-cent an hour wage increases have been won at the National Pressure Cooker Co. by Local 6 of the CIO Aluminum Workers of America.

The contract also lifted maximum vacation pay from $25 to $30 a week.

Retail Union Meeting Opens In Detroit

DETROIT, Dec. 11.—Problems facing millions of workers in the nation's distributive trades will get a thorough airing here today as over 500 delegates assemble for the second biennial convention of the CIO United Retail and Wholesale Employes.

An imposing list of labor and government officials will address the convention sessions, which are expected to last through Dec. 18. Convention headquarters are at the Fort Wayne Hotel.

Pres. Samuel Wolchok will report substantial progress in organization, since the union has made enormous strides forward since its first convention in Pittsburgh two years ago. The union developed out of the discontent against the racketeering and "do-nothing" policies of the AFL union, and the standard of democratic unionism has attracted thousands of workers to the URWE standard, Wolchok declared.

POINTS TO GAINS

In a pre-convention statement addressed to the members of the union, Pres. Wolchok pointed out that despite the challenge of the CIO organization, the AFL union —the Retail Clerks Intl. Protective Assn.—has stubbornly maintained the same policies which kept the workers out of the union for years.

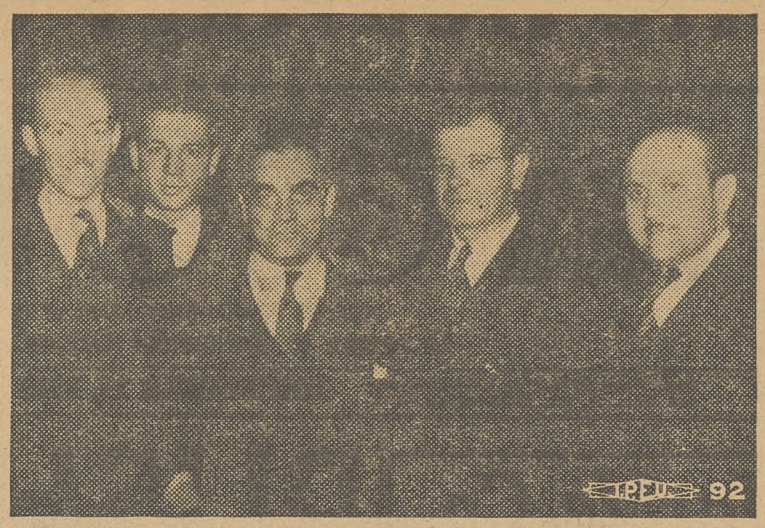
"We have organized more workers in our industry than the RCIPA has done since 1888," Wolchok said. "We are only 2½ years old and our future is brighter than the sun and has more promise than the proverbial rainbow.

"We feel capable and strong enough to stay clear from dissension in our ranks. We feel capable enough to teach all those who want to darken our guiding light to see their folly and uselessness. We know that we are giving the workers that which they have searched for during more than half a century."

SHIFTED MEETING

Originally scheduled for Huntington, W. Va., the convention site was shifted to Detroit as a protest against one of the most drastic court injunctions in West Virginia history, which was handed down against striking bakery workers in Huntington.

With the court asking the arrest of URWE Vice-Pres. John J. Schulter because he had issued strike leaflets, in defiance of the injunction, union officials decided to move the convention.



MEET FOR CONVENTION: Officers of the United Retail and Wholesale Employes, whose biennial convention opens in Detroit on Dec. 11, shown recently with CIO Vice-Pres. Sidney Hillman. Left to right: Sec. Cooney, Vice-Pres. Schulter, Pres. Samuel Wolchok, and Vice-Pres. Kudish.

Priest Leads Labor School

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 9 — A new labor school has been opened in Indianapolis, offering courses in public speaking, parliamentary law and the encyclicals of Pope Leo XIII and Pope Pius XI.

The classes are being conducted by Rev. Father Charles Schottelkotte and a local attorney. Admission is free, and the classes are open to everyone, regardless of race, color, creed or union affiliation.

LOCKOUT ENDS

Jacksonville, Ala. — (FP) — An eight-month lockout by the Profile Mills here ended with the signing of a contract with the CIO Textile Workers Union.

Eight AFL Retail Union Heads Indicted in Gotham

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—Eight AFL union leaders were on the spot today as Dist. Atty. Thomas Dewey's racket bureau won indictments charging them with conspiracy and extortion.

Action against the eight men, who have ruled over two sizeable locals of the Retail Clerks Intl. Protective Assn., bore out charges of racketeering made by the CIO United Retail & Wholesale Employes, against the AFL affiliate.

One of the men arrested was Nicola Elia, known around town as "Nick the Bull." He is general manager of Local 1204 of the AFL union. Another arrested was Sol Shuster, teamsters official. The other two were "Fat Frank" Persico and Simon Saientz. He has a police record running back a quarter century, including sentences for carrying weapons and nitro-glycerin.

This quartet, and the others not yet arrested, preyed both upon workers and store owners, the district attorney's office said. While the two locals had taken in an estimated $175,000 in two years, only $1,000 was left in the treasury.

In addition to mulcting the workers, the gang ringleaders made a practice of "shaking down" store owners with threats of strikes.

CIO Drive Speeds Up In St. Louis

St. Louis, Dec. 9 — Meetings of local union officers and shop stewards in this city are being held regularly under the auspices of the St. Louis Industrial Union Council, according to Luther Slinkard, recording secretary.

The meetings are being held to acquaint all local officials with the aims of the CIO and to work out a program for helping get "Ten Million CIO Members by 1945."

Resolutions passed at the first meeting urged all CIO unions here to affiliate with the city and state industrial union councils, to support the program of Labor's Non-Partisan League, and to help carry the ball during the CIO's organizational campaign.

Donate $500 For Xmas Party

Coraopolis, Pa., Dec. 9—Lodge 209, of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, has gathered over $500 for a Christmas party and celebration for the children of this city.

Each employe of Standard Spring Co., all of whom are union members, has agreed to contribute 50 cents, and the lodge voted to set aside a sum of money from the treasury.

In addition to a free Christmas entertainment, refreshments and a box of candy will be given all the children.

Don Murgie is chairman of the party committee. Other members are Frank Gold, Louis Lanza, James Rowe, Tom Lucenti, Sam Rowe and John Springer.

Several other lodges of the SWOC in this district are planning similar celebrations, John Tafelski, sub-regional director revealed.

1,800 BENEFIT

Cleveland — Employers of another giant electrical manufacturer won union protection when the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, CIO, signed an exclusive bargaining agreement with National Carbon Co. here for its 1,800 workers.

Mid-Continent Oil Accused of Spying

WEST TULSA, Okla., Dec. 9. (FP)—If anyone thinks that the big corporations abandoned espionage after the disclosures of the LaFollette Committee, he should consider the testimony in the National Labor Relations Board hearing of the Mid-Continent Petroleum Corp. case.

The struck oil company, producer of D-X gasoline, rigged up a dictaphone and wire-tapping system through cooperation with the Tulsa police department and the state militia, testimony at the hearing revealed. Purpose was to listen in on the conversations of officers and members of the CIO Oil Workers Intl. Union.

[Previous testimony had exposed a plot by corporation-hired detectives to dynamite Mid-Continent property and place the blame on the union.]

REPORTS IN TRIPLICATE

Frank Munroe, one of the troopers, testified that he sat in the basement of the company's administration building, where a 24-hour wire-tapping service was operated. He was required to make reports in triplicate on anything connected with the union. One copy of each report was given to Ed B. Moffett, a Mid-Continent official.

Munroe was ordered by his superior officer, Maj. Taylor, to perform even stranger duties as a national guardsman. He was sent to the Tulsa Hotel, where he had to strip naked and climb up through a ventilator in order to install a dictaphone that would record conversations in the room occupied by Pres. John Coulter of the oil union.

William Kelly, Tulsa police officer, told the NLRB trial examiner that Vice-Pres. J. C. Denton of Mid-Continent had provided one of the three dictaphones used in the spying. Kelly also said that a court reporter was paid $15 a day by Police Commissioner Floyd Rheam to make transcripts of the conversations.

Board Orders Election; AFL Boss Has Tantrum

NEW YORK, Dec. 9. — Mere holding of a Labor Board election is now sufficient to bring down the wrath of AFL top officialdom, recent events here would indicate.

Pres. George Meaney of the New York Federation of Labor —who on Jan. 1 becomes secretary-treasurer of the national AFL, has gotten plenty mad at the New York State Labor Relations Board.

The reason: because it ordered an election among the employes of the Triboro Coach Co. of Queens at the expiration of a contract with the AFL streetcarmen's union.

SEES RED

Fighting angry, Meaney charged the Board was "CIO-minded," that it was seeking to impose "a Nazi-Communist type of governmental control" over New York labor relations. He persuaded the New York AFL legislative conference to "deprecate" the Board's alleged anti-AFL bias.

Father John P. Boland, head of the SLRB, was quick to defend the election, which resulted in a 161-79 victory for the CIO Transport Workers Union.

"What we did," Rev. Boland pointed out, "was to order an election and the results proved that we were right to give the employes this opportunity.

"We are surprised that a union which is truly interested in the American principle of free choice of bargaining representative should be such a poor loser."

TRIED TO SIGN PACT

At the expiration of the disputed contract in October, the SLRB announced that an election would be held upon the CIO petition, Boland pointed out. Before waiting for the election, the company signed a three-year contract with the AFL organization. Despite this, the CIO union won the election.

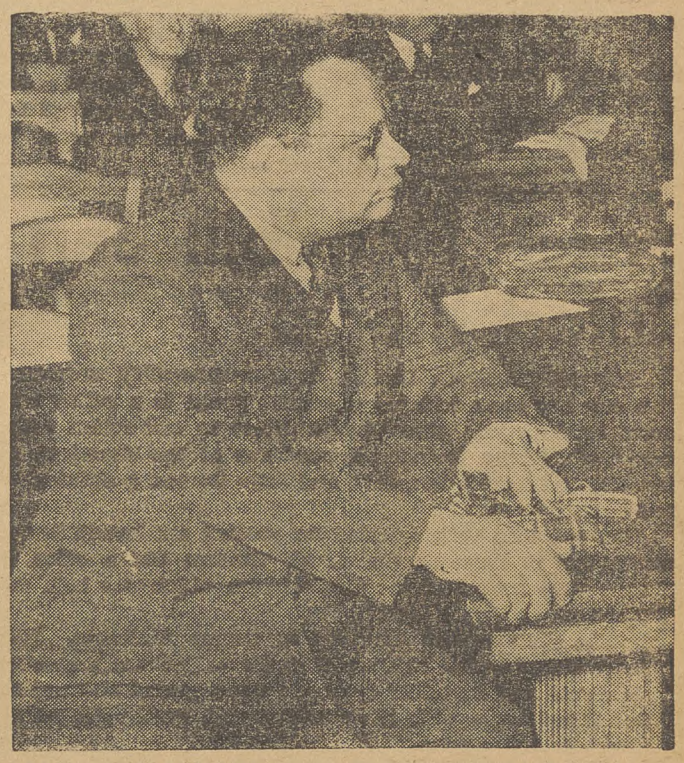
He pointed out that only a week previous the SLRB had ruled in favor of the AFL in an exactly similar case when the board has ordered an election among employes of a linen supply house, who were then under CIO contract.

FILE BRIEF

Washington, Dec. 9—A brief requesting the U. S. Supreme Court to uphold the decision of a lower court dismissing an AFL petition to set aside certification of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, CIO, was filed this week by the National Labor Relations Board.

Washington—The U. S. Supreme Court upheld the Labor Board's right to disestablish a company union by reversing a decision of the Circuit Court of Appeals.

Fighting Liberal



MAURY MAVERICK, militant mayor of San Antonio, shown at the opening of his trial for alleged payment of poll taxes for some of his constituents. The trial is considered part of an effort by reactionary political enemies to vanquish the peppery mayor.

Canadian CIO Leader Arrested

(Special to The CIO NEWS)

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 9.—C. H. Millard, secretary of the Canadian Committee of the CIO, was arrested here Dec. 6 by Ontario Provincial Police on charges based on Section 39B of the "Defense of Canada" regulations, passed when the Dominion entered the war.

Labor here is preparing a defense campaign on his behalf, in which AFL unions, as well as CIO, are expected to join.

MADE SPEECH

Millard was charged with making statements in Timmins recently which, it was claimed, are "prejudicial to recruiting." Timmins is Ontario's gold mining center, and has been an important organizing area for the CIO Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers Union during the past several months.

The CIO official's arrest was based on charges arising out of a speech he was said to have made to members of the union in Timmins recently.

He was taken into custody here on a warrant issued by Timmins police. According to the report, the CIO leader will be taken to the mine center for trial.

CIO Aids Minneapolis WPA Strikers

Minneapolis, Dec. 9—Endorsement of the CIO WPA Defense Committee was announced by the State CIO Council, the Minneapolis-Hennepin Council, and most CIO locals in the state and city. The Committee was formed to defend 163 WPA workers under indictment growing out of the WPA strikes last July.

Attempts of authorities here to pin the natural death of a policeman who dropped dead from heart failure on the WPA strikers and to hand out prison terms for the strike were vigorously criticized by the CIO Defense Committee, in a statement which read in part:

"Labor leaders declare that the indictment and prosecution of workers on conspiracy charges are a violation of civil rights, and part of an organized attempt of nationwide scope to intimidate the labor movement in order that America may more easily be drawn into the European war.

"Efforts to link strikers with Gearty's death (Gearty was the policeman who dropped dead) were part of a campaign designed to align public opinion against the strikers."

Engineers Win Raises

San Francisco, Dec. 9—Wage increases running as high as $25 a month were negotiated here by the Natl. Marine Engineers Beneficial Assn., CIO affiliate, and the Shipowners Assn. of the Pacific Coast.

The agreement, effective immediately and extending to Sept. 30, 1940, covers approximately 250 men. Substantial improvements in working conditions, as well as the wage increases, were contained in the pact.

Everybody's Happy!

END OF THE 54-DAY Chrysler lockout and strike found everybody happy. Corporation officials, union leaders and U. S. negotiator all looked pleased about the settlement, which gave the CIO United Automobile Workers big gains. Seated, left to right: U. S. Conciliator James Dewey, Pres. Keller of Chrysler, and CIO Vice-President Philip Murray. Standing: Pres. R. J. Thomas of the UAW and H. L. Weckler, Chrysler official.

Charge AFL Plotting In Wire Merger Deal

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9. — The Federal Communications Commission "is acting as the union-busting agent of the AFL", Vice-Pres. Joseph Selly of the American Communications Assn., CIO affiliate, charged today.

Selly's statement, based on FCC recommendations for the merger of Western Union and Postal Telegraph—as published in the New York Times—accused the federal agency of seeking to weaken the CIO union through the merger.

The Times story said FCC officials feel the "chief obstacle to be overcome in plans for the merger of the two companies . . . is the foreseen controversy over absorption by Western Union of the personnel of the Postal Company."

POSTAL HAS PACT

The article pointed out that Postal employes are members of the ACA and work under a contract with the company. It then went on to say that "those in Western Union not having any labor affiliation are lined up with the AFL."

Selly, in reply, suggested that the FCC might check into the facts of the case. He pointed out that ACA has filed petitions for Labor Board elections in a number of Western Union offices throughout the nation.

Implications that the FCC feels the 17,000 unionized Postal employes should be dismissed in the merger "makes it appear that the Commission is acting as a union-busting agent of the AFL, which made precisely this demand when it appeared before the Commission on November 24," Selly said.

QUOTE HIGH COURT

"The Supreme Court on December 5 decided in the case of railroad consolidation that 'the welfare of railroad workers was as important to the public interest as the maintenance of an adequate transportation system, and that consolidations aimed at operating economies must not overlook the interests of those who serve.'

"The workers in the telegraph industry are convinced that the Supreme Court decision is equally applicable to the communications industry, and are determined to fight to protect the public interest and the interests of labor which coincide."

Delay Action On Settling Wire Strike

San Francisco, Dec. 9. — CIO Western Union strikers here voted to defer action of U. S. Secretary of Labor Perkins' settlement proposals until the company has indicated its acceptance, on the grounds that action would be "meaningless" until the Western Union's attitude is clear.

Miss Perkins' proposals were on a three-point basis, calling for an end to the strike, no discrimination in rehiring, and a return to company practice of dealing with union grievance committees.

The strikers, all members of the American Communications Assn., CIO, have been out four months now, with support from leading San Francisco citizens and from organized labor all over the country.

They won a civil liberties victory this week when the courts ruled a local anti-handbill ordinance unconstitutional, the judge declaring that it was "an unwarranted and unjustified interference with the constitutional guarantees of free speech and free press."

Glass Union Elects Irwin De Shetler

Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 9 — Unofficial returns on the run-off election of national officers to head the Federation of Flat Glass Workers, CIO, were announced today at union headquarters here.

Irwin L. DeShetler, general secretary-treasurer of the FFGW for the past two years, was

IRWIN DE SHETLER

elected general president, winning over Leland Beard. DeShetler is from Toledo Local 9, and Beard is from Local 19, Ottawa, Ill.

J. T. Alford, Local 14, Fort Smith, Ark., was elected vice-president. Highest number of votes for secretary-treasurer was received by Peter J. Vidmar, Local 19.

The run-off election, held November 29, was required under the union's constitution, as no candidate for national office re-

Continued on page Four

Lift Wages $1,400,000 At American Viscose

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—The CIO's "lift wages" campaign spurted here today as the Textile Workers Union negotiated a $1,400,000 increase from the American Viscose Corp.

The raise, announced here by TWU Pres. Rieve, amounts to 6% of the company's payroll. Distribution of the increase among the various occupations and plants will be undertaken jointly by corporation officials and union committees representing workers in Lewistown and Meadville, Penna.; Parkersburg and Nitro, W. Va., and Roanoke, Va.

The Viscose pay boost, Rieve pointed out, swells the total annual wage increases negotiated by the TWU in the synthetic yarn industry to $2,500,000 since last September.

CIO Wins Auto Poll By 10-1

Detroit, Dec. 9.—Victors in a dozen major Labor Board elections during the past few months, the CIO United Automobile Workers rolled up another overwhelming majority at Kelsey-Hayes Wheel Co. last week.

Of 2,708 votes cast, 2.457 voted for the CIO. Only 251 voted for no union at all.

Heroes of one of the early 1937 strikes, the Kelsey-Hayes workers haven't let the anti-union drive of either the bosses or the former UAW president affect their determination to have the protection of their own democratic organization.

Wages Up 3c An Hour For 18,000

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 9. — The blanket wage increase of 3c an hour granted to 18,000 employes of the Briggs Manufacturing Co. at the plant here and in Evansville, Ind., is the direct result of the UAW-CIO strike victory at Chrysler, Emil Mazey, president of the Briggs Local 212 said here.

The increase brings Briggs scales up to the Chrysler levels.

A few weeks ago the Labor Board reversed its previous stand for a separate bargaining unit at each of the seven Briggs plants and granted the request of the UAW-CIO for a single employer-wide unit.

The Board's action was based on the results of seven separate polls conducted on September 14, all won overwhelmingly by the CIO union, which defeated the AFL, 13 to 1. A week after the elections, the UAW-CIO petitioned the Board to amend its original decision for separate plant unit elections, so as to establish a single unit of the production and maintenance employes of all the company's plants.

In granting the request, the Board stated: "At the time of our original decision there was no indication in the record as to the relative strength of the CIO-UAW and AFL-UAW in the various plants.

"The results of the elections, which are a part of the investigation conducted by the Board, now show that the CIO-UAW has been designated collective bargaining agency by a majority of the production and maintenance employes in each of the plants."

Pittsburgh Newspaper Locals Unite

Pittsburgh, Dec. 9 — Ratifications for a new constitution of the recently established Pittsburgh Newspaper Unions Council were reported proceeding here, with the local CIO Newspaper Guild and 15 printing unions involved. Elections were postponed until January.

The Council grew out of a dispute between 10 unions in the newspaper industry, including the Guild and the local Cripps-Howard paper, over loss of pay during suspension brought about by two newspapers after a deadlock in printing trades contract negotiations.

THE CIO NEWS

Congress of Industrial Organizations

John L. Lewis ..... President

Vice-Presidents

Philip Murray — S. H. Dalrymple
Sidney Hillman — Reid Robinson
R. J. Thomas — Emil Rieve

James B. Carey ..... Secretary
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price .....$1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II — December 11, 1939 — No. 50

Relief Crisis, While Profits Soar

There is a horror about the stories coming out of Ohio on the relief crisis that matches in its way the horror of Europe's war news.

Thousands of innocent and helpless people in Cleveland, Toledo and other Ohio cities have been sentenced to utter misery and slow starvation by the cutting off of relief.

In Toledo the Council of Social Agencies reports "unbelievable conditions", with "many cases in actual want and acute need—where persons were starving." It tells of people "picking up scraps—scavenging" to keep alive.

Stories from Cleveland tell of unemployed workers, without clothes or shoes to go out in, confined to cold bare cellars or drafty shacks and subsisting on such scraps of food as a small lump of cheese and a few crackers a day.

For the horrors of Europe's warfare, all sorts of excuses are advanced about the exigencies of war, the heat of battle, economic compulsions and the like.

For the horror of what is happening to Ohio's jobless, no excuse whatever can be advanced. These people are starving in the midst of plenty. The money to feed and clothe them would hardly make a dent in the millions and billions of public funds being spent for other purposes.

And irony of ironies, these thousands are cut off relief at a time when industrial profits are soaring due to the so-called war boom and when Cleveland, for instance, is said to be experiencing the biggest business upturn in years.

Ohio has been giving a horrible object lesson of what is in store for the country if present proposals to cut down relief, to provide more money for war preparations, are adopted.

Assistant WPA Commissioner Corrington Gill, in a recent speech, described the notion that war trade will eliminate unemployment as "fantastic and absurd". He declared that the number of unemployed is not likely to be reduced below nine million even by next spring.

Yet because war profits are pouring into their own coffers, the fat cats imagine all is well and demand reduction of public expenditures for the needy.

Labor, on the other hand, insists that unemployment still remains America's No. 1 problem. It demands not less but more relief, and a real program to provide jobs at decent wages for all who need them.

Good Reason for Organizing

A survey of the earnings of 80 industrial corporations, made public in the "New York Times", reveals that their combined net profit increased from $36,547,000 in the first nine months of 1938 to $200,253,000 in the same period of 1939, a gain of 448 per cent.

In contrast to these huge profit increases, weekly earnings of workers in manufacturing industries rose only from $26.02 to $27.58 from December 1938 to September 1939, and hourly wages increased only 1.3 per cent.

Small wonder that the workers in most of these industries are turning in increasing numbers to CIO organization to get their share of improved business in higher wages.

Glass Union Election

Continued from Page Three

ceived a majority of the votes cast at a general election held October 31.

Presidents of the five districts comprising the FFGW were elected at the October 31 general election. They are: District 1, Pennsylvania, James Ewing; District 2, West Virginia, Aubrey Barnette; District 3, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, Daniel Reese; District 4, Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana, H. H. Brewer and District 5, New York, Herman Leiner.

Lorillard Still Unfair

Middletown, Ohio, Dec. 9—Members of Pioneer Tobacco Workers Local Union 55 are still keeping up their fight against the P. Lorillard Co., according to E. P. Murphy, financial secretary of the local.

The company, which manufactures Old Gold cigarettes and a number of other tobacco products, was placed on the CIO unfair list at the San Francisco convention.

The Skeleton At The Feast

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

A Significant Contrast

THERE is a remarkable and significant contrast between the organizing literature put out by the CIO and the AFL, when the two compete for the workers' votes in Labor Board election campaigns.

Take for example the campaign at the big Endicott-Johnson shoe plant at Endicott and Johnson City, N. Y., employing some 18,000 workers.

The AFL avails itself of an alleged labor paper at Binghamton, which fills its columns, aside from shoe company and other advertising, with the wildest slander and abuse of the CIO, including such fantastic charges as "money from Moscow" and lurid red-baiting that has nothing to do either with truth or with the problems of the shoe workers.

The CIO United Shoe Workers, in contrast, publishes a local paper of its own called the E. J. Union News, which devotes its columns to carefully written articles about the workers' conditions and the possibilities of improving them.

The tone of the CIO paper is as dignified and factual as the AFL sheet is hysterical, slanderous and careless of the facts.

The appeal of the CIO is to the reasoning power of thinking shoe workers, who want to improve their lot through union organization and collective bargaining.

The AFL appeal, on the other hand, is directed to ignorance and the basest emotions. Knowing that its outfit has a long record of betrayal and disservice to the shoe workers, the AFL sheet tends to avoid the subject and to concentrate on slandering the CIO union.

The Factual Approach

This contrast is typical of nearly every situation in which CIO and AFL unions compete.

In the recent RCA Radio election at Camden, N. J., the Armour packing plant election at Chicago and the auto plant elections, for example, the CIO stuck to straight unionism and the exposition of its record of achievement for the workers, while AFL leaflets read like the crazy political outpourings of some Fascist sect.

In the Armour election, where actual forgery was used by the AFL union, the CIO union did retort to the wild campaign of slanders and lies against its leaders. But here too it handled its slanderous opponents in a carefully factual manner. It simply printed the prison picture and criminal record of the local AFL leader.

This record included about a dozen convictions for robberies of all kinds, assault and battery and dope peddling. The leaflet just let the facts speak for themselves.

Victories for Reason

Those who are sincerely concerned for democracy will get genuine satisfaction from knowing that the CIO type of thoughtful appeal to reason is far more effective with most American workers than the Hitleresque appeals to ignorance and emotion of the AFL.

In the above-mentioned elections, in which the anti-CIO propaganda of the AFL reached new depths of distortion and lying, the workers thought matters out for themselves and returned majorities for the CIO which ranged from four-to-one to ten-to-one and more.

The Record Speaks for Itself

There are a number of good reasons why the CIO in general concentrates on presenting its union message and standing on its own record and the facts; while the AFL has to resort to slandering the CIO and to diverting attention from union issues by appeals to ignorant passion and prejudice.

In the first place, the CIO has a record of active organizing work and union achievement which is its best advertisement. It has long had organizers in the field in each case, who have been carrying on the hard work of union education to convince the workers where their interests lie.

The AFL, on the other hand, enters the field in most cases long after the CIO has done most of the spade-work of organization. It seeks to cash in on this work by appealing to the employers' fear of the CIO and offering them a virtual company union in its place.

For this purpose, the AFL sets about trying to make a bogey of the CIO. It does not bother much about selling its own phoney wares to the workers, but seeks rather to disrupt and destroy the union organizing work of the CIO.

Faith in Democracy

In the second place, the CIO is a far more fundamentally democratic movement than the AFL. It has faith, based on experience, that when the workers are given the facts in a reasonable fashion they will vote for the modern and progressive industrial unionism of the CIO.

The AFL, on the other hand, knows that its type of stick-in-the-mud craft unionism, with all the corruption, inertia and outright betrayal that have been associated with it, has little appeal to the workers in America's big modern industries.

It knows that it is progressively slipping, as the CIO advances, and in desperation it turns to the type of lying, hysteria-creating propaganda to which dictators resort when they try to seize by trickery the power which they cannot gain by democratic means.

WinIncreases

Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 9—Wage increases were won in two contracts with handle manufacturers signed by CIO unions in this area recently. The Link Handle Co., Sequatchie, Tenn., has accepted an agreement with Handle Workers Union 907, providing improved working conditions and wage advances.

Thousands Go Hungry In Ohio Cities

Toledo Fears Epidemics

By WALTER PETERS

Toledo, Dec. 8. — Already suffering from the worst relief crisis in its history, Toledo faces the future with a grim threat— unless state or federal aid is forthcoming—of having an additional 2,500 families join the present hungry army of 25,000 men, women and children who have been without relief since Sept. 16.

The sad local picture, it was pointed out by Jack Thompson, United Automobile Workers welfare director here, and Louis Didisse, president-elect of the Toledo Industrial Union Council, will be worse soon after Christmas. At that time a number of WPA projects will have been completed, thus ending the jobs of some 2,500 workers. The city of Toledo will not be in a position to meet its sponsor's share of new projects to replace those already completed.

'HOLD THEIR BREATH'

Meanwhile, City Manager George N. Schoonmaker admitted that city officials "have been holding their breath for fear some disaster might break out here with the continued stoppage of relief . . ."

With the exception of small handouts of beans, butter and apples provided by Federal Surplus Commodities Corp., the unemployed here have received no food since all relief was shut off. Unemployed families are undernourished to the extent that an epidemic is likely unless some measures are taken by the state to again provide relief.

An independent survey made by the Council of Social Agencies of Toledo revealed extreme suffering among the 25,000 affected by the crisis here.

CIO unions are continuing their demand for a special session of legislature to act on the emergency immediately.

APPEAL TO BRICKER

Repeated appeals for a special legislature made to Gov. John W. Bricker by both branches of organized labor and city officials of Toledo and Cleveland apparently fell on deaf ears.

Obviously afraid that a special session of legislature may act on the relief situation by adopting what Labor's Non-Partisan League of Ohio termed "a just and equitable system of taxation to provide a permanent solution to this permanent problem," the governor now is attempting to shift the entire responsibility of feeding the hungry unemployed to the municipalities whose treasuries are already depleted.

At one time the governor blamed the people of Toledo for the plight of its unemployed because a proposed 1½-mill 'Poor Relief Tax Levy' was defeated last September. The charge was made to a Toledo CIO delegation several weeks ago.

USELESS PROPOSAL

As one solution to the problem, the governor suggested that Lucas County Commissioners issue bonds against future collections of state, gasoline and license tags fund. The county commissioners asserted that even by doing that the most that could be obtained would last seven weeks after which time Lucas County and Toledo would be in even a worse financial condition.

Breadline, 1939

WAITING FOR MEAGER RATIONS are these unemployed Clevelanders, in line outside a relief station in a former bank branch. Thousands of men and women and children were hit by the crisis.

War Boom Bring Jobs? 'No!' Says WPA Official

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 9.—Notions that the war-boom will do away with a large part of America's unemployment problem are "fantastic and absurd," Corrington Gill, assistant WPA head, told students at the Pennsylvania Social Work School here.

Not only is it fantastic, he said, but it is a dangerous illusion, calculated to distract peoples' attention from the pressing domestic problem of doing something effective about unemployment.

War at best can only offer a temporary relief, Gill pointed out, and then only by taking "surplus" labor and putting it on the battlefield. The fewer come back, he explained, the lower the unemployment figures—for a while.

Gill called on Congress to face this question at the next session, saying: "We have at present about 9,000,000 unemployed; and if our country remains at peace, we will have nearly that many unemployed next spring. Again Congress will have to face the question of what to do about it."

CIO, Jobless Blame Tory Officials

CLEVELAND, Dec. 9. — Cleveland's reactionaries have taken a trip to "utopia"—and are glad to be out of it.

For a week this metropolis followed—unwillingly—the advice of the "end coddling" bloc. Cleveland "got out of this business of relief."

The experiment flopped—and the reactionaries were forced to admit it.

For more than a half-decade conservatives have pictured a reliefless community as a prosperous community. They have promised that an end to relief will mean a wealth of jobs.

Cleveland proved they were wrong.

The sight of breadlines, of starving mothers and babies huddled in heatless, barren apartments, of scavenging in garbage pails, of grumbling desperation was too much for Cleveland's prosperous folk, just as it was for those who have been demanding aid all along for the jobless. The rich had to admit that relief is a necessity.

City officials this week got together with Gov. Bricker, who still plumps for balancing the budget, and arranged a $1,200,000 bond issue which will mortgage future tax receipts. Together with aid from WPA and the Federal Surplus Commodities Corp., the situation will be eased, though some 66,000 relief cases will be on less-than-normal assistance until well into 1940.

TOLL OF ILLNESS

Health officers predicted, however, that the toll of the subnormal diets for children and adults will long be felt.

"We are concerned with the situation," said Dr. Harold Knapp, city health commissioner. "If you have under-nourished or starved people, you haven't good health. You may expect a toll to be exacted later."

PAPERS HUSHED IT

Cleveland papers valiantly attempted to "play down" the sensational story, which crashed onto the front pages in other cities throughout the country.

Prosperity stories edged out relief stories, and statistics about the city's booming auto and steel industry edged out statistics showing that for two years relief clients have had "25 to 44 per cent less food than a minimum standard requires."

Since last April, it has been common knowledge that Cleveland and other Ohio cities would be confronted with thousands of under-fed, poorly-clothed and inadequately-housed citizens unless the state and municipal administrations provided funds for their relief.

CIO DEMANDED ACTION

Nevertheless, demands from CIO delegations for action to meet the oncoming crisis were brushed aside by both the governor and by leaders of Cleveland big business.

Gov. Bricker, who refused to take action when presented with the facts by a CIO group on November 30, was assailed by Pres. John Owens of the Ohio Industrial Union Council. Owens said:

"His inaction in the present crisis indicates that his permanent program is to keep the unemployed permanently at the edge of starvation.

"I do not accuse Mr. Bricker of being dishonest but the daily fiscal reports show that money is available in this rich staate. There can be no prior call on that money ahead of aid for Ohio's industrial refugees."

Wages Up In Bleachery Pact

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 9—Hourly wage increases of two to six cents were obtained in an agreement renewed between the Lowell Bleachery Company here and the Textile Workers Union of America.

The pay raise which covers the 220 workers at the bleachery will amount approximately to $25,000 annually, according to estimates of Richard Brazier, TWUA representative here at the St. Louis Joint Board of the textile union.

Oust Jersey Relief Boss, Unions Ask

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 9.—Removal of New Jersey's state relief administrator was demanded by CIO officials today on grounds that he has flouted the state relief act and expressed opposition to the whole principle of government aid to the needy.

The demand was sent to Gov. A. Harry Moore, member of the Hague machine, by Leonard Goldsmith, executive secretary of the state CIO council.

"We charge Director Arthur Mudd of the State Relief Administration with being unfit to hold office, with using a subterfuge to refuse to permit the payment of relief to needy people in the case of the members of the AFL who are on strike against the Mundet Cork Co. of Hillside."

INCLUDE AFFIDAVIT

Accompanying the letter was an affidavit charging Mudd with having been present in the attorney general's office when that official ruled that refusal to grant relief to the strikers was illegal and ordering the order be rescinded.

The affidavit continued:

"In the discussion that followed, Arthur Mudd several times said in effect that he was opposed to the principle of relief, that many people would rather be on relief than work, and that if relief was abolished, industry would re-employ people and solve the unemployment problem. Attorney General Wilentz pointed out to Director Mudd that this was a 'rather peculiar philosophy' for the state director of relief to have."

Plan Big Campaign In Oregon

Toledo, Ore., Dec. 9 — "We are going to make Oregon one of the banner states within the CIO setup," William Dalrymple, recently apointed CIO Regional Director for the state, told a mass meeting of members of the CIO Intl. Woodworkers of America here.

Warning that this "will take plenty of hard work," Dalrymple assured the audience that every CIO meeting he has attended since his appointment has brought assurances of "cooperation and help in building the CIO as the dominant labor organization within the state."

OPEN HALL

The day before the Toledo meeting, CIO Woodworkers at Olympia, Wash., dedicated a new meeting hall with a meeting of more than 700 members. In addition to Regional Director Dalrymple, Woodworkers President Harold Pritchett, Washington Regional Director Richard Francis and the Mayor of Olympia were featured speakers.

UNION SHOP PRINTING FOR CIO UNIONS
MID-CITY PRESS
NEWSPAPER — LEAFLETS
JOBWORK — PUBLISHING
N. E. Cor. 9th & Spruce Streets
Philadelphia, Pa.

CIO — UNION MADE
HOSIERY
FULL FASHIONED • SHEER
LISLES • RAYONS
Write: Adler's Hosiery
Room 505—799 Bdwy., N.Y.C.
DISCOUNT TO UNION MEMBERS

LARGEST PRODUCER OF ROUGH ROLLED GLASS
MISSISSIPPI
GLASS COMPANY
220 FIFTH AVE.
NEW YORK

CORNELIUS PRINTING CO.

Printers for
INTERNATIONAL UNIONS
for more than 30 Years
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
SILVER SPRINGS, MD.

Push Construction Campaign; New Locals Receiving Charters

Issue Six Charters In Week; Enlist Unions in Drive

By CECIL OWEN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Six new local unions were chartered this week by the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee as it stepped up the drive to bring industrial unionism to the 2,000,000 unorganized workers in the construction industry.

These new locals brought to 76 the total chartered by the committee in the four months since it was established. The UCWOC now has locals in more than a score of states and the District of Columbia. Organizers are busy in many key industrial areas and chartering of new locals is expected momentarily.

Locals of the UCWOC dot the industrial east, midwest, south and far west. Concentration points are the states of: East—Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, West Virginia and the District of Columbia; **Midwest**—Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin; **South** — Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Oklahoma and Arkansas; **Far West** — California, Colorado and Washington.

Among the new locals to which charters were issued since Dec. 1 is one in New Jersey with 650 members which has been an independent union. Another chartered is in East St. Louis, Ill., where many unorganized construction workers are enrolling in the UCWOC. Others chartered are at Hammond, W. Va., Alexandria, Va. and Canton, O.

Chairman A. D. Lewis of the UCWOC advised all locals of the UCWOC of their special duty and opportunity to follow up the letter by President Lewis.

CIO-BUILT HOMES

He wrote UCWOC locals:

"The slogan 'CIO-Built Homes for CIO Members' has a special significance in your community, since it is one of the many in which the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee has chartered a local union.

"This means that in your community CIO members stand ready to build CIO homes for CIO members.

PROMPT ACTION

"May I therefore suggest prompt action by you to carry this message to the CIO membership in your community. If there is an industrial union council in your city, a representative of the UCWOC should appear before its next meeting and explain our program.

"From today on, loyal CIO members in your community who are building homes or other structures will advise the UCWOC Local so that its members may have the opportunity of doing this work. We further suggest a clause in all building contracts insisting on CIO construction workers.

"The principle at stake here is the same as that which impels good union members to refrain from patronizing merchants or manufacturers who are unfair to organized labor. Let CIO buying power aid CIO organization in construction as elsewhere.

CRAFT UNIONS FAILED

"It is an unfortunate fact that for many years union members who would not think of buying other non-union products have been forced to live in homes built under non-union conditions. This is because of failure of the obsolete being corrected.

"We are confident that CIO craft form of unionism to organize this great basic industry.

"Now that the CIO is successfully organizing construction

A. D. LEWIS
Reports progress in campaign.

workers, this condition is fast membership will find that the standards of workmanship, the wage rates, and other aspects of CIO construction warrants the most favorable consideration."

STAKE IN BUILDING

Letters went forward also from Chairman Lewis of the UCWOC to those CIO unions whose members produce the materials that go into construction.

He stressed the fact that there is hardly a CIO union which does not have a major stake in the building industry. It is the CIO that provides most of the materials and services that are essential before a building can be erected.

Typical was the letter sent to the Steel Workers Organizing Committee which said, in part:

"Every construction job in the United States and Canada means dollars and cents to the Steel Workers Organizing Committee membership because it is they who produce a large part of the raw materials that go to make a building.

"Members of the CIO produce steel products, lumber, electrical equipment, glass, metal fixtures, plumbing, flooring and roofing, granite, and countless other materials that enter into construction. Their stake in this industry is fully as great as that of the workers who put up the building.

"Our purpose in writing this letter is to earnestly seek your cooperation on a three point program: 1. Advise your industry of its new opportunity to sell more building materials as a result of this CIO program; 2. Acquaint your entire membership with the prospects for them as producers of construction materials and as consumers of housing; and 3. Assist organizing of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee in areas where your membership is concentrated."

AFL Racket Men Assailed

New York, Dec. 9 — Racketeering by certain AFL top officials, particularly in the electrical industry, was cited as "a real obstacle to labor unity" in the quarterly report of James J. Matles, organization director of the CIO Radio and Electrical Workers, delivered here today.

The report listed notable gains by the CIO union during the past three months, with 63 new contracts covering 16,000 workers, nine Labor Board elections won (not including the six to one victory in RCA at Camden), over 6,000 new members for an increase of 67 per cent, and dues payments up two-thirds over 1938.

Matles' comments on AFL racketeering were made in his discussion of the struggle the CIO union has had to carry on against raiding and splitting tactics of the AFL Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

OK Changes In Rules

New York, Dec. 9 — Returns on a three-month referendum conducted by the National Maritime Union on a new constitution drawn up at the NMU national convention held at New Orleans last July, disclosed an overwhelming vote in favor of accepting it, the CIO union office announced today.

The revised constitution will go into effect January 1, 1940, Joseph Curran, NMU president said.

Pres. Lewis Sounds Call for Action

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Pres. John L. Lewis of the CIO today called on all Regional Directors and CIO Councils to speed the organizing drive in the construction industry.

In a special letter sent all Directors and Councils, Pres. Lewis commended achievements of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee in chartering 70 local unions in 20 states and the District of Columbia.

Referring to affirmative action of the San Francisco convention on the drive to organize construction, Lewis said that "the time is here for action." He informed CIO officers that their course had been chartered by the convention and an aggressive organizing effort in construction is now the order of the day.

SENDS LETTER

Text of the letter follows:

"On August 1, 1939, the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee was formed with headquarters in Washington, D. C. Since that time, the Committee has issued charters to 70

JOHN L. LEWIS
Asks cooperation for CIO Construction Workers drive.

local unions in 20 states and the District of Columbia.

"The Committee recently signed its first association agreement with Construction Industry Employers, Incorporated, in the District of Columbia, covering wages, hours and working conditions of men employed in the construction industry. Copy of this agreement has been made available to you.

"Considering the limited assistance the Committee has received from representatives of the CIO, I am sure you will agree that their work represents an achievement worthy of commendation and support.

CONVENTION PLANS

"At the recent San Francisco convention, the question of promoting organization of construction workers was brought to the attention of the Executive Board and Regional Directors, by the undersigned.

"At that time, I expressed the hope that all CIO Directors, Organizers, State Industrial Union Councils and local Industrial Union Councils would immediately lend their assistance to the UCWOC in the drive to organize local unions in the territory adjacent to the location of these agencies.

'COURSE IS CHARTED'

"I again renew this request and strongly urge that each of the aforementioned representatives of the CIO take immediate steps to lend assistance to this organizing drive in the construction industry. Our convention has approved the policy of organizing these workers; it has already been demonstrated that these workers are capable of being organized on an industrial basis, and the time is here for action.

"Let no feeling of consideration for the adversaries of our movement weaken your resolve nor lessen your efforts. Our movement derives its support from its own members, and our first obligation is one of loyalty to our own objective, our own ideals and our own membership. These have been defined and our course is chartered by our conventions.

"Therefore, let there be no hesitation, but rather loyal response to the suggestion in this letter.

"In nearly every community a local union of construction workers can be organized. After these unions are organized, they will need some assistance and guidance, which should be freely given. Upon all matters of policy and detail, please communicate with Chairman A. D. Lewis, of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, 15th and Eye Streets, N. W. Washington, D. C."

Broun Quits Scripps-Howard; Shifts To New York 'Post'

NEW YORK, Dec. 9. (FP)—Heywood Broun, president of the American Newspaper Guild, will write his last column for the New York World-Telegram and other Scripps-Howard papers on Dec. 14.

On the following day he will start writing for the New York Post.

Managements of both papers confirmed the change, but declined to comment. Unofficially, it was said that the World-Telegram had refused to renew Broun's contract at the end of its 5-year term, a move that had been expected because of the Scripps-Howard management's increasing irritation over the writing of its only outstanding pro-labor columnist.

Although Broun had come to the then Telegram in 1927 with the understanding that he was to write whatever he pleased, in recent years the Scripps-Howard editors have not pleased to print everything that Broun wrote. A number of columns were suppressed, others sharply edited.

In addition to writing a column for the Post, Broun will cover general assignments in sports, politics and other fields. Syndication of his column means that any Scripps-Howard papers outside New York may continue to buy it, but it is expected most of them will follow the lead of the World-Telegram.

TWO RE-HIRED

New York—Two CIO workers in F. W. Woolworth & Co. were order upheld by the courts. The demediation board here, and the order upheld by the courts. The decision was described by Yale Stuart, organizer of the CIO Five and Dime Organizing Committee, as "a real step forward to make employers, even the biggest, carry out their agreements."

Probe West Coast Terrorism

NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT FOCUSES ON CALIFORNIA once more as the Senate Civil Liberties Committee investigates activities of Associated Farmers and other outfits accused of violating civil liberties.

ABOVE: Migratory farm workers, whose demands for decent living conditions have been met with terrorism and jailing, as picture below, taken during Madera County cotton strike, indicates. LOWER LEFT: Tons of fruit thrown away to rot, while farm workers go hungry. UPPER RIGHT: Sen. Robert LaFollette, who is conducting the Senate investigation.

Associated Farmers' Tactics Rapped As Hearings Open

By MIRIAM ALLEN DEFORD

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 9.—The long-heralded LaFollette civil liberties committee probe of the vigilante-minded Associated Farmers was under way here today.

The investigation, sought by Pacific Coast labor to expose the anti-union reign of terror of the big ranchowners organization, is expected to continue for several weeks.

Highlight of the first day's proceedings was the offering of a lengthy program of reform for the State's knotty farm set-up by Gov. Culbert L. Olson.

The governor made no efforts to soothe the feelings of Associated Farmers, accusing the organization of representing "the same interests dominant in employer organizations in the cities."

LIBERTIES VIOLATED

Civil liberties have been violated "beyond all question" in California, the governor's statement—a 12,000 word document—declared. He lashed out at those farm organizations "which are opposed to the principles of collective bargaining for agricultural labor."

Associated Farmers and other like-minded outfits were served notice by Olson that "this state administration . . . is prepared to go to any lengths, even to the point of calling out the National Guard and invoking martial law, to see that order is maintained and that the laws are equally and impartially enforced."

Others who testified at the first hearing were Prof. Paul Taylor, University of California economist, and Henry Fowler, chief counsel for the LaFollette committee.

SERIOUS PROBLEM

Fowler presented figures to show the seriousness of the state's agricultural labor problem, asserting that 183 farm labor strikes had taken place since 1933—65 of them accompanied by violence. While the state has only 4% of the nation's field workers, it has had 34% of the agricultural labor struggles.

Prof. Taylor, following the LaFollette lawyer on the stand, cited some of the reasons for this strife. Among the factors he named were the industrialization of the state's agriculture through the development of huge ranch farming; the hostility of the big growers to the "interference" of labor organizers; and the migration of thousands of farm workers from Arkansas, Texas, Missouri and Oklahoma.

"Because of overt acts violating civil liberties and also because of economic pressures surrounding labor in industrialized agriculture, the farm problem is becoming one of the whole structure in which men work for wages on the land," Taylor said.

2 GOVERNORS DODGE

Two other West Coast governors were invited to appear but instead sent only statements. As far as Gov. Sprague of Oregon is concerned, his statement indicated, the protection of civil liberties is no business of the U. S. government unless the states are particularly derelict.

As the committee adjourned its hearing until Dec. 13, Senators LaFollette and Elbert Thomas—both of whom are taking an active part in the probe—were considering the use of contempt proceedings against the sheriffs and district attorneys of Fresno and Madera counties.

Seek Injunction Against Finks

BESSEMER, Tenn., Dec. 9—A novel type of injunction is being sought by the CIO Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers, according to Van Jones, Intl. union executive board member.

Court action has been sought to bar the struck Tennessee Copper Co. and the sheriffs of three counties from depriving copper miners of their civil rights and from transporting strikebreakers across state lines.

Labor And The Law:

The Supreme Court Notes Workers' Rights

By LEE PRESSMAN
CIO General Counsel

The Supreme Court has upheld an order of the Interstate Commerce Commission in which a railroad was permitted to lease its properties to another railroad company upon condition that adequate protection be afforded to employes of the first company who might otherwise be discharged or given inferior jobs because of the merger.

In effect, the ICC had ruled that out of the merger considerable savings would result to the owners of the property—and that a reasonable share of such savings should be apportioned to the employes who would suffer because of the fewer number of employes necessary to operate the consolidated properties of the railroad.

The ICC had inserted the labor provisions in its order on the basis of the statutory authority which it had, that in connection with mergers the Commission might impose such terms and conditions that it finds will "promote the public interest".

PROTECTION OF EMPLOYES

The Supreme Court sustained the ICC order by pointing out that protection of the employes of the railroad through reasonable wages and working conditions and security of employment has a definite relationship with the maintenance of uninterrupted service which certainly serves the public interest.

For instance, the Supreme Court stated that:

"The now extensive history of legislation regulating the relations of railroad employes and employers plainly evidences the awareness of Congress that just and reasonable treatment of railroad employes is not only an essential aid to the maintenance of a service uninterrupted by labor disputes, but that they promote efficiency, which suffers through loss of employe morale when the demands of justice are ignored."

The reasoning of the Supreme Court in this case furnishes support to one of the basic policies which has been urged by the CIO. We have claimed that the protection of the interest of the workers in industry is the best assurance for industrial peace. Improved wages and working conditions and security of employment are the best guarantees for maintenance of the public interest in this country.

CIO POLICY JUSTIFIED

In support of this position the CIO has urgently beseeched Congress and the President of the United States to follow this very policy in regard to the awarding of Government contracts.

In other words, we have pointed out that the United States Government should not award contracts to employers who violate the provisions of the outstanding social and labor legislation which has been enacted by Congress during the past few years. It has been our contention that adoption of the policy by the United States Government would be the best assurance for the protection of the workers in industry and for the maintenance of industrial peace, both of which are in the public interest.

Facts have been brought before Congressional committees by the CIO on several occasions in support of legislation that the corporations which are foremost in their reactionary and anti-labor attacks and in their determined attitude to violate labor legislation are the very corporations which secure the benefits of Government contracts.

In each industry the spearhead for anti-labor attacks is usually the corporation which receives the major share of Government contracts for that industry.

BIG OFFENDERS

Bethlehem Steel is the outstanding example in the steel industry; Standard Oil of New Jersey is the outstanding enemy of labor in the oil industry; and Douglas Aircraft is adamant in its determination not to recognize organized labor for the aviation industry—yet these very corporations are receiving millions of dollars of Government contracts from which the profits are used to battle organized labor and deny to labor the benefits of all social legislation.

The United States Government now has the sanction of the Supreme Court to issue an Executive Order which would settle the policy of the Federal Administration—that in the public interest no Government contract will be awarded to any corporation which violates the National Labor Relations Act or any other social or labor legislative enactment.

In this manner the workers of the country will receive the benefits of legislation which Congress intended that they enjoy. In addition, by compelling the reactionary corporations to comply with such legislation, guarantees will be established for industrial peace and assurance will be obtained that necessary materials for the Government's national defense will be available because of the elimination of the basic cause of industrial disputes.

Canadian Gold Mine Workers Vote Strike

Kirkland Lake, Ont., Dec. 11.—Voting 332 to 68 in favor of a strike, workers at the profitable Teck-Hughes gold mine have given their answer to the flat refusal of the company to meet with their union to discuss desired wage increases.

The miners are members of Local 420 of the CIO Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers, which has launched a general drive for 15-cent-an-hour wage boosts to meet war-time increases in living costs and taxes.

Notice of the strike vote was communicated immediately to the Minister of Labor, in compliance with Ontario laws, and a strike conciliation board was requested.

Bethlehem Steel Corp. Backtracks, To Meet Union Committees

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 9. — The high-powered campaign of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee is at last having its effect on the management of the Bethlehem Steel Corp.

Backtracking from its previously haughty anti-union stand, the company granted recognition for the first time to local committees representing the SWOC and extended an invitation to SWOC committees to meet with management representatives at each of Bethlehem's plant.

Recognition of the CIO steel union and the invitation to confer with corporation officials was contained in a letter from George Vary, Bethlehem's industrial relations manager, to Clinton Golden, SWOC northeastern regional director.

The letter, dated Nov. 30, brought an immediate reply from Golden indicating that while SWOC is pleased at the concessions won from Bethlehem, it is far from completely satisfied and will push its campaign in the company's mills until a signed contract is obtained.

SEES PROGRESS

Golden's letter asked for a specific reply to whether or not the company is now ready to negotiate a contract with SWOC.

"The progress of our organization campaign at Bethlehem mills can be measured by the extent to which the company makes concessions to its employes," Golden pointed out.

"The present stage in our Bethlehem organizing drive can be compared to the time in our initial general organizing drive when the steel industry conceded vacations with pay and 10% wage increase in 1936. These concessions were made, it has since been generally admitted, to offset the SWOC campaign.

"Such, of course, was not the effect. SWOC recognition and signed union contracts followed in the wake of these concessions in 1936. The same trend of events is now taking place in the Bethlehem campaign, which will come to a climax in the signing of a bona fide union contract between the SWOC and the Bethlehem Steel Corp."

DODGED DELEGATIONS

Two weeks ago, when a SWOC delegation visited New York offices of the company for a collective bargaining session with Pres. Eugene Grace, all executives with power to bargain had disappeared.

At the same time delegations in the various Bethlehem plants found that local management representatives had taken simultaneous run-out powders.

CIO Steel Workers Seek Pact

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Dec. 9. — Increased wages and improved working conditions for workers in the plant of the Dominion Steel & Coal Corporation at Sydney and in other Canadian steel plants were discussed at a conference between Labor Minister McLarty and a CIO delegation headed by Silby Barrett, CIO Canadian representative.

The CIO committee asked for a minimum steel wage of 50c an hour, an eight-hour day and 48-hour week, and time-and-a-half for overtime work.

12,000 Take Strike Vote At 9 Crucible Steel Co. Plants

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 9.—Twelve thousand employes of the Crucible Steel Co. are voting whether to authorize a strike in nine mills operated by the corporation.

The strike poll followed a series of meetings between representatives of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee and the company—negotiations which failed to bring agreement on terms for a contract to succeed the first one entered into during May, 1937.

"The SWOC has tolerated unsatisfactory relations with Crucible Steel for long enough," Clinton S. Golden, SWOC northeast regional director, asserted. "We have tried in every peaceable manner to effect cordial relations with the company, but their antiquated outlook on labor relations has made this agreement impossible.

5-POINT DEMANDS

"The strike vote is being taken only after every other means of reaching a mutually satisfactory agreement has been exhausted."

A vast majority of the workers in Crucible plants belong to the CIO steel union. The ballot being handed the employes points out that the firm has turned thumbs down on all efforts to reach an agreement on five demands: 1: sole bargaining rights; 2: 62½c basic wage; 3: consecutive 40-hour work week beginning Monday and ending Friday; 4: voluntary checkoff of dues; 5: seniority system based on continuous service with the company.

"Refusal of Crucible to agree to any of these points was the only answer we could obtain," Golden said. "This refusal, together with sweeping violations of provisions incorporated in the contract signed by the company in 1937, has prompted our action in issuing the strike ballot."

Two Steel Pacts In Indianapolis

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 9—Two important contracts have been signed by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee in this city, according to James Robb, CIO regional director here.

Local 1699 has won an agreement with the American Can Co., providing for sole bargaining rights, seniority and other improvements in working conditions.

Wages and hour conditions have been worked out with Van Camps, Inc., under terms of a previous contract. Under the agreement, the five-day week is instituted and 2½c hourly wage increases have been established for all employes, including the truck drivers.

DROUTH RELIEF

San Antonio—(FP)—More than half of Texas' 250 counties will receive drouth relief in December and January, and 8,000 workers will be employed to assist in the program, the Farm Security Administration has announced.

Akron CIO Program Back On Air Despite 'Code'

AKRON, Dec. 9 (FP) — The Voice of Labor, CIO radio program banned by a local Akron radio station under the code of the Natl. Assn. of Broadcasters, is back on the air over Station WADC, basic outlet for the Columbia network in this part of the country and one of the most powerful stations in northern Ohio.

"The attempt of the radio interests to keep labor off the air has been defeated," said H. R. Lloyd, president of the Akron Industrial Union Council. "Not only do we now have a better outlet in Akron, but we can carry the CIO message to Canton, Warren, Massillon, Youngstown and Cleveland."

Lloyd said the contract will run for a year. The station has agreed to free discussion of so-called controversial questions within the usual limits of radio, he added.

The labor program was cancelled by the small local station on the ground that discussion of labor questions is "controversial" and therefore banned by the code newly adopted by the NAB, self-appointed censor of radio.

Marble Co. Grants CIO Demands

Continued from page one

handicaps, the strikers kept up heroic resistance during the bleak New England winter, and picket lines were maintained even when the temperature dropped to 20 degrees below zero.

Because of the AFL's desertion of the workers, the strike loss resulted in disruption of the union throughout the entire Vermont marble area. In February, 1938, however, the Quarry Workers affiliated with the CIO and started a successful drive to reorganize the Vermont marble workers.

The union's case in the Labor Board negotiations was handled by Sec. Lawson and Liam Donlon, acting CIO regional director in New England; Eugene Pederson, one of the strike leaders, and Samuel Angoff, Boston labor lawyer. The company was represented by Mortimer R. Proctor, an executive who is also president of the Vermont state senate, and by Benjamin Williams, another official, who is a former lieutenant-governor of Vermont.

Plan Strike At Icebox Factory

Duluth, Minn., Dec. 9—Following the breakdown of negotiations with the Coolerator Co. here, manufacturers of ice boxes, Coolerator Lodge 1096, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, has filed notice of intention to strike. Under the anti-labor state law passed in Minnesota, unions are required to give ten days' notice before calling a strike.

The union which is demanding wage increases and other improvements claims that the company has been giving them the "run-around" for some weeks.

"Each time we met in negotiations," a member of the negotiating committee said, "we were given the impression that the agreement was acceptable. But each time the apple cart was kicked over."

21c Increases Won for 400 In Newark

Newark, N. J., Dec. 9 — More than 400 city employes here won wage increases of 21 cents an hour when a CIO-sponsored ordinance was passed by the city government. The increases were won for garbage workers organized in the CIO United Construction, Transportation and Allied Workers, Local Industrial Union No. 958.

In addition, the workers won pay for all time worked and transfers of all employes who persist in refusing to join the union. Formerly, workers were paid for eight hours labor even when they put in 10 or 12 or more.

Two short strikes brought reinstatement of 10 garbage loaders who were fired for refusing to load scab trucks. The agreement was negotiated by Wm. J. Carney, CIO regional director, E. L. Howard, field representative, and Abram Flaxer, head of the State, County and Municipal Workers.

Intl. Harvester Men to Vote

Richmond, Ind., Dec. 9 — Close to 1,000 workers at the big Intl. Harvester Co. will have a chance to determine on Dec. 20 if they want the Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee, CIO, as their sole bargaining agency.

FEWOC leaders were optimistic that the CIO affiliate would win an easy victory, but pointed out "the bigger the vote, the better the contract." The CIO agreement proposal will include provisions for higher wages, strict seniority and no speedup.

Supplies For Strikers

ON STRIKE FOR 13 WEEKS, these members of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers at Knoxville, Tenn., are shown getting food supplies at their union office. The mill is trying to operate with a skeleton staff of scabs rather than sign a union contract.

State Supports 'Death Mill' Strikers

SEE STORY PAGE 7

NATIONAL EDITION

THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Official Weekly Publication of the
Congress of Industrial Organizations

Vol. II — No. 51 | Send Form 3578-P to 1106 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. | DECEMBER 18, 1939 | Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 | $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

Inside The News

1,000,000
members in 1944 is goal of United Retail and Wholesale Employes. SEE PAGE 3

Ford
was bumped again by the Natl. Labor Relations Board. SEE PAGE 2

Bricks
of a political nature are being aimed at Gov. Bricker of Ohio as state's 'economy' relief crisis continues. SEE PAGE 8

Chile
labor movement's struggle to aid workers won support from CIO leaders. SEE PAGE 6

CIO Council Challenges Tory Critics

Crooksville, Ohio, Dec. 16 — Anti-CIO mud-slingers in local business organizations and their allies in AFL unions were warned to change their tactics by the Perry County Industrial Union Council.

Pointing out that the CIO and its national, state and local leaders are dedicated to thoroughly American ideals of better living standards and the protection of democracy.

"Those truly interested in Americanism would be of more value to their community if they would promote the principle that all workers must be paid decent wages and given good working conditions instead of merely singing the song of low-wage advocates," the council statement said.

Closed Shop Pact in Steel

Newark, N. J., Dec. 16 — The Filtration Engineering Corp. has signed a closed shop contract with the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, George Mufson, union representative, announced today.

The agreement provides for a 10c hourly wage increase now and a 10 per cent increase effective June 1. Also included in the pact are the 5-day, 40-hour week, check-off of dues, vacations with pay and seniority rights.

DISCUSS PLANS FOR CIO DRIVE IN SOUTH

Christmas, 1939

THE GLOOMY DECADE is heading for oblivion, with lots of Americans as bad off as they were 10 years ago when the boom collapsed. AT TOP: New York children, their fathers unemployed, demand free clothes from the city as King Winter hits the big city. CENTER: An apple a day doesn't keep the doctor away for Cleveland's jobless; it merely helps to postpone starvation. Federal government sent apples and flour to the Ohio city after state and city budget-balancers permitted thousands to go hungry.

Ohio CIO leaders demanded that Republican Gov. Bricker, held primarily responsible for the crisis, call a special session of the legislature. (*See Story Page* 8)

Union Leaders, Directors Attend Confab

(*See Story Page Three, Column Four*)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 — Methods of speeding the CIO's big organizing campaign throughout the southern states were discussed here at a conference of southern union leaders called by Allan S. Haywood, CIO director of organization.

Reports of encouraging growth for affiliated unions and of strong desire upon the part of southern workers to gain union protection were related at the meeting.

Concrete plans for a co-ordinated campaign, through which CIO funds and energies can best be used most effectively will be worked out by a committee appointed to discuss the proposals with Pres. John L. Lewis.

American Brass Co. Signs With CIO

WATERBURY, Conn., Dec. 16. — Major gains for CIO workers in American Brass Co. here and at nearby Ansonia and Torrington are listed in the new contract presented to members of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers for ratification today.

The gains, won after long and patient negotiation with the company, include sole union recognition, a system of grievance machinery, a week's paid vacation, improved seniority and pay for reporting to work.

In addition, the local won protection for jobs of workers called to military service, a five-cent per hour bonus for night shift workers, and a system for equalizing hours of work per week.

Wage scales are subject to negotiation on 30 days' notice from either party.

Wage-Hour Chiseller Nailed By U. S.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (FP)—Cancellation of a special learners certificate issued to the Wilkes-Barre Hosiery Mills, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., was announced here by the Wage-Hour Administration.

Investigation of a complaint filed by the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, CIO, revealed that the firm was employing 62 experienced workers as "learners" and paying them substandard wages. The firm, in its application, contended it was expanding its plant and wanted to employ 57 new, inexperienced workers.

The firm failed to appear at a hearing and the Wage-Hour Administration cancelled the certificates.

More Wagner Act Violations Linked to Ford

By HOLLACE RANSDELL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Henry Ford, who shares with Tom Girdler the doubtful honor of being the most publicized union hater in the country, got another crack last week in his losing fight to prevent the organization of his workers.

The National Labor Relations Board ordered the Ford Motor Company to bargain collectively upon request with the United Automobile Workers, CIO, as the sole representative of employes in the Ford plant at Long Beach, Calif.

Based upon the finding that the company refused to bargain collectively with the union on March 7 and April 15, 1938, the Board declared that the strike which followed was a direct result of the company's refusal to bargain.

RIGHT TO ORGANIZE

The Board also ordered the Ford Motor Co. to stop interfering with the right of the employes to organize, and to offer to reinstate those employes who went out on strike April 15, 1938, because of the company's "unfair labor practices."

Evidence presented at the NLRB hearing in Los Angeles June 6-16, 1938, revealed that the CIO auto union, whose organization campaign among the employes of the Long Beach plant began early in 1937, had secured membership cards from an overwhelming majority of the employes during the next few weeks.

The union financial secretary produced at the hearing more than 900 cards which he testified had been signed between April and July, 1937.

The Board found that these cards, together with the union dues records, showed that from January 10 to April 15, and "at all times thereafter," the union was the duly designated representative of a majority of the company's employes in the appropriate bargaining unit.

MAJORITY IN UAW

The Board also found that the plant superintendent admitted at a conference in February, 1938, between the union president and several company officials that "there was no discussion as to whether the union represented a majority of the employes in the plant."

In its investigation the Board discovered that less than a month after the UAW local had been chartered and installed, two employes were approached by an assistant foreman who told them they could make some extra money and insure themselves permanent employment if they would form a "company union," which would have official backing and "plenty of money" behind it.

Fight To Save Jobs

NEW YORK TRANSPORT WORKERS, led by Pres. Michael Quill of the transit union, picket New York City Hall demanding job guarantees for 2,800 workers who face unemployment when two elevated lines are dismantled.

Fishermen Ask U. S. Investigate Mob Attacks

BELLINGHAM, Wash., Dec. 16. — Protests against recent vigilante violence in Aberdeen, Washington, and demands for an investigation by the federal government were voiced in resolutions passed at the first annual convention of the International Fishermen & Allied Workers of America held here.

President Harold J. Pritchett of the International Woodworkers, and Howard Costigan, secretary of the Washington Commonwealth Federation, were among the speakers who addressed a civil liberties mass meeting held during the convention.

Delegates representing a combined membership of some 15,000 attended the convention of the young international, which affiliated officially with the CIO in May, 1939, after the conclusion of a referendum on joining the CIO conducted among the various fishermen's units formerly included in the Federated Fishermen's Council.

LISTS PACTS

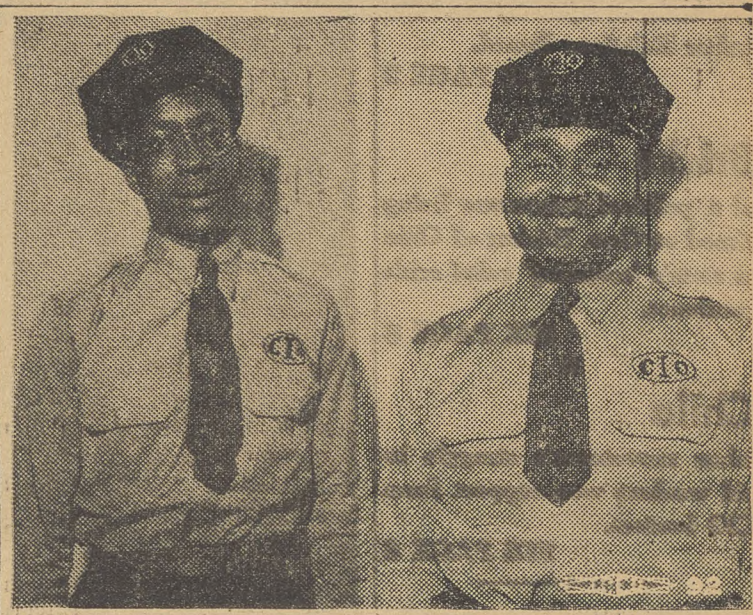
In his report to the convention summing up the progress made by the UFWA, Secretary-treasurer J. F. Jurich listed a number of important agreements won by the various affiliates.

The delegates went on record in favor of a comprehensive five-year conservation program; a complete survey of herring spawning grounds, and a federal government investigation of crab and cod fisheries in the Bering Sea and Bristol Bay, where the Japanese have undertaken large scale operations.

Among the groups represented at the convention was the Alaska Fishermen's Union, the largest single unit in the International with a total membership of 5,000.

Other large units represented were:

The United Fishermen's Union with a membership of 4,000, the Columbia River Fishermen's Protective Union with 2,300 members, the Pacific Coast Fishermen's Union with 1,700 and the Copper River & Prince William Sound Fishermen's Union with 640.



THREE-WAY CIO supporters are Walter Sings (left) and Willis Edmonds, janitors at CIO headquarters in Washington. Besides working for the CIO, they belong to the CIO Building Service Employes Local Industrial Union, and now they've taken to wearing CIO insignia on their shirts and caps.

Board Raps Maine Shoe Company

Washington, Dec. 16 — Refusal to bargain with the United Shoe Workers, CIO, four months after it won an election at the Clark Shoe Company, Auburn, Maine, was declared a violation of the National Labor Relations Act in a ruling issued here by the Labor Board.

The company was ordered to stop stalling and to bargain collectively upon request with the USW as sole representative of all its employes. Efforts of the ed by the Board which found that the firm kept putting the CIO union off, hoping that in the meantime an "independent" union known as the Lewiston-Auburn Shoe Workers Protective Association, would be successful in enrolling its employes.

Although the USW won an election held in the spring of 1937 with the agreement of the company, defeating the Protective Association by a vote of 343 to 289, the Clark management continuously refused to bargain with the USW and four months after the election contended that the CIO union no longer represented a majority of its employes.

Maverick Acquitted By Jury

San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 16.—It took a jury less than 12 hours to acquit San Antonio's liberal mayor, Maury Maverick, on charges of criminal poll tax proceedings.

Maverick, who was one of the leaders of the liberal bloc in Congress during the last session, had charged that tory politicians were responsible for the case against him. He had been accused of paying the poll tax of members of the garment workers union, and conviction would have meant two to five years' imprisonment.

The mayor had only one comment: "My statement is contained in the verdict of the jury—not guilty."

STAMP PLANS

Washington. — The Dept. of Agriculture has announced that the food stamp plan will be put into effect in Akron, San Francisco, Richmond, Va., and Shelby County, Tenn.

Sides With Employer

Washington, Dec. 16 — AFL representatives on the wage-hour committee setting a minimum wage for the shoe industry, sided with employers in suggesting that the proposed 35c hourly rate not go into effect until next May.

Leaders of the CIO United Shoe Workers took the position that the minimum should apply after Feb. 1.

Eligible for Old Age Benefits? Here's How To Make Application

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Workers throughout the nation were advised today by the CIO Social Security Committee that applications can now be made to the U. S. Social Security Board for Federal Old Age Insurance benefits.

"Under certain conditions, workers over 65 years of age who have been employed in covered occupations for some time during the past three years may be eligible to receive these benefits," Joseph Kovner, committee executive secretary pointed out.

In addition, wives of these eligible workers who are also over 65 may secure benefits. Under certain other conditions, widows and dependent children of workers who would have been eligible for benefits if they had lived, may be entitled to a small monthly allowance

Kovner advised workers that if they are in any doubt as to their eligibility for benefits, they should make an application, and the Social Security Board will then be able to determine their rights to old age benefits.

FIVE FORMS

The applications for benefits come in five separate forms.
A worker should ask for Form OAC1.
A wife should ask for Form OAC2.
Dependent children should ask for Form OAC4.
A widow should ask for Form OAC5.
An estate, where there are no other persons entitled to the benefits, should ask for Form OAC8.

All these forms are available at the nearest office of the Social Security Board. Unions which wish to secure a supply of the application forms for distribution among their members, may get them from the SSB offices.

Any questions about old age insurance benefits may be sent directly to the CIO Social Security Committee, 1106 Connecticut Ave., Washington, D. C. The committee has recently issued a pamphlet entitled, "Your Rights Under the Federal Old Age Insurance Benefits."

'Probers' of NLRB Hold Forum For Hoary Anti-CIO Fables

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—With almost indecent haste, the Smith committee "investigating" the National Labor Relations Board this week turned itself into a platform for yelping foes of the CIO to wipe off their slanders.

Before the hearing was three days old, the committee had trotted out one of the AFL's tall tale artists to repeat once again for the Tory press ragged "horror" stories of the CIO. Joe Ozanic, still enraged because the United Mine Workers contract negotiated by Pres. John L. Lewis last spring had cut the bottom out of his plans to disrupt the mine industry, hurled a variety of charges at the CIO and at the Labor Board.

Held in reserve for a dull moment was Homer Martin, head of the AFL's minute auto oufit, whose similar union-busting aspirations have ended in failure. Still another witness was John P. Frey, chief of the AFL metal trades department, always eager to red-bait against the CIO and the New Deal governmental agencies.

NOTHING NEW

But for all its promises and all its headlines, this latest drive against organized labor had, by the end of its first week, produced nothing but a collection of quickly-denied charges and a rehash of Labor Board decisions which had been discussed for days during the Senate and House committee hearings on Wagner Act amendments last summer.

CORPORATION LAWYER

Rep. Howard Smith, Virginia anti-New Deal Democrat, a lanky gentleman who constantly nurses a cigar and sports a gaily flowing tie, presides. Chief artist for the prosecution is Edmund Toland, a corporation lawyer who has represented many big companies in their fights to ward off collective bargaining.

Toland conducts the hearing with an eye cocked on the clock to guarantee flashy developments for newspaper deadlines.

Taking a different tack against the CIO, Toland publicized a memorandum which charged that Van A. Bittner, UMW District 17 president, had called for violence against AFL mine unionists during a Labor Day speech in Charleston, W. Va. in 1938.

Bittner, in a denial issued here, pointed out that there had been no union mass meeting in Charleston on that day.

His telegram, which was read into the record, declared:

"I wish to deny completely and emphatically any such statement as attributed to me . . . This so-called memorandum is absolutely false and manufactured out of the whole cloth.

WASN'T THERE

"I was not even in Charleston on Labor Day, 1938. I spoke that day from the same platform as United States Senator M. M. Neely and Vice President Philip Murray of the United Mine Workers of America at Fairmont. I am sure their testimony of what I said that day will be completely contradictory of the

Continued on Page Six

$20,000 Yearly Pay Raise

NEW YORK, Dec. 16. — Another big wage increase — this time for $20,000 a year — has been won by the Textile Workers Union of America, according to Pres. Emil Rieve.

The increase, negotiated with the Roxbury Carpet Co. of Saxonville, Mass., swells to $600,000 the increases won by TWUA for some 15,000 carpet and rug company workers.

Discuss Plans For Campaign In South

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16. — John L. Lewis' goal of a ten million CIO in five years will be realized as far as the South is concerned, CIO delegates to the Southern Organizing Conference held here this week maintain.

Organized labor in the South, they reported, is looking up, and organized labor means the CIO. Delegate after delegate got up at the conference to report progress, to report that the CIO was today a real and growing factor in the economic and social life of the South.

At the same time, none of the speakers underated the obstacles in the way of CIO progress in the South. Thousands of workers are still unorganized. Wages are low and in many areas poverty extreme. Political tie-ins between local government, especially "the law" and exploiting employers are close.

In many sections the low cultural level, brought on by poverty and inadequate schooling, plus the racial question, bring added difficulties. As William Mitch, Mine Workers leader and Regional Director of the Steel Workers, expressed it: "The South is the hardest nut we have to crack in the country. We're cracking it."

COMMITTEE SET UP

Plans and suggestions for an intensive CIO organizing drive, outlined by the delegates, were referred to a committee of the conference, appointed by CIO Director Allen S. Haywood, with Emil Rieve, president of the Textile Workers, chairman, and S. H. Dalrymple, head of the Rubber Workers, John L. Coulter, leader of the Oil Workers, William Mitch of Steel, and Lucy Randolph Mason of Tex-

Continued on Page Five

Campaign In Canneries Under Way

New York, N. Y., Dec. 16 — Plans to double the membership within the next 12 months headlined the actions of the annual convention of District 7 of the CIO Cannery and Agricultural Workers, just concluded here.

Drives will be concentrated in New York, Camden, N. J., (where the huge Campbell's Soup plant is situated) and Philadelphia, with full time organizers in each territory. An organizer will be sent to western New York state in February.

Delegates voted unanimously on resolutions to keep the U. S. out of the present European war, to protect and extend the Wage Hour, Social Security and Wagner Acts, and for more aid to the unemployed. "Unwarranted and slanderous" attacks on the CIO and its leaders by the Dies Committee were condemned.

Leif Dahl was elected president of the District, Hattie Marcy, Wm. Robbins, vice-presidents and Anna O'Brien, secretary-treasurer.

Retail Union Sets Campaign For Members

By FRANK WINN

DETROIT, Dec. 16. — A goal of 1,000,000 members by 1944, as its contribution to the CIO's general drive for 10,000,000 members, was set by the United Retail and Wholesale Employes at its second biennial convention here this week.

The proposal made by President Samuel Wolchok in his report to the convention, and emphasized in his opening address, was greeted with an enthusiastic ovation by the delegates.

In the new streamlined fashion for conventions set by the CIO, the retail and wholesale employes disposed of all matters for consideration, elected officers for the next two years, heard a half-dozen speakers, and completed their business in four days.

RE-ELECT WOLCHOK

President Wolchok was re-elected president by acclamation, as was Secretary John V. Cooney. Delegates staged a 15-minute ovation when Wolchok was officially returned to office for another term.

Principal speaker of the convention, Vice-President Sidney Hillman of the CIO, stressed the need for increased organization and political action in order to protect and extend the gains won by labor in the last three years.

"We want an organized labor movement of 20,000,000 to 25,000,000—not only for our own good but for the good of the nation," he said.

"The country does not appreciate yet the great contribution of the CIO in preventing the 'recession' from becoming another depression by maintaining wage scales. We must do more of that.

"The greatest problem today is still unemployment. Last month we produced more than the high mark of 1929, yet there are still 8,000,000 or 9,000,000 unemployed."

Hillman warned against the of-

Continued on Page Six

Eight-Week Strike Is CIO Victory

Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 16—An eight-week strike at the Stahl Gear & Manufacturing Company here has ended with another victory for the United Automobile Workers, CIO. All the demands of the striking workers were won in the terms of the settlement.

Another Union Shop Pact In Steel

Ambridge, Pa., Dec. 16. — The Steel Workers Organizing Committee today rolled up its fifth union shop contract in Beaver County in six weeks.

In announcing the agreement, Joseph Timko, SWOC sub-district director, declared: "This again leaves the company and the union free to devote its full energies and attention to the improvement in relations at the plant. The contract is a demonstration of the company's full acceptance of collective bargaining."

Hillman, Mrs. Norton Ask Consumers' Support For Wage-Hour Law

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—Unchecked "rugged individualism" leads directly to unending ragged breadlines.

That was the warning given members of the Natl. Consumers League, holding its annual convention here, by Pres. Sidney Hillman of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

The CIO vice-president insisted that only increased purchasing power, made possible through agencies of labor, industry and government, can hope to preserve American democratic forms from possible totalitarian threats.

AID TO DEMOCRACY

Passage and enforcement of the wage-hour law, Hillman continued, insure some degree of well-being and ward off that despair and desperation "which could only result in the breakdown of our democratic processes.

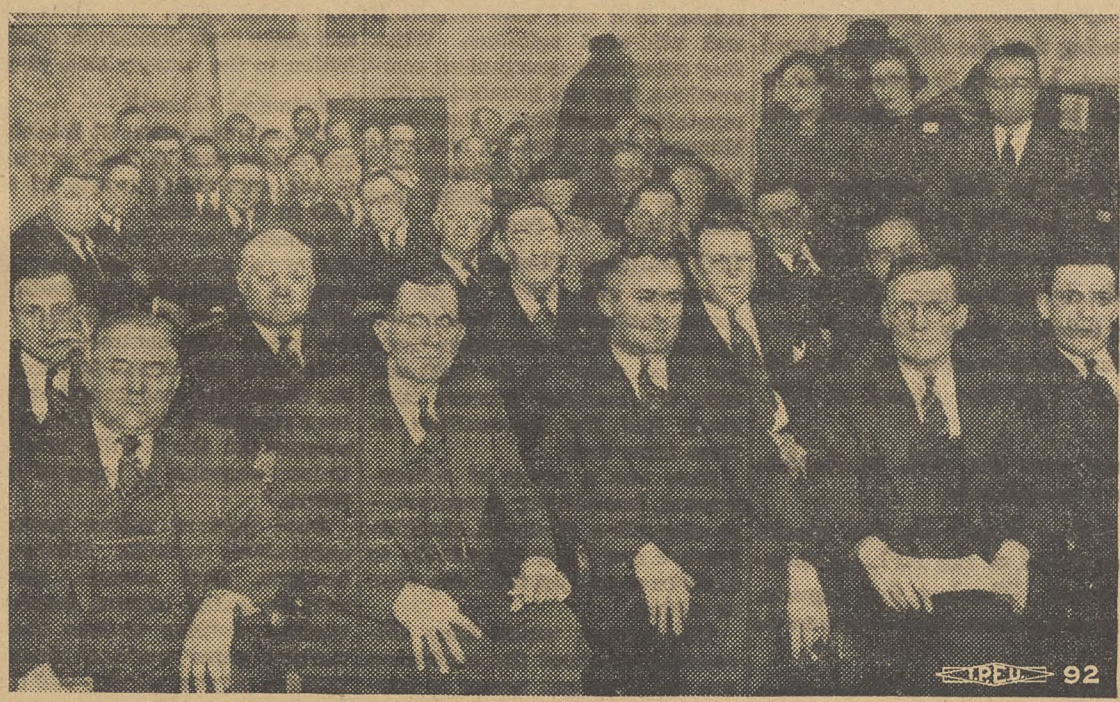
"The wages and hours law is but a modest effort toward overcoming the lag in purchasing consumers' goods," he declared.

Rep. Mary Norton of New Jersey, who heads the House Labor Committee, sent a message to the League meeting warning that organized business is preparing for a grand assault on the wage-hour law at the next session of Congress.

Mrs. Norton named names.

Foes of the wage-hour law, she said, are "the United States Chamber of Commerce, the Associated Farmers of California, and their allies, the packers and canners, and the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers."

Discuss Southern Problems



CIO LEADERS THROUGHOUT THE SOUTH gathered in Washington this week to discuss plans for speeding organization throughout the south. The conference, called by Director of Organization Allan S. Haywood, brought together officials of the textile, clothing, oil, rubber, quarry, furniture, steel, mine, and other unions and regional directors from important southern cities.

THE CIO NEWS

Published Weekly

Congress of Industrial Organizations

John L. Lewis ..... President

Vice-Presidents

Philip Murray — S. H. Dalrymple
Sidney Hillman — Reid Robinson
R. J. Thomas — Emil Rieve

James B. Carey ..... Secretary
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II December 18, 1939 No. 51

Peace on Earth?

Another Christmas season is upon us in which the message of "peace on earth, goodwill to men" has a ring of mockery to it, as human hatred and warfare spread over half the globe.

But if we search for true disciples of peace and goodwill, we do not have to look far beyond the organized labor movement.

Labor unionism is a practical business. Its spokesmen are not much given to preaching. But nevertheless the practical work of labor organization is about the most effective work being done today to realize the ideals of peace and goodwill about which we think at Christmas time.

Consider the program of the CIO. It calls for unity, harmony and cooperative effort among all the workers employed in industry. It unites people of all races, religions and nationalities, emphasizing their common interests and calling for tolerance and goodwill among them as a condition of successful industrial unionism.

Besides promoting peace and goodwill among the millions it organizes, the CIO makes the working people articulate as a group and makes the voice of labor a power in the councils of the nation.

Labor as a group has most to lose and least to gain from war. And in proportion as it is organized, the very principles of unionism incline it to sympathy and cooperation with the working people of all countries.

The work of organizing the unorganized, which the CIO is so successfully undertaking, is therefore one of the greatest contributions being made today toward "peace on earth, goodwill to men."

Can Figures Lie?

An almost classic example of how true figures can give a totally false impression, is presented by a recent release of the National Labor Relations Board on election results.

This release was seized upon by reactionary papers as an excuse for carrying headlines declaring that the AFL was ahead of the CIO in labor board elections, because it stated that in the year ending June 30 the AFL had won 262 elections as against 260 won by the CIO.

But the release failed to state that the AFL victories were mostly in small shops employing but a handful of workers, while the CIO won its victories in big plants employing thousands.

Actually the release was completely misleading. For in the year cited, the CIO received nearly twice as many workers' votes as did the AFL. And if all the facts had been given, any fair headlines would have had to read, "CIO Far Ahead of AFL in NLRB Elections."

In recent months, the CIO lead over the AFL in election results has continued to increase tremendously.

The periodical summaries of Labor Board election results show the CIO consistently running ahead of the AFL by thousands and tens of thousands of votes. The last five reports, for instance, show the CIO lead ranging from two-to-one to as much as 44-to-one.

And in this latest period, covering September to November, CIO unions received 94,809 votes, as compared with only 9,430 received by the AFL.

All of which goes to show that there is more than one way of making anti-CIO propaganda, and that a half truth is often the worst kind of lie.

Come On In!

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Southern Pioneers

MANY of the pioneers of modern science and invention were jeered at, stoned, tortured and generally considered to be possessed of the devil.

When we read the biographies of these great benefactors of mankind, we are amazed to think that such hard-working, honest and sincere people could have been thus abused and misrepresented.

Yet we have only to look around us in the United States today to find a parallel in the treatment accorded to some of our own pioneers of social progress.

Labor organization and collective bargaining are recognized in the law of the land as not only completely legal but also socially beneficial and worthy of encouragement.

Yet in many parts of the United States, labor organizers are still treated as if they were dangerous and wild-eyed agitators. When they enter some unorganized communities, they are hounded as disreputable outsiders, sometimes kidnaped and beaten up, and generally abused in reactionary papers as agents of disorder and disturbers of the peace.

CIO Southern Conference

Anyone who looked in at the recent conference in Washington of Southern CIO organizers could not have failed to be impressed with the contrast between such abuse and the personalities of these labor men.

Here was a group of serious-minded, law-abiding Americans—as upstanding, clean-cut, straightforward and truly respectable as could be assembled from any class or calling.

The subject which they discussed throughout the conference was the ways and means of raising the wages and living standard of the working people throughout the South.

There was not a man or woman among them that did not realize that the work of organization on which they were engaged would bring in its train many far-reaching social benefits, not only in higher living standards, but in better feeling between white and Negro people, in cleaner living and in greater democracy.

But there was none of the self-righteousness and windy generalities of self-proclaimed world-saviors about this gathering of practical labor organizers.

These were people who were doing the basic day-to-day work of building labor organization in the South. They talked in terms of union education, winning new members, negotiating contracts for better conditions—confident that out of such activity is growing a great labor movement through which the working people of the South can speak for themselves and make their democratic contribution to the country as a whole.

Substantial Growth

The representation at this staff conference was in itself evidence of the substantial growth of the CIO in the South.

Leaders of the United Mine Workers were present, speaking for tens of thousands of Southern coal miners, solidly organized under union shop contracts.

Textiles, the biggest industry in the South, had leaders and organizers present to tell of the steady progress of the Textile Workers Union campaign in score of mill towns.

Steel workers, rubber workers, automobile workers, Mississippi boatmen, Gulf seamen, quarry workers, metal miners, furniture workers, clothing workers, timber workers, paper workers, chemical workers, oil workers also had their CIO union representatives present.

This was no convention. It was simply a small staff conference of some of the leading organizers called together to discuss their common problems. Yet their discussion covered nearly the whole range of Southern industry.

Obstacles to Overcome

Encouraging reports were made on the gradual decline of intolerance as labor organization spreads; of better race relations as white and Negro workers learn that they have a common interest in unionism; of cooperation between organized farmers and organized workers, and of labor board elections won and new contracts secured, bringing many improvements in wages and working conditions.

But none of the Southern organizers present minimized the tremendous task which still lies ahead.

Many industries have moved south to avoid union organization and are fighting its development in the South tooth and nail. Wages are still deplorably low. Negroes and whites are still played off against each other, to their mutual disadvantage. Corrupt and reactionary politicians often use the powers of government on the side of union-fighting employers.

And despite all the evidence of the constructive purposes of CIO organization and the high caliber of Southern labor leadership, much of the press still continues its wild misrepresentation and abuse of the pioneers of unionism.

Yet obstacles similar to these have been met and overcome everywhere that the labor movement has developed. The pioneers of every worthy cause have suffered abuse and persecution from the vested interests which they disturb.

But as labor's organized strength grows, social recognition ad political influece follow in its train—until the once abused pioneers are honored by all as benefactors of their fellow men.

Smear Report Splits Dies Committee

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Internal dissension broke out in full force on the Dies Committee today, following a "report" on allegedly crimson consumer organizations by J. B. Matthews, the committee's research chief.

Rep. Jerry Voorhis, appointed last year as the New Deal member of the committee, made his first public criticism of Dies' methods in a statement asserting that Matthews' report was "purely and simply" his own opinion.

At his press conference this week, Pres. Roosevelt condemned the report, and said the manner in which it had been prepared and released spoke for itself as to the report's validity.

Matthews' statement "was released to the press by a suddenly-appointed one-man sub-committee before other members even knew such a report was in process of preperation," Voorhis angrily charged.

NO HEARINGS HELD

Recalling that "not a single hearing has been held on any of the matters" mentioned in Matthews' report, Rep. Voorhis declared:

"I believe the committee is put in a very difficult position by releasing a report which attempts to brand as Communist intrigue protests against high milk prices, the teaching of young women to be wise buyers, or the efforts of consumers to secure the honesty in advertising which every reputable merchant and business man in America desires as much as the consumers do."

Discussing the manner in which the report was released to the press—Dies had created a sub-committee of one to receive it and make it public—Voorhis said:

"If anything in the world is undemocratic, certainly this procedure is.

NO BUSINESS OF COMMITTEE

"I am utterly unable to see what business a committee on un-American activities has defending advertising as such, regardless of its merits, or attacking consumers counsels or casting discredit upon a properly filed complaint of the Federal Trade Commission against a powerful magazine." Here Voorhis was referring to the FTC's action against Good Housekeeping, a Hearst property.

The organizations "condemned" by Matthews included practically the entire range of consumer groups. Denounced by the Dies research head were Consumers Union, Inc.; the Consumers' Counsel of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture; the Natl. Consumers Federation; the League of Women Shoppers and a number of other local organizations.

DENIALS FLOOD WASHINGTON

No sooner had Matthews' report been made public than denials began to pour into Washington from all the groups mentioned.

Arthur Kallet of Consumers Union said the "most shocking aspect" of the Matthews' charges was the fact that he has been an executive of Consumers Research, Inc., a competitor of Consumers Union, and was apparently using his government position to "injure those who have come into conflict with him in the past."

Consumers Union was formed after a strike at Consumers' Research, during which Matthews was an active foe of the union.

Tennessee Miners Keep Up Heroic Strike For Contract

VANN JONES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Down in the Ducktown basin, where the Tennessee Copper Co. pulls fabulous profits out of the earth, CIO miners and smelter workers have been on strike since July, 1939. They aren't asking for anything very exorbitant; all they want is conditions and relations on the job they used to have before the AFL came along.

Vann D. Jones, member of the Executive Board of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, told the story to THE CIO NEWS when he was here for the southern organizing conference this week. It's a story of patience and solidarity, of faith and hope in the CIO—and utter treason on the part of the AFL.

It goes back to 1933, before there was a CIO, when the workers in the basin started a local of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Union. Unionism was in the air then, conditions were bad, the AFL leaders had still greater depths of treachery left to sink into, and the new local got a contract, without too much trouble.

Under the contract, relations were good and conditions considerably improved. They stayed that way until 1937. In the meantime, the CIO was founded, with the Mine, Mill union one of the founding fathers, AFL leaders embarked on their policy of splitting the labor movement, and orders went out to attack the CIO wherever possible.

BACK TO WORK

The contract came up for renewal in 1937. The company stalled. The union asked for and won an election. In 1939, after waiting a year and three quarters, the local went out on strike, as it had to or face annihilation. Immediately the AFL got to work, for the company. A Federal labor union of foremen and strawbosses was chartered, its president one Dalton, foreman. Its first act was to start a back-to-work movement on the familiar strikebreaking lines. A 25-foot sign stretched across the main street read: "We Solicit Membership of All Who Wish to Return to Work."

The company brought in close to 300 gun thugs and professional strikebreakers, bringing them in violation of Federal law across state lines. They took over the YMCA for barracks.

Workers' homes were raided, picket lines constantly assaulted, union meeting places boarded up, strikers framed on false charges. (Dalton, company foreman and president of the local AFL, is also justice of the peace, before whom CIO strikers come.)

JAIL RECORDS

Two of the scabs have Federal prison records, Vann Jones said, and one of them was sentenced again while on strikebreaking duty. Others are notorious gun toters, bad men, scum of the big cities. The strikers, incidentally, are pure native-born American whites—the kind that Chamber of Commerce speakers and experts on Americanism like to praise in their speeches.

The AFL is an out-and-out company union in the basin, Jones said. "I've had plenty of experience with company outfits," he told The CIO NEWS. "This is the most flagrant case I've ever seen, and the blame lies right at the door of the leadership of the AFL. They came in with one purpose, to smash the CIO and tear down the conditions we had won.

"The CIO workers aren't cracking. Spirit and solidarity are 100 per cent. We'll go back into that plant with CIO banners flying. And we'll teach the AFL and the employers that even the vilest treachery and bad faith can't win.

"We know that workers throughout the whole South are watching our struggle. They're watching to see whether the CIO will win for the working men and women who fill its ranks. They won't be disappointed."

Discuss Plans For Campaign In South

Continued from Page Three

tile as members. The committee was instructed to meet at the earliest possible date to map out the campaign.

CIO GUIDANCE

Many of the delegates, notably Noel Beddow of Steel in Alabama, Yelverton Cowherd, regional director in Louisana, Ray Thomason, Virginia, and others, pointed out the vital importance of CIO guidance in the campaigns. Together with this guidance from CIO, educational work and a wide publicity campaign were stressed by Roy Lawrence, Textile southern director.

AID FOR UCWOC

The basic problem, according to CIO Vice-President Emil Rieve, was "to organize the workers into the CIO. Other problems press heavily on our work in the South. Their solution will come as we organize, not before. We all know the South's problems. They can only be met by building strong CIO unions."

A. D. Lewis, chairman of the Construction Workers Organizing Committee, urged the delegates to renewed efforts in building the newest CIO affiliate, started, he said, "for precisely the same reason the other CIO unions were set up, to organize the unorganized."

Director Haywood, closing the conference, reminded the delegates that the job of organizing the South "can't be done by a national office alone. We need and must have the cooperation of all the men in the field. We've got good men, and I know that good will come from this conference. You're noticing your problems now, because you're organizing.

"When we have organized still more, our enemies will respect us even more than they do today. I know we can organize the South, in spite of the obstacles we have to face. We've done it in other sections. With hard work and cooperation we can do it anywhere we try."

Southern Kidnaping Exposed

Washington, Dec. 16.—Kidnaping and beating is the answer of one Southern employer to a CIO investigation of his habit of firing union members, Noel Beddow, Steel Workers Organizing Committee official in Alabama, reported here.

Beddow told THE CIO NEWS the latest example of anti-union tactics when he showed a letter from O. S. Baxter, sub-regional SWOC director, detailing an account of a beating he received at the Johnson Mfg. Co. in Jefferson City, Tenn.

SEIZED BY 25 MEN

Baxter was investigating the firing of the union men when he was seized by a gang of 25, taken to an outlying road, severly kicked and punched, and told to get out of town for his health.

Incidentally, the CIO is not stopped by such receptions, Beddow said. In another company, the Combustion Engineering Corp., a new contract covering 300 workers in one shop has been signed, giving 100 per cent union recognition, wage raises and other gains.

CORNELIUS PRINTING CO.

Printers for INTERNATIONAL UNIONS for more than 30 Years
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
SILVER SPRINGS, MD.

CIO — UNION MADE
HOSIERY
FULL FASHIONED • SHEER
LISLES • RAYONS
Write: Adler's Hosiery
Room 505—799 Bdwy., N.Y.C.
DISCOUNT TO UNION MEMBERS

UNION SHOP PRINTING FOR CIO UNIONS
MID-CITY PRESS
NEWSPAPERS — LEAFLETS
JOBWORK — PUBLISHING
N. E. Cor. 9th & Spruce Streets
Philadelphia, Pa.

There's POWER in a label!

MILLIONS of organized workers stand behind the union label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America. Your demand for the Amalgamated label will lend added strength to the cause of organized labor. There's power for working men in the label of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America!

The Amalgamated Label Appears on All—

Men's and Boys' Clothing | Shirts | Work Clothes & Overalls | Gloves | Neckwear

Demand the Amalgamated Label!

LARGEST PRODUCER OF ROUGH ROLLED GLASS
MISSISSIPPI
GLASS COMPANY
220 FIFTH AVE.
NEW YORK

Unions Rally To Building Drive

By CECIL OWEN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16—Strength of the entire CIO was mobilized this week behind the drive to organize the construction industry on an industrial union basis.

Wholehearted response came from CIO internationals, councils and regional offices, to recent letters from Chairman A. D. Lewis of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee. The letters outlined specific methods of cooperation.

Several CIO internationals advised that their executive boards were acting on the programs proposed. Hundreds of letters were going forward from International Unions to their locals giving instructions on how to assist the drive in the construction industry.

Union journals were brought into the program and carried special articles, featuring the recent letter of President John L. Lewis, on various aspects of the UCWOC campaign.

AID TO INDUSTRY

The fact that CIO unions produce virtually all the materials that enter into construction gave added impetus to the desire of the entire CIO to assist in bringing industrial unionism to the construction industry. Failure of construction so far to provide homes at reasonable costs for CIO members was another powerful factor behind the CIO emphasis on reorganizing this laggard section of industry.

Millions of Americans, including the bulk of CIO membership, are in the income groups not being provided with proper housing by either government or private industry under existing programs. An aggressive drive to lower construction costs, in which labor is a key factor, is demanded by the CIO.

HOMES FOR ALL

The CIO efforts look toward housing not alone for city dwellers but also for those workers who live in mining centers, textile mill towns, and rural areas, which have been neglected by past efforts in this field. The housing situation in those areas has long been acute.

Greet Chilean Visitors

LOOKING THINGS OVER in this country are leaders of the Confederation of Chilean Workers (C. T. Ch.). They're shown here during a visit to the offices of the CIO. Left to right: Allen S. Haywood, director of organization; Mrs. Bernardo Ibanez; Bernardo Ibanez, head of the C. T. Ch.; Miss Kathryn Lewis, secretary of the CIO Committee on Latin-American relations; and Salvador Ocanpo, assistant head of the C. T. Ch.

Chilean Labor Leaders Describe Struggle To Free Workers From Feudalism

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16. — Two young leaders of labor in a South American nation, where 28c-a-week wages are not uncommon, appealed to the CIO this week for moral support in their struggle to better conditions.

Introduced to CIO officials by Miss Kathryn Lewis at a luncheon under the auspices of the CIO Latin-American Relations Committee, the South Americans won immediate sympathy to their cause. The pair—Bernardo Ibanez and Salvador Ocanpo, president and assistant president of the Confederation of Chilean Workers — related with grim sincerity the bitter status of the working population in their country, and told of their aspirations for improvement with the cooperation of the Chilean people's front government.

LIKE NEW DEAL

In introducing the guests—who came to Washington following the inter-American labor conference at Havana—Miss Lewis told of the red smear campaign against the Chilean government, which actually, she asserted, is much like our own New Deal.

Senor Ibanez told his hosts that Chile's present government is the first liberal regime in the nation's 400-year history.

"For over 100 years of our life as an independent country," he said, "we have been under the tutelage of a succession of conservative governments which favored a policy of putting natural resources in the hands of foreign capital, while exploiting the workers at home."

Chile's two big industries are nitrates and copper. Both are owned and controlled by foreign companies, which have little use for the present government or its progressive policies.

"Kathryn Lewis has had an opportunity to see the extremely low wages, to see the bad homes in which the workers live, the conditions of undernourishment and poor clothing," Ibanez said.

UNIONS GROW

In recent years, he continued, the Confederation of Chilean Workers has succeeded in enrolling 300,000 of the nation's 350,000 industrial workers, and of securing certain favorable legislation for the unions. Despite the fact that under Chile's semi-fascist "Labor Code" — which the government has not yet got around to changing — industrial unionism is forbidden, the workers have managed to win wage increases from the big copper and nitrate interests. In all, a $3,000,000 increase over 11 months has been gained.

"But our country is essentially agricultural," Ibanez explained. "Most of the population is employed on big estates. Some 700,000 workers live on farms owned by only 500 families, and the conditions are feudal.

4c-A-DAY WAGES

"The workers on these estates have incredibly low wage levels. A majority of these 700,000 farmers and workers receive between 4c and 8c a day."

In the past, Senor Ibanez related, the industrial workers have had a difficult time in getting together with their brothers on the farms.

"Our aim," he said, "is to establish an industrial union like the CIO and bring the farm workers into the sphere of organized labor. We are engaged in a struggle to bring at least an elementary education to the thousands of people, who have been practically outside the realm of civilization."

MANY WORKERS KILLED

Salvador Ocanpo, like Ibanez, just 37 years old, and a veteran of the linotypers' union, described the reaction which had held Chilean labor in its clutches for many years.

From 1930 to 1936, he said, "15,000 members and 400 leaders of labor, were shot." Now, with the People's Front Government helping the cause of the workers, Chile is faced with Tory enemies both outside its boundaries and at home. He pleaded for support of the Chilean government by the democratic forces in the United States, and described the CIO as a force for progress throughout all Latin America.

In welcoming the guests, Allan S. Haywood, CIO director of organization, told of American workers' wish to "cooperate with the Latin American republics."

"Labor in the western hemisphere can be an example for the remainder of the world by cementing present peaceful relationships," Haywood declared. "We want closer collaboration with you and we stand ready to cooperate with you on all problems of national interest."

Senor Ibanez, his wife and Senor Ocanpo, were guests at the CIO southern conference the same day. Later they returned to New York preparatory to returning to their native country.

Danger

ISADOR LUBIN, U. S. Dept. of Labor statistician, who warned that prolongation of the war will raise prices, may cause "painful economic adjustments in the U. S."

Retail Union Sets Drive For Members

Continued from Page Three

fensive the employers will take with improvement in business.

"There has been so much improvement of business that leaders of the National Association of Manufacturers are again ready to throw their crutches at the doctor who was able to heal their wounds.

"There is only one way to give everyone an opportunity to work —by increasing the purchasing power of the millions."

WELCOMED TO DETROIT

The convention, first CIO convention to be held here, was given an enthusiastic welcome by the powerful labor movement of Detroit.

President R. J. Thomas of the UAW-CIO promised that in their organizational drive in the retail stores of Detroit, they would have the full support of 200,000 auto workers.

Regional Director August Scholle opened the convention and assisted President Wolchok as chairman throughout the sessions.

FOR PEACE

"While we hope and pray for the triumph of forces of light and democracy in Europe, we cannot aid this victory by entering the bloody inferno," President Wolchok said. "I do not believe that America's entry into this war would achieve international democracy. We must work and pray that we neither today nor in the future shall be confronted with this ugliness."

BROPHY SPEAKS

John Brophy, director of local industrial unions, also stressed the need for America to stay out of war.

"We condemn the brutality of a Nazi Germany on the march and we condemn a Soviet Union turned imperialistic," he said. "We want peace for America and for the world."

HAYWOOD'S PLEA

CIO Organizational Director Allan S. Haywood made a plea for reaching the 10,000,000 goal set at the CIO convention.

Pointing to the various reactionary forces moving into action throughout the nation, he said, "We've got to tighten up our belts and fight for industrial unionism. If you get out and organize 6,000,000 more members, you won't have to beg for peace in the labor movement — you'll command peace."

Pres. Wolchok also reported that membership had grown greatly since the last convention and the union has locals in 37 states. Wage increases of nearly $2,000,000 in the department store field alone have been won in the last year, he said.

The President recommended intensified activity in the three main divisions of the union — department stores, wholesale and warehouse, and chain stores.

Labor Board 'Probers' Hear Anti-CIO Fables

Continued from Page Three

obvious untruthfulness of the statement contained in the memorandum of Phillips.

"I wish also to protest the unfairness of your committee in permitting the public villification of my character and that of the United Mine Workers of America, particularly so when the only basis consists of the unsolicited use of my name on a piece of paper found in somebody's files. I am sending this telegram to be made a part of your committee record."

Stumbling block to Toland's attempted anti-CIO campaign, however, was Cong. Abe Murdock of Utah, longtime liberal and friend of labor who is a member of the investigating committee.

As Ozanic spun his fanciful tales about the United Mine Workers, Murdock interrupted with questions obviously annoying to the AFL stooge. Ozanic objected to the miners signing an industry-wide contract, and to the Labor Board's certifying multi-plant or multi-mine groups as collective bargaining units.

But, Murdock pointed out, Ozanic's own group has a contract with an Illinois operators' association, just as the UMW has on a larger scale.

OZANIC WILTS

Ozanic wilted further when Murdock recalled a resolution passed by nine AFL mine locals in Collinsville, Ill., last January, which defended the Wagner Act against amendments desired by "reactionary organizations." Ozanic alibied that he had not heard about that.

The Labor Reader:

National Health

By C. W. FOWLER

The health of the United States, despite cheerful speeches and Chamber of Commerce publicity, is not good. Needless sickness, disability and premature death are the lot of millions of American people. The workers and farmers suffer especially—to a degree that would startle the most optimistic, if it were fully known.

Most of the suffering is needless, brought on by economic and social conditions rather than by fate, as John A. Kingsbury, author of "Health in Handcuffs," points out. "We pay too heavy a price," he writes, "in loss of money, economic strength, vigor, intellectual force, social security and human happiness, for needless sickness and disability.

"In every community, whether in the city or on the farm, in the North or in the South, pain and suffering and premature death cry shame to our civilization. We can afford good health for everyone; we cannot afford not to have it. A health program for our democracy is a challenge to our statesmanship."

A MATTER OF ECONOMICS

This is not the fault of the science of medicine. Diseases that lay low our people are not incurable. The fault lies with the distribution of medical service, with the distribution of income needed to buy that service—with the fact that medical service is sold in America as motor cars and groceries are sold, on a strictly cash basis. No money, no automobile, and, according to author Kingsbury—no money, no health. For example:

Seventeen million people live in communities without hospital service of any kind, other millions can't afford those that exist, free clinics are utterly inadequate for those that live in communities equipped with hospitals. How does this happen? According to Kingsbury, it happens for a very basic and simple reason—these millions of people lack the money to buy medical service.

Forty million people live in families with an income of less than $800 per year. Half of them get sick each year, one-fifth seriously so. Of the seriously ill, Kingsbury says, close to half will get no medical attention whatever.

The kids suffer most. Of all U. S. children, six in 1,000 are crippled by diseases that could be cured or alleviated with proper care. One per cent have curable heart disease. One-third have bad eyesight, two-thirds have had bad teeth, five per cent are deaf—all curable, with proper care and adequate diet.

A PROGRAM FOR HEALTH

The United States cannot afford this huge wastage of human resources, as Kingsbury points out and every authority agrees. At a rough estimate, our neglect of the national health costs us more than $10,000,000,000 annually—almost as much as the Federal budget.

Yet little is done. We have no national health insurance. Medical service is still a cash commodity distributed on a scarcity basis. And the American Medical Assn., dominated by the most Tory wing of the profession, proposes to keep it so.

The AMA, Kingsbury declares, has functioned in this country to keep the advances of medical science away from the people. It has fought every attempt to spread medical benefits to the vast majority in the lower income groups. It opposed the Wagner National Health Bill, a small beginning at a program. It has fought every kind of group health scheme so far put forward—to the point where the U. S. Dept. of Justice has indicted it as a monopoly "in restraint of trade."

NECESSARY STEPS

The necessary program, as put forward by Kingsbury, would provide increased hospitals, maternal and child health services, health insurance, greater public health service, and a medical economics that would bring health to those most needing it and least able to pay. Over a period of years, it would cost $200,000,000—less than the price of three good battleships.

Such a program has been endorsed by the CIO at two conventions as a minimum. On its realization depends a beginning toward health for the American people—the workers and farmers who make up the nation and who today cannot buy the benefits that medical science has made available—at a price.

"Health in Handcuffs," by John A. Kingsbury; 210 pages, Modern Age Books, price 75 cents.

Say U. S. Maritime Body Sacrifices Seamen's Jobs

New York, Dec. 16 — U. S. Maritime Commission policy of allowing diversion of American tourist cruise business to foreign ships while American boats lie idle and seamen are on the beach was sharply criticized today by Joseph Curran, CIO Natl. Maritime Union president.

Two large U. S. ships are now lying idle in New York docks, Curran said, while two foreign ships are busy booking passengers for a West Indies cruise. When the NMU proposed to use U. S. ships tied up by the neutrality revision for such business, the Maritime Commission declared it was "impossible," Curran pointed out.

"Now, it appears," he said, "that it was impossible for American ships, manned by NMU seamen, but possible for foreign ships.

"If the Washington and the Manhattan are put back into service, between 1,100 and 1,200 seamen would be reemployed. Also some $300,000 in American money, which will be turned over to foreign companies under the present arrangement, would be kept in this country."

State of Indiana Backs Strikers In 'Death Mill' Struggle

EAST CHICAGO, Ind., Dec. 16.—State support for the grim "men against death" strike at the Harbison-Walker Refractories Co. plant came today as union leaders compiled evidence revealing managers of the plant as callous to the fatal menace of silicosis.

After meeting with officials of Local 12,120, District 50, United Mine Workers, and management representatives, State Labor Commissioner Thomas Hutson declared:

"I wish it to be understood that the dust issue is no longer an issue in these negotiations (for a contract). The State of Indiana shall insist that the working conditions in this plant shall be corrected.

ULTIMATUM

"It makes no difference what decision is reached or what compromises are made, the company will not be allowed to operate this plant until it is made safe for the men to work in.

"Furthermore the State will insist that accredited engineers shall be called in for a survey of the plant. On the basis of their survey a code shall be set up to immediately put into effect preventative measures, so that such a situation as here exists shall not again occur in Indiana."

35 DEATHS

The commissioner's support for the union demands followed submission by Rudy Hanson, District 50 organizer, of statistics showing:

1. **35 attested silicosis deaths in the plant in 12 years.**
2. **Evidence that the Harbison-Walker Co. evaded the state occupational disease law.**
3. **Illegal refusal by the company to pay compensation in 13 cases to widows of men who had died of silicosis or tuberculosis.**

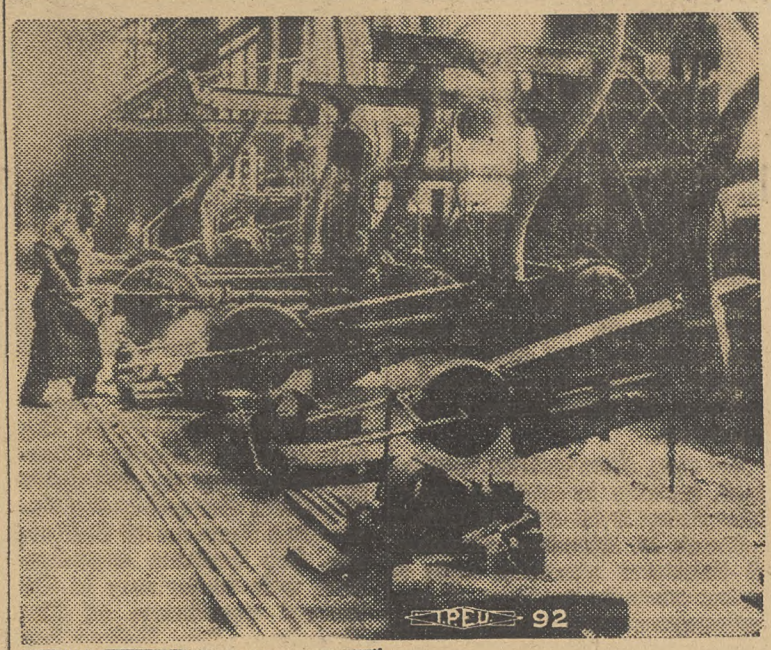
Every one of these widows was entitled to 300 weeks' compensation, Hanson said, and before the men died they were entitled to 500 weeks' compensation.

COMPANY STUBBORN

At the same time, Hanson sent copies of agreements and releases which the company had forced the men to sign when it was found they were "dusted"—ill with silicosis.

In negotiations with the union strike committee, while Huston and his assistant sat in, the company flatly refused the strikers' proposals for a 5c hourly wage increase and vacations with pay. Instead, it offered a scattering of small wage increases throughout the plant.

Negotiations broke off when the company turned down a compromise 2½c - wage raise suggested by the state labor commissioner, and so the strike continues into its sixth week.



SILICOSIS UNDER CONTROL: Big suction tubes draw off metal particles, protect workers in this steel foundry shop (above). NO PROTECTION: This worker (at left) operates a dry jack hammer drill. Without dust control or respirators, he is in danger of contracting lung disease.

(Pictures courtesy of Dept. of Labor)

Tell Labor Dept.'s Fight Against Diseases

In Philadelphia, not long ago, a worker in a printing establishment died of benzol poisoning.

In New York State's Labor Department, the experts in the Industrial Hygiene Division heard reports of the case; learned that it had been traced to a new fast-drying ink containing benzol, which is known for its poisonous effects. So they checked at once to see whether these new inks were being used in New York printing establishments. In three large plants, the same inks were in use. One man, from one of those plants, had already died of acute benzol poisoning.

MADE EXAMINATION

The Industrial Hygiene Division got busy. It has the habit and experience of working with both employers' and labor organizations in the industry. It made physical examinations of all the workers in the three plants. The examinations showed again the danger of the benzol-containing inks. The Division recommended discontinuing the use of these inks, and the employers agreed to do that.

At a union meeting, the Director of the Industrial Hygiene unit explained to the men the danger they were exposed to, and what was being done to fight it. One worker had died, but others who needed medical care or hospitalization got it, and soon they were back on their feet. None of them lost their jobs. Many lives were saved.

NEW BOOKLET

That was all in the day's routine for the doctors, chemists and engineers of the New York Department of Labor, whose work is described in "The Work of an Industrial Hygiene Division in a State Department of Labor," a new pamphlet issued by the Division of Labor Standards of the U. S. Department of Labor. Written in non-technical language, this pamphlet is available without charge from the Division of Labor Standards, Department of Labor, Washington.

The varied activities of the Industrial Hygiene Division include checking up on new industrial diseases, tracing them to their source; developing safe production methods to protect workers. The Industrial Hygiene Division assists committees of labor and industry representatives, who formulate safety codes for industrial operations in specific trades.

Its laboratories test air samples, or chemical and physical substances that workers are exposed to. It tests safety devices both in the laboratory and under actual working conditions. It sits in on workmen's compensation cases, furnishing the medical opinion that is not only impartial but expert in diagnosing the worker's condition and determining whether or not it resulted from exposure during employment.

Ohio CIO Demands Bricker Act In Crisis

Seek Legislative Session; Cities In Distress

CIO Demands

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Dec. 16 —Ohio CIO leaders today reiterated their demand that Republican Gov. John Bricker call a special session of the legislature to deal with the state's relief emergency.

Leaders of the Ohio Industrial Union Council, of which John Owens is president, announced plans to contact members of the legislature to explain labor's views about the relief crisis, and to enlist the support of clergymen in their anti-starvation campaign.

City officials said that while the present crisis had abated somewhat, more emergencies would occur if the governor does not retreat from his position that the municipalities have exhausted all methods of raising funds for the jobless.

Union and municipal officials say that the cities are unable to take any action because of the condition of their finances, and that further help must come from the state government.

Cities Hit

Toledo, Dec. 16. (FP)—In Cleveland 60,000 reliefers subsist on flour and apples. In Toledo, needy families are scavenging among the city refuse for food. Hundreds of communities large and small report financial distress.

Schools are closed. WPA projects are being pared for lack of matching funds. The rising business index has had thus far no tangible relation to the pressing problems of unemployment and starvation.

But Gov. John Bricker, Republican, replying to criticism, says: "Everything is all right in Ohio."

George B. Chandler, Chamber of Commerce executive, adds a piping contralto measure of encouragement: "Ohio is in excellent shape. It is a step toward turning back the responsibility for poor relief to the local districts where it belongs. That is local self-government at its best."

Toledo's city council is wondering how to raise money to stem a growing tide of evictions. Hundreds of needy families are without funds to meet rent payments. Before relief was stopped last September, the city was giving rent relief to 792 families. The need of rent relief is greater than ever at present, but no one knows where money to meet this emergency can be raised.

SCHOOLS AFFECTED

Grocers are suing the city to recover $560,000 for food advanced on relief orders issued in the past. The board of education, which closed the schools on Thanksgiving, is considering the possibility of a 32-week term next year, and of lopping off medical, kindergarten and other departments—once the boast of the Toledo school system.

In its progress towards pauperization, Toledo rehearses in its small way the experiences of the state at large, whose relief load stands at 100,000 cases as compared with 82,700 a year ago. WPA trimmed its payroll for the state from 267,900 persons a year ago to 137,200 at present, forcing added thousands on relief.

But Bricker continues his defiance of the demand by the cities for a special session of the legislature to study the situation and act. "Everything is all right in Ohio," is his happy watchword.

Civil Rights Probe Opens

THE MOMENT WEST COAST LABOR HAD BEEN WAITING FOR: The Senate Civil Liberties Committee hearing on civil rights violations charged to the Associated Farmers of California, big business organization, gets under way in the federal courthouse at San Francisco. Sen. Robert La-Follette (center) and Sen. Elbert Thomas (left) preside. Lower picture shows Sen. Thomas and Henry Fowler, chief counsel for the committee, talking over a point at issue.

Marine Union Will Appeal Decision

New York, Dec. 16 — A new decision by the Labor Board on the Calmar case, by which the Board ruled that union men could be legally discharged for membership in the Natl. Maritime Union, will be appealed to the courts, the CIO seamens' union announced here.

Some of the men were fired for a sitdown strike in 1937, the NMU said, and the remainder for membership in the union, the employer taking the position that there was a justified "fear" of the union.

"The injection of the 'fear' principle into a case of this kind," NMU President Joseph Curran declared, "is a violation of a fundamental concept of Anglo-Saxon common law. It opens the way to all sorts of strange and uncanny 'fears' of trade-unionism by labor-hating employers. Certainly if an employer's fear of strikes is ground for firing employes, no union can exist.

Furniture Union Marks Birthday

New York, Dec. 16 — Congratulations from affiliated local unions all over the country were sent to the national office of the United Furniture Workers, CIO, this week on the occasion of the second birthday of the union.

Local 34, Jamestown, N. Y., pledged "continued support of the program of UFWA to bring better wages and conditions to the workers of our industry."

Philadelphia Local 37, commended the international union on "its completion of two years of energetic and fruitful work on behalf of the exploited workers in the furniture industry", and Local 45B, New York, voiced its appreciation of "the benefits of a vast international union" and gave as its motto, "the CIO slogan of ten million by '44".

From Columbiana, Ohio, came a telegram of salutations to President Morris Muster and all the officers of the UFWA, whose "leadership and success have led us in the right direction of a bigger and better union and greater understanding.

Form Steel Council

Sydney, Nova Scotia, Dec. 16 —A joint council of Steel Workers Organizing Committee lodges has been formed in the province's steel industry. The council was organized to "promote workmanship, education and organization among the workers."

Three lodges comprise the council which will act as spokesman for some 4,500 workers in Nova Scotia's steel industry.

Mine Union Leader Elected in Nova Scotia

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 16.—Direct political action by CIO workers in Nova Scotia has just sent Douglas McDonald to the provincial legislature in a decisive victory for labor at the polls.

McDonald is New Waterford Sub-District Board Member of the United Mine Workers of America.

The contest was the first in Nova Scotia since District 26 of the U.M.W. in convention at Truro in August, 1938, affiliated with the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation party.

The seat was formerly held by Hon. Michael Dwyer, minister of mines, who resigned to become president of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company, thereby necessitating a by-election.

Victory of the Labor-CCF candidate over two opponents drew from Federal CCF leader J. S. Woodsworth the statement that "McDonald's election undoubtedly will mean that the working people, who are in a great majority in that section of Cape Breton, will have a real voice in governing themselves."

Tory 'Farmers' Declare War On All Unions

STOCKTON, Calif., Dec. 16. — The Associated Farmers, big-business controlled vigilante outfit, has declared formal war on organized labor.

Announcing a determination to branch out from California into the national political arena, the annual convention of the outfit came forward with a program for outlawing, among other things, the five-day week, closed shop, hiring halls, secondary boycotts and the naming of hot cargoes.

In a flock of resolutions which ran the whole gaunt of reactionary emotions, Associated Farmers charged that the Labor Board is "nothing but a tool of the CIO"; accused liberal Gov. Olson of selling out to "subversive interests" because he is trying to help the migratory farm workers; and censured the state employment service for refusing tc act as a scab agency.

TIED TO BOSSES

New evidence of the close tie-up between the AF and the big anti-union industrial interests of West Coast cities came in the election of Hank Strobel as new president.

Strobel, who won his spurs by organizing unprecedented violence during the 1936 Salinas lettuce strike, declared:

"I would be derelict in my duty if I did not extend thanks to employer groups in metropolitan areas, who time and again have rendered valuable aid to our committees."

League Unit Opposes Tory For Bench

Barre, Vt., Dec. 16—Vigorous opposition to the suggested appointment of either James Leamy of Rutland, Matthew Leary or Joseph McNamara of Burlington to succeed Judge Harland B. Howe, slated for retirement from the U. S. District Court of Vermont, was expressed in a telegram sent to President Roosevelt by the Washington County unit of Labor's Non-Partisan League.

The League is backing John A. Gordon, who has consistently supported the cause of labor in Vermont. The telegram was signed by League Chairman John A. Lawson, who is also secretary-treasurer of the Quarry Workers International Union, CIO, and Secretary James F. Christie.

"Mr. Gordon has consistently supported the New Deal and the President," the telegram said. "He has fought for progressive legislation and supported the interests of the working people of Vermont."

U. S. Pledges Aid To Ohio Jobless

See Story Page Five

NATIONAL EDITION

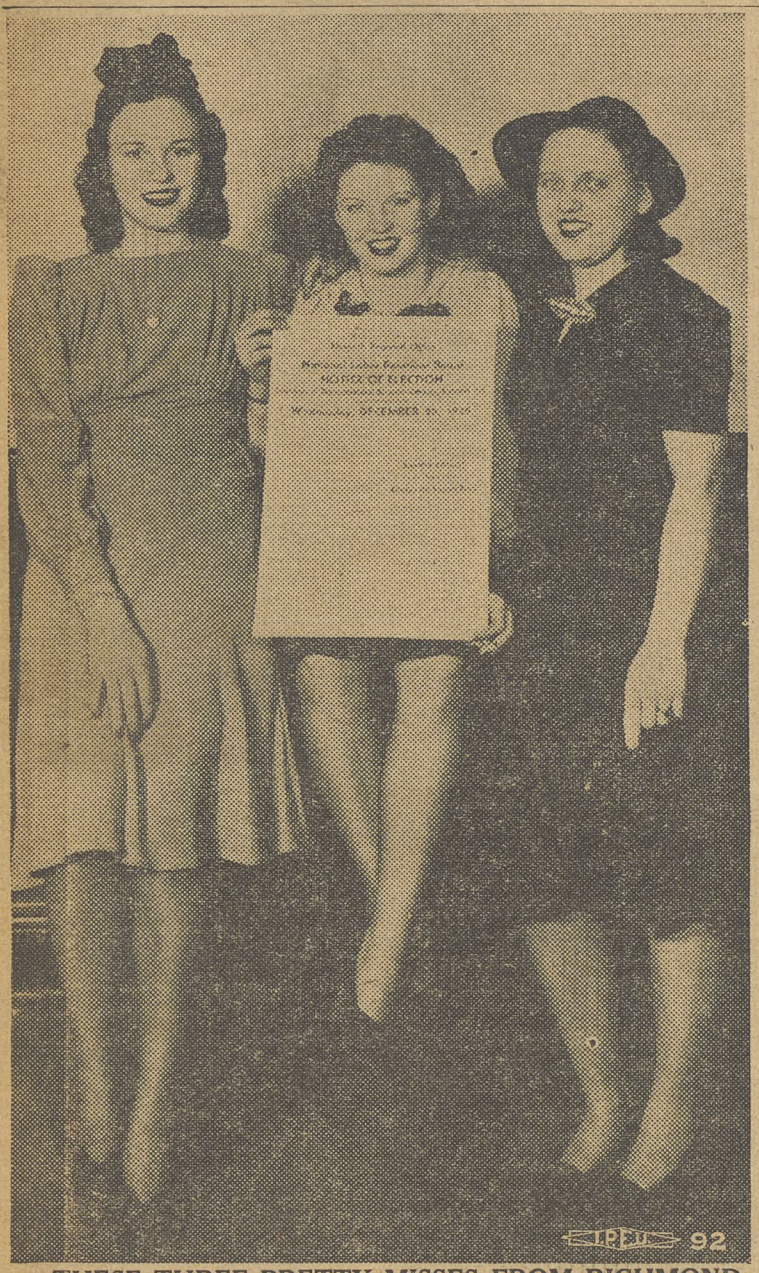
THE CIO NEWS

NATIONAL EDITION

Official Weekly Publication of the Congress of Industrial Organizations

Vol. II — No. 52 (20) Send Form 3578-P to 1106 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. DECEMBER 25, 1939 Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912 $1 a Year, 3c a Copy

ACT FOR WORKERS, CIO ASKS CONGRESS



THESE THREE PRETTY MISSES FROM RICHMOND, IND., seem mighty pleased with the Labor Board order for an election at the Intl. Harvester Co. plant in their home town. The vote resulted in victory for the CIO Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee. Left to right: Katheleen Lee, Ruth Neeley and Helen Moss, all union boosters.

New Legislative Program Urges Jobs, Peace, Civil, Rights Protection

(See Story on Page 3; Full Text on Page 5)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23—The CIO, through Pres. John L. Lewis, today pressed forward its legislative program for the coming session of Congress—a program aimed at keeping the nation out of foreign wars, while tackling the unemployment problem and other basic domestic needs.

Drawn up by the CIO legislative committee, which met in Washington last week for the purpose, the program is a clarion call to all progressive groups throughout the country.

Highlights of the program follow:

EUROPEAN WAR: "There can be no justification for the U. S. being dragged into the quarrels of foreign nations . . . Congress must not permit any policy . . . which may in any way lead toward involvement of the U. S. . . ."

RECOMMEND CONFERENCE

UNEMPLOYMENT: "There cannot be any permanent prosperity or industrial peace in this country as long as we have staring us in the face the misery and suffering of 9,500,000 unemployed people." Recommends national conference, immediate minimum of 3,000,000 federal aid jobs.

WORKERS' RIGHTS: Three changes in Wagner Act to strengthen it, criminal penalties and end to government contracts for violators, end to Labor Board tactics of splitting industrial unions. Passage of LaFollette-Thomas bill to outlaw labor spies, professional finks, strikebreakers.

WAGES AND HOURS: No amendments, since they are proposed by employers "using the guise of farmers to exclude" industrial workers.

BETTER SOCIAL SECURITY LAWS

SOCIAL SECURITY: Must be broadened to "provide protection for the American people against the inevitable hazards of modern industrial life" and to spread "excess national wealth and income."

HOUSING, HEALTH: One million new housing units per year, 300,000 built by Federal government. A national health and industrial hygiene program.

TAXATION: Basic changes in present tax policy, to take burden from backs of workers and consumers. "The national economy can never be healthy until a real and substantial adjustment is made in our tax structure."

Inside The News

Mourned by All

was Pres. Heywood Broun of the American Newspaper Guild, whose death at the age of 51 shocked newsmen, unionists and liberals throughout the nation.

SEE PAGE TWO

Compensation

plans for jobless workers in the various states stand in need of lots of improvement, CIO Pres. John L. Lewis wrote to Sec. of Labor Frances Perkins.

SEE PAGE THREE

Daily Duds

dropped from the Smith Committee investigation of the Labor Board.

SEE PAGE SEVEN

Plan Maritime Drive On Great Lakes

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 23.—National Maritime Union organizing forces will be concentrated in a Great Lakes organizing drive next season, according to Joseph Curran, NMU president, in his closing speech to the Great Lakes NMU conference just concluded here.

The union, Curran said, was in better shape than ever before, having weathered all the attacks of a combined employer-stool pigeon—government agency assault unequalled in labor history.

"The NMU is in deep water and sailing ahead weathering two years of the worst attacks any union ever faced," he said. "First the shipowners tried to break us from the inside. This failed when their disrupters were ousted. Then the Maritime Commission and the Bureau of Navigation tried to destroy us—and failed."

The AFL did its bit too, Curran declared, when, after wailing about CIO "dualism," top AFL leaders chartered Lundberg's splinter outfit from the wreckage of the old and discredited Intl. Seamens Union under the romantic name of Seafarers Intl. Union.

DR. R. L. ADAMS, west coast economist, who told the LaFollette Committee hearings in San Francisco about general aspects of California's farm problem, prior to the Committee's inquiry into practices of reactionary Associated Farmers, Inc.

Who Backs 'Associated Farmers'?

(See Story Page 8)

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 23—Who supports the reactionary "Associated Farmers," which is now planning a drive to spread its anti-union organization throughout the country?

LaFollette Committee investigators, checking into the outfits finances, learned that contributions between 1934-39 amounted to $77,941.51.

Leading contributors among the "farmers" were the Southern Pacific and Santa Fe railroads, the Pacific Gas & Electric Co., the San Francisco Industrial Assn., Southern Californians, Inc., three big oil companies, four banks, the Canners League of California, the Dried Fruits Assns. and three large sugar companies.

Nation's Newsmen Mourn Death of Broun

Took Greatest Pride In Aid To Guild

(Special to The CIO NEWS)

NEW YORK, Dec. 23—Heywood Broun regarded the American Newspaper Guild as his one enduring work. His death, at the age of 51, came six years and three days after he was elected the first president of the Guild, at its constitutional meeting in Washington, on Dec. 15, 1933. The vote was 22 to 16.

There was a contest for the office then, but none at the six succeeding conventions. The election of President Broun by acclamation had become a matter of routine which left its imprint of harmony and good will on all delegates on the final day of the sessions.

Upon his death editorial writers commented on Broun the first, the man who was a brilliant sports writer, drama critic and essayist; and Broun the second, the fighting liberal dating from his columns on the Sacco-Vanzetti case. Heywood Broun himself would have eagerly pointed out to them Broun the third, the man they passed up. This was Broun the labor leader, the president of an international union and member of the executive board of the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

COLUMN WAS MILEPOST

If his columns can be regarded as career mileposts, then one he wrote for the Aug. 7, 1933 World-Telegram marked the appearance of Broun the labor leader. In this he quoted at length from a letter, supposedly from an unemployed reporter, who wrote of newspapers boosting the NRA and themselves cheating NRA aims, and of newspapermen working for romance, a byline and pat on the back while their families starved.

The column concluded with this paragraph:

"But the fact that newspaper editors and owners are genial folk should hardly stand in the way of the organization of a newspaper writers' union. There should be one. Beginning at nine o'clock on the morning of October 1st, I am going to do the best I can to help in getting one up . . ."

Little more than a year later the ANG was engaged in its first major strike, against the Newark Ledger, and Broun was spending hours on the picket line, in the courts and on other fronts in that 19 weeks' fight.

PUBLISHERS SCOFFED

Publishers and editors who promoted the conception of Broun as a genial dilletante, once regarded his espousal of the Guild cause as a brief cycle in the life of a "crusader." Roy Howard, Broun's employer on the Scripps-Howard newspapers, warned a staff meeting at the World-Telegram in 1934 not to be "misled" into the Guild by Broun — he was a fly-by-night fellow lacking the ability to maintain interest in any one project! Broun, not present at the meeting, was told about the remark.

"Well," he said, "Roy will find out soon enough that this time I'm in for the duration."

The column in which Broun proposed the formation of a "newspaper writers' union" did not bring about Broun's dismissal, but it was the beginning of an activity which had much to do with the refusal of the Scripps-Howard organization to renew the contract which expired shortly before Broun's death.

LEFT SCRIPPS-HOWARD

Genially, Broun bade farewell to the World-Telegram in his column of Dec. 14. He went to the New York Post. His first column for that paper appeared the next day. This was his last. Death came on Dec. 18.

Only once did Broun give vent to his deep feeling over the part he had in creating the American Newspaper Guild. This was in a column he wrote for the New Republic in August, 1938, in answer to one of the periodical attacks his fellow columnist, Westbrook Pegler made upon him. At that time Broun said:

PROUD OF GUILD

"I was one of the founders of the American Newspaper Guild and it is the only important work I ever did in my life. I am proud of the fact that I have been five times unanimously elected as president.

"That doesn't mean that I have made great sacrifices for the Guild, I haven't. In the last couple of years I have loafed shamefully. But once upon a time I worked hard on Guild business. Self interest actuated me. The Guild has given me more than I ever could give the Guild. When the Guild came along I was just a fat slob. Now I'm not all slob.

"I came into the newspaper business with a brass check in my hand . . . The Guild is making it possible for all of us to lift up our hands and show that we are no longer palming the base metal of prostitution."

'CITY AT HALF-STAFF'

A visitor to New York several days after Broun's death remarked that the "whole city was at half staff."

Seldom have expressions of grief over the death of a man come from so wide a cross-section of American life. Both publisher Roy Howard and President Carl Randau of the New York Guild named the American Newspaper Guild as Broun's "monument." In his radio broadcast, H. V. Kaltenborn said that "no individual ever did more to help run-of-the-mill reporters and editors. No one ever needed a labor union more than they did. Heywood Broun created it."

Their sense of personal loss was expressed by President and Mrs. Roosevelt, by members of the cabinet, and by John L. Lewis. Guild units, Guild locals and their leaders and union leaders outside the Guild sent condolences to the Broun family at ANG headquarters.

Thousands of persons from all walks of life attended the funeral in St. Patrick's Cathedral on New York's Fifth Avenue. John Brophy represented the National CIO at the services.

Heywood Broun In Action

DEATH OF PRES. HEYWOOD BROUN OF THE AMERICAN NEWSPAPER GUILD came as a shock to newsmen and unionists throughout the country. The writer-artist-playwright-labor leader is shown in the upper picture picketing, with Mrs. Broun at his side, the struck Hearst newspapers in Chicago, Lower photo shows him in conference with ANG Sec.-Treas. Victor Pasche (left) and Exec. Vice-Pres. Milton Kaufman after the Guild's convention in San Francisco last August.

Pres. Lewis, Guild Praise His Work

Washington, Dec. 23—CIO Pres. John L. Lewis sent the following message to Mrs. Heywood Broun:

"With millions of others, I am shocked to learn of the passing of your distinguished husband.

"For long years I have known him both as a co-worker in the labor movement and as a warm personal friend. Every American has been the beneficiary of Heywood Broun's mind and pen in his constructive contributions in the field of modern journalism and advanced social thought.

"Countless men and women throughout our country will mourn with you in his passing and cherish his memory.

"JOHN L. LEWIS"

New York, Dec. 23 — The following statement was issued by the American Newspaper Guild, CIO, on the death of Pres. Heywood Broun:

"The deep sense of loss experienced by the American Newspaper Guild in the death of President Heywood Broun unquestionably is shared by all the working press of America. As founder of the Guild, he made the largest single contribution to their welfare. He considered organization of newspapermen and women a natural climax and enduring expression of his lifelong fight for liberalism in America.

"His genuine affection for everybody who worked for a living in the newspaper industry made him a real and personal friend to even those Guildsmen who never enjoyed the pleasure of meeting him.

NATURAL LEADER

"Endowed with a talent that overshadowed others and enriched with a background of experience that included exploitation of that talent before he achieved recognition, he became the natural leader of a movement designed to put an end to exploitation.

". . . Heywood Broun led the American Newspaper Guild on a progressive march. The test of the greatness of his leadership lay in his stimulation of leadership in others so that what he founded might endure.

"He had great meaning to the entire labor movement and both in and out of the Guild he was a forceful advocate of union organization. His death leaves a great void in the progressive life of America."

Lumbermen Re-Elect Officials

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 23 — All officers of the CIO Intl. Woodworkers of America have been re-elected to office, the union announced.

The trio of officials who were retained by the membership are Pres. Harold J. Pritchett, Vice-Pres. O. M. Orton and Sec.-Treas. Bertel J. McCarty.

Hearst Strikers Fight New Thuggery

CHICAGO, Dec. 23 — Striking Hearst newspapermen are pressing contempt of court proceedings against the millionaire publisher, charging that his goons have violated an injunction prohibiting the use of violence against the strikers.

Eighteen attacks upon strikers within the past two weeks brought this new move by the Chicago Newspaper Guild in the year-old struggled for job security on the Herald-American here.

The new outburst of Hearst terrorism included the attempted murder of a driver of the Guild's sound truck. A car full of gunmen curbed the Guild's machine and opened fire on it. A bullet struck the car door, just a half inch below the window glass.

Guildsmen are now offering rewards totalling $1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the persons responsible for the violence.

The Hearst paper is still losing advertising, both compared with a year ago and with the other papers in Chicago.

Greek Fur Workers Call Walkout

New York, Dec. 23 — Workers in 20 fur shops of the United Greek Manufacturers Association have gone on strike to win union contracts, Greek Local 70 of the Furriers Joint Council announced this week. The Local is affiliated with the Intl. Fur & Leather Workers, CIO.

The strike began last month when four shops walked out November 17, followed before the month was out by 14 others. Breakdown of prolonged negotiations with the employers who refused to sign a contract with the Local precipitated the strike.

FOUGHT UNION

The union charges that the Association members broke the terms of the agreement settling the 1938 general strike, and tried, unsuccessfully, to get an injunction aginst Local 70 and the Joint Council.

"Members of the United Greek Manufacturers Association believed they could operate open shops right in the fur market in defiance of Local 70, the Joint Council and of the established union standards in the trade," a statement issued by the union declared.

CIO Drafts Program to Save Workers' Rights from Attacks

Labor Spying Booms In Cleveland

By TED COX

Cleveland, Dec. 23 — Big shot Cleveland industrialists, bankers and newspaper editors have brought together their enormous financial resources and enlisted government representatives to organize a widespread spy system against Cleveland working people.

They have reorganized labor spying in the city. Private labor spy systems were almost completely outlawed following the exposures by the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee, but today thousand of dollars are again being poured into a system whereby industrialists may spy on the ordinary citizen who work for a living.

In addition to the large scale financing of this spy plot, the suburban financial and industrial bosses acquired the services of both city and federal authorities.

FOMENT PLOT

Industrialists are paying 25c. per head on each employe to hire stoolpigeons to watch, spy on and try to frighten the workers.

Reports indicate that bosses and stools are fomenting "sabotage plots" to frame ordinary workers and justify the spy system in the eyes of the public.

The plot seems to be part of a new, streamlined plan to wreck wages, working conditions and industrial democracy as established by unions. The war situation-although the United States is not engaged in war and American people are determined to oppose war campaigns—is used as an excuse for this attack and workers and their organizations.

Police have made demands upon at least two high union officials for the names and addresses of all union leaders in Cleveland, giving rise to speculation that they may plan to raid homes if the anti-labor drive actually reaches the stage of public hysteria as it did in the days of the Palmer raids.

These facts and conclusions were listed by union leaders today as they continued their fight to defend the civil liberties of working people in Cleveland.

UNION DEMANDS

The fight of union leaders for preservation of civil liberties included:

Demands by A. E. Stevenson, secretary of the Cleveland Industrial Union Council, that Mayor Harold H. Burton dismiss Safety Director Eliot Ness for his participation in the secret, anti-labor action.

Preparation for the calling of a civil liberties conference.

Not until the CIO had exposed the plan did any government official or metropolitan daily newspaper admit that such a campaign was being conducted.

Construction Pact In W. Va.

Fairmont, W. Va., Dec. 23—The United Construction Workers Organizing Committee has signed its second big contract.

Bricklayers here won wage increases ranging from 11% to 17% in an agreement signed with the Hammond Fire Brick Co.

Other parts of the contract provide for the 8-hour day, time-and-a-half overtime, seniority and the check-off.

Improve Compensation Plans, Lewis Urges

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23. — Charging that unemployment compensation schemes in the various states are beset by "complications, restrictions and dangers now threatening to wreck" them, CIO Pres. Lewis today called upon Sec. of Labor Frances Perkins for a "thorough and impartial investigation of the whole problem."

The letter, following shortly after release of the CIO's legislative program—which demanded improvement and simplification of the unemployment compensation set-up — asserted that absence of federal compensation standards has resulted in confusion among the various states.

"The 48 state systems are unduly complicated; the amount and duration of benefits are inadequate; disqualification penalties are severe; and the restrictions on eligiblity and coverage deprive large numbers of workers of much needed protection," Lewis wrote to Miss Perkins.

TWO DANGERS

Two dangers threaten the systems, he continued, as a result of the fact that the money collected in unemployment compensation taxes is higher than the amount paid. First, consumer purchasing power is lowered, and secondly, "employer groups are trying to secure lower taxes and all kinds of tax rebate schemes."

In asking for the investigation, Lewis suggested that Miss Perkins, as head of the President's Committee on Economic Security, "call upon representatives of employers and organized labor to present their views while, at the same time, the Social Security Board and other experts provide the committee with necessary technical data.

"On the basis of such procedure," Lewis concluded, "it may well be possible to find a solution for the complications, restrictions and dangers now threatening to wreck the unemployment compensation system."

Provide Work for All, Rhode Island CIO Plea

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Dec. 23.—Protection of the civil rights of America's workers and plans for getting the country's nine million unemployed back to work were urged in resolutions passed at the second annual convention of the Rhode Island CIO Industrial Union Council held here in the Swedish Workingmen's hall. More than 100 delegates attended.

WIDMAN SPEAKS

Michael F. Widman, assistant national director of the organization for the CIO, suggested in his address to the delegates that pressure be brought upon Congress to take steps toward settling "America's No. 1 problem", unemployment.

Warning that the forces which opposed the passing of the Wagner Labor Act and the Wage-Hour Act are still at work, Widman said that these two laws have helped the general labor situation more than any others ever passed.

TELLS OF GAINS

Joseph Mayo, CIO director for Rhode Island, told of the great strides made by the CIO in the state since the last convention. "We believe that workers are going to recognize still more fully that CIO offers the modern type of industrial uuionism that is necessary to bargain collectively in the present industrial scheme of things."

The Rev. Vincent C. Dore of Providence College, who delivered the invocation and the opening address at the convention expressed the hope that every eligible worker in the nation "may be convinced that he should become a member of a union or congress whose purpose it is to work for social justice."

EXPLAINS BUILDING DRIVE

Gardner Wales of Washington, comptroller of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, explained the new CIO drive in the construction industry. "One of the many myths about labor in this country is the impression that building trades workers are all organized and getting high wages," he said

RE-ELECT PRESIDENT

At a business meeting held earlier during the convention, Adelard Gingras was re-elected president of the Rhode Island CIO Council, and Anne Marsoli was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

Resolutions were passed by the convention condemning the Dies Committee; calling upon all U. S. representatives to do all in their power to keep America out of the war and asking for the establishment of a "Baby Wagner Act" for Rhode Island to protect workers not convered by the national act.

The convention also voted to ask for extension of the Food Stamp plan in this area, and went on record in favor of patronizing products bearing the union label.

Legislative Program In Leaflet

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23—Leaflets carrying the full text of the CIO legislative program will be available shortly.

Unions desiring to place bulk orders should communicate with the CIO Publicity Department, 1106 Connecticut Ave. N. W., Washington, D. C.

Face Problems of Day, CIO Asks Congress

(Full text of CIO Legislative Program on Page 6)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23—The main duty of Congress is "to formulate a constructive program which will meet the economic and social problems that confront us today" John L. Lewis, CIO president, declared in announcing the CIO legislative program for the coming regular session of Congress here.

The program is based on four main points: keeping America out of the European war, a solution of the unemployment problem, protection for civil liberties, preservation and extension of the right to organize and bargain collectively.

The program was drawn up by the CIO Legislative Committee, meeting in Washington. The committee is composed of Jon L. Lewis, chairman; Philip Murray, Sidney Hillman, Sherman H. Dalrymple, Emil Rieve, Reid Robinson, R. J. Thomas, James B. Carey and Lee Pressman, secretary.

NO RETREAT

"The people of this country," the program says, "whenever the occasion has presented itself, have strongly and pointedly demonstrated their desire to continue and extend the gains and benefits of the social legislation enacted during the past few years. There can be no retreat now, rather there must be a forward march to extend the social and economic program of the nation."

The people of Europe, and especially the workers, have seen their rights and their social gains destroyed by the convulsions of war —and U. S. involvement will bring "a complete blackout of all democratic American institutions" to this country, the program says. Congress "must not permit any policy to be adopted which may in any way lead toward the involvement of the U. S. in foreign wars, for peace must be preserved for the people of the United States," it continues.

No. 1 PROBLEM

Already the "time and energy of our government representatives during the past few months have been devoted almost exclusively to international affairs at the expense of the interests and needs of the American people," it points out, in demanding a resolute attack on a series of pressing domestic problems.

Chief of these, the program declares, is unemployment — still the nation's No. 1 unsolved question. An immediate conference of leaders of government, labor, agriculture and industry is the first step toward a solution, the CIO points out, and pending that a minimum of 3,000,000 public project jobs, plus funds to take care of all unemployed youth out of school, is needed.

"People cannot and must not be permitted to starve," the program says, in calling for government sponsored work at decent wages and for an end to degrading means tests and the slow starvation policy of work rotation.

WORKERS' RIGHTS

It urges amendments to the National Labor Relations Act to provide criminal penalties for violators such as are provided in the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Railway Labor Act, to prevent violators from securing government contracts, and to prevent the National Labor Relations Board from "carving up any industrial units established by the industrial unions of the CIO."

The CIO has consistently defended the Act from anti-labor industrialists and AFL leaders, the program points out, and the proposed changes will help "to

Continued on Page Five

Aircraft Firm Signs With CIO

Long Island City, N. Y., Dec. 23 — (FP) — A new union shop contract providing 5c hourly wage increases has been signed between the United Automobile Workers and the Brewster Aeronautical Corp., covering about 1,000 workers.

Other provisions include readjustment of inequalities in the wage scale, paid vacations and arbitration machinery. The new hourly minimum scale for unskilled workers is 50c.

The UAW is carrying on its organizational campaign in the aircraft industry here with a drive to unionize the big Seversky plant, which employs about 8,000 workers.

Settle West Coast Wire Strike

San Francisco, Dec. 23—Settlement of the CIO American Communications Assn. strike at Western Union here, longest in the history of the telegraph industry, appeared certain as the strikers, out for close to four months, accepted U. S. Labor Secretary Perkins' proposals for a truce in the walkout.

Terms of the proposed settlement included re-employment of all strikers without discrimination by Western Union, immediate cessation of the strike, restoration of seniority and other job conditions, and a company pledge "to do nothing detrimental to the union" during the truce.

Union leaders here and in Washington described the acceptance of the Secretary's proposal's as a "major victory for the CIO and for the workers in the communications industry." Once again, they said, a giant monopoly in the industry had been forced to settle a dispute on terms favorable to the workers and to drop an anti-union campaign of more than 20 years' existence.

THE CIO NEWS

Published Weekly

Congress of Industrial Organizations

John L. Lewis ..... President

Vice-Presidents

Philip Murray — S. H. Dalrymple
Sidney Hillman — Reid Robinson
R. J. Thomas — Emil Rieve

James B. Carey ..... Secretary
Len De Caux ..... Editor and Publicity Director

Subscription Price ..... $1 a Year
Canadian Subscriptions, $1.50 a Year
Special rates for block subscriptions and bundle orders upon application

Publication Office: Room 400, 1512 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Editorial and General Office:
1106 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Vol. II — December 25, 1939 — No. 52

CIO's Legislative Program

"There can be no retreat now. Rather there must be a steady forward march to extend the social and economic program of the nation." This is the keynote of the legislative program recently announced by the CIO for the coming session of Congress.

The CIO repeats in emphatic and insistent terms the demand of labor that Congress adopt no policy which may in any way lead toward the involvement of the United States in foreign wars. It calls for the adoption of a constructive program to solve our own domestic problems.

The CIO program is a rallying cry to all progressives. The voice of arrogant reaction is heard on every hand, demanding surrender of recent gains in labor and social legislation. The weak-kneed may flinch before such threats. But progressive labor, which is the driving force of the whole liberal cause, will not hear of retreat. It calls for a determined advance.

The Wagner labor act, the social security act, the wage-hour act, public works programs and other similar legislation are steps in the right direction.

But they are still inadequate to meet the crying needs of the American people, in the face of continued mass unemployment and insecurity.

Unemployment still remains America's No. 1 problem, and an expanded public works and public housing program are urgently needed to put millions of Americans to socially useful work.

The Wagner act has not been fully enforced because it lacks penalties against violators and because law-breaking firms are still enjoying fat government contracts. It must be strengthened in these respects, and a halt must be put to the carving up of industrial unions.

The security act and other social legislation are still inadequate to provide real security to the aged and unemployed. They must be liberalized and expanded in scope.

The CIO demands that Congress devote its attention to meeting such burning needs of the American people at home, rather than to let its attention be distracted by foreign affairs.

Not only the members of the CIO but all public-spirited Americans will judge their representatives in Congress by the degree of support which they render to this constructive program.

Heywood Broun—Labor Leader

The death of Heywood Broun brings bitter personal sorrow to hosts of people who knew him as a great-hearted champion of the oppressed and an ardent crusader for economic justice and social progress.

Broun projected his personality into his writings to an unusual degree. So the millions who read what he wrote came to know him almost as well as his many personal friends. They knew him as a man who was generous to a fault, incapable of malice or pettiness, warm-hearted and impulsive, and ever-ready to battle for his beliefs.

But great as was Broun's contribution to American journalism, lovable as was his character and inspiring as was his humanitarianism, it is as a leader of labor that he will be chiefly enshrined in the memory of the membership of the CIO.

Wih all the literary achievements associated with his name, Broun himself was most proud of the great role he played in founding and leading the American Newspaper Guild.

As a labor leader, Broun was among the first to realize the significance of the CIO and he took the lead in aligning the Guild with this new progressive labor movement.

Broun disliked the term "white-collar worker" and used to kid about the state of his own collars disqualifying him for that appellation. But he disliked the term essentially because he saw so clearly the common interests of wage and salaried employes, and because he resented any language even that suggested division between them as common participants in the labor movement.

Broun's great contribution to labor was the part he played in organizing newspaper employes into a strong union; and in a wider sense, the part he played in developing the solidarity between "white-collar" and industrial workers which is so essential to a well-rounded and progressive labor movement.

The CIO deeply mourns the passing of this great writer, this great American and this pioneer labor leader. But it knows that through the Guild and through the whole CIO, his work for labor will long live after him.

Look to Your Own Back Yard

Looking Ahead

By LEN DE CAUX

Seeing The CIO

THE six blind men who felt different parts of the same elephant and gave six different versions as to what kind of creature it was, have many counterparts in the United States today.

The CIO has been a major factor in American life for four years now. Its program and its policies are matters of public record. Its activities have affected the day-to-day lives of millions of people, whose wages and conditions it has so greatly improved. Its solid achievements and constructive purposes are obvious to all who have eyes to see.

But it will be remembered that when the blind men stumbled on their elephant, one touched its trunk and said it was a snake; another grabbed its tail and was sure it was a rope; yet another bumped against the elephant's leg and declared it was a tree—and so on.

The blind men of the story, however, were not in a position to kid anyone but themselves as to nature of the elephant. But their modern counterparts in the U.S.A. today unfortunately are newspaper publishers, politicians, radio orators and other alleged authorities who have a near monopoly on the business of telling the public what is what.

These modern self-made blind men have been stumbling around the CIO for a long time now. Blinded by political prejudice or economic interest, they have picked on pieces of idle gossip, a half-truth here, an outright lie there, a false impression somewhere else. And from such "evidence" they have purveyed to the public a whole slew of the most wildly inaccurate and conflicting versions of what the CIO is and what it aims to do.

Look At The Facts

But anyone who wants to see the truth for himself, instead of relying on the crazy descriptions of the modern blind men, has only to look at the actual activities of the CIO unions in raising American living standards, and to study the public pronouncements of CIO's leaders and its conventions.

As an aid to such clearer vision, a reading of the recent CIO pamphlet, "Organize The Unorganized," is recommended. In this will be found a description of the achievements and aims of the CIO, as expressed in speeches of Pres. John L. Lewis and other outstanding leaders and in the reports and actions of the recent San Francisco convention.

A reading of the leaflet, "The CIO—An American Institution," is also recommended to anyone who wants the truth about the essentially American and democratic character of the progressive labor movement.

Labor's Political Aims

As for political aims of the CIO, the recently adopted legislative program of the organization will present a true picture which is in shining contrast to the pitiful pettiness of all the recent sniping against the CIO.

This program for economic betterment and expanding democracy is one which every public-spirited American can support. It calls upon Congress:

(1) To keep the United States out of war and to concentrate attention on "the interests and needs of the American people at home."

(2) To cope with America's No. 1 problem, unemployment, through adequate public works and careful planning by government, industrial, labor and agricultural leaders.

(3) To insure labor's democratic rights by strengthening the Wagner Act and legislating against oppressive labor practices.

(4) To defend the wage-hour law by defeating amendments which would restrict its application and destroy its benefits.

(5) To expand and liberalize the social security program to bring more real security to the aged and unemployed.

(6) To push public programs for health and industrial hygiene.

(7) To expand public housing programs and stimulate private residential construction.

(8) To adjust the burden of taxation, so that surplus and excess wealth may bear a fairer share, instead of labor and consumer groups having to carry the brunt, as at present.

None So Blind . . .

This legislative program, like all the other aims of the CIO, is moderate and practical in character; and constructive, democratic and socially progressive in purpose. It has the general welfare as much in mind as the particular economic interests of the labor group on whose behalf it is advanced.

But there are none so blind as those who won't see. And we should be over-optimistic to expect the tory "blind men," who seek to manufacture "public opinion" for private profit, to recognize the truth about the CIO which stares them in the face.

No great popular movement, however, has yet been killed by misrepresentation. And the CIO will continue to grow and flourish through the support of the millions who see things for themselves.

Face Problems of Day, CIO Asks Congress

Continued from Page Three

really obtain protection for CIO members and for the still unorganized workers" by removing present weaknesses and preventing distortions of the Act by the Board.

Further protection of workers' rights is provided in a demand for passage of the LaFollette-Thomas Oppressive Labor Practices bill, based on LaFollette Committee findings and endorsed by Pres. Lewis at the last regular session of Congress.

At the same time the CIO opposed amendments to the Wages and Hours Act as proposed by employers "using the guise of farmers" to exclude from the Act workers subject to the most severe exploitation.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Social security, the program says, must be based on "protection for the American people against the inevitable hazards of modern industrial life" and must increase consumer income by tapping "the excess wealth and income of the country." The present security act does not do this, and it must be "expanded, liberalized and simplified through Federal action."

This includes increases in unemployment compensation, in old age aid through the CIO program of $60 a month at 60 years of age, plus a national health program to provide medical care, disability benefits, and a concentrated attack on industrial health hazards.

HOUSING NEED

Housing needs, the program declares, are at a minimum of 1,000,000 units each year, of which government must provide at least 300,000 in order to stimulate private contractors to build the rest.

The final section of the program, dealing with taxation, points out that "The national economy can never be healthy until a real and substantial adjustment is made in our tax structure." Present taxes bear far too heavily on the workers and consumers, who provide 51.3 per cent of national revenue from already inadequate incomes, while the wealthy and the big corporations pay only 48 per cent.

The CIO tax program demands reductions in levies on lower income groups and sharp increases in the higher brackets, in assessments on estates, excess profits, and gifts.

CIO — UNION MADE
HOSIERY
FULL FASHIONED • SHEER
LISLES • RAYONS
Write: Adler's Hosiery
Room 505—799 Bdwy., N.Y.C.
DISCOUNT TO UNION MEMBERS

CORNELIUS PRINTING CO.

Printers for
INTERNATIONAL UNIONS
for more than 30 Years
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
SILVER SPRINGS, MD.

LARGEST PRODUCER OF ROUGH ROLLED GLASS
MISSISSIPPI
GLASS COMPANY
220 FIFTH AVE.
NEW YORK

UNION SHOP
PRINTING
FOR CIO UNIONS
MID-CITY PRESS
NEWSPAPERS — LEAFLETS
JOBWORK — PUBLISHING
N. E. Cor. 9th & Spruce Streets
Philadelphia, Pa.

U. S. to Set Up Army Kitchens In Ohio If Relief Fails, FDR Tells CIO State Head

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Pres. John Owens of the Ohio Industrial Union Council, CIO, declared after a half-hour appointment with Pres. Roosevelt today that the Chief Executive had promised to set up army kitchens in the Buckeye State to prevent starvation among the jobless.

Owens said the President outlined federal policy as aimed at prevention of starvation anywhere in the country, and to make work for those who can work. State and local communities must take responsibility for unemployables through adequate home relief programs.

JOHN OWENS

Ohio CIO leader reported on the state's relief crisis to Pres. Roosevelt.

UNDER WPA

The army kitchens would be under the control of WPA, Owens quoted the President as saying.

In a statement issued after his visit to the White House, Owens said he reported to Pres. Roosevelt "on the horror of unemployment in Ohio."

"Cleveland and Toledo are the most spectacular examples of Gov. John W. Bricker's inhumanity," Owens declared.

MONKEYS DO BETTER

"But the need for relief is as great and the suffering as severe in southeastern Ohio counties, where the monthly grant is less than the maintenance provided for monkeys in Ohio's municipal zoos.

"The unemployed in Ohio find no nourishment in the caustic remarks of Gov. Bricker. But the tons of food shipped into our state by the federal government through the Surplus Commodities Corp. are keeping away actual starvation for a few days more.

UNSOLVED PROBLEM

"Despite Gov. Bricker's statements to the contrary, I told the President the relief problem in Ohio is not solved.

"Bricker has not learned that the rich cannot survive if the poor do not eat. Neither has he learned that government exists to enable men to live in orderly association with each other.

"It is the responsibility of the Ohio state government to provide relief for those who are unemployed through no fault of their own."

Crawford Signs Again

New York, Dec. 23 — A two year agreement covering the general office and credit department of Crawford Clothes, Inc., was announced today by Local 16, United Office & Professional Workers.

Four New Pamphlets Discuss Organizing, Jobs and War

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23—Four new CIO pamphlets have just come off the press, dealing with major programs of the CIO, with its achievements and policies as recorded at the second CIO convention, with issues of importance in our social and economic framework. Four more are in preparation.

Of the four just released, three—"Organize the Unorganized," "The CIO—an American Institution," and "The CIO and the War"—are based on speeches, reports and actions of the CIO convention and the fourth, "Shortage of Labor?" debunks current Chamber of Commerce claims that employers can't find workers for waiting jobs.

The four in preparation deal with the CIO legislative program for the coming session of Congress, (see text, page 5) with the nation's No. 1 problem, unemployment, with the CIO program of social security, and with workers' rights to free speech and free assembly.

"ORGANIZE"

"Organize the Unorganized," is an illustrated pamphlet dealing with the basic aim of the CIO, reaffirmed by the CIO convention and made the keynote of all main speeches and reports at that time. This basic slogan was given in the convention resolution which declared:

"The primary purpose of the CIO during the months and years immediately before us, as in the past, must be the advancement of the basic task for which the CIO was created and to which it is dedicated, the organizng of the unorganized millions of American workers on an industrial basis."

This primary purpose, reinforced by quotations from Pres. Lewis' report, from his keynote convention speech, from his acceptance speech, and from the concluding address, runs the entire pamphlet. Together with the record of achievement of the CIO, it is also the theme of quotations from Philip Murray, who tells of the achievements of the CIO in steel, of R. J. Thomas, head of the Automobile Workers, Van A. Bittner, chairman, Packinghouse Workers, Emil Rieve, president, Textile Workers and Reid Robinson, president, Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers.

NO WAR OR PART OF WAR

"Labor in America wants no war nor any part of war," John L. Lewis declared to the nation in his Labor Day broadcast last September, and the CIO convention, passing on this crucial world issue, reaffirmed his statement in resolutions and speeches reprinted in the second of the new series, "The CIO and the War."

"Labor has a major stake in this problem," Lewis said. "In war labor must perform most of the work and do most of the dying. Upon labor is always inflicted most of the agony and tragedy of war."

The pamphlet reprints five basic policy points from Lewis' report to the convention, listing them as emphatic opposition to U. S. involvement, no decrease in real wages or living standards during "war emergency," safeguards for labor's rights, including adequate labor voice on government agencies, and a warning that "preoccupation with foreign affairs must not be allowed to detract attention from unemployment and other pressing problems of internal economic insecurity."

DEBUNKING THE TORIES

"Shortage of Labor?" a leaflet, after debunking propoganda put out by enemies of relief and WPA, points out that no possible shortage exists or can exist while the nation has 9,500,000 able workers without jobs and reminds readers that relief jobs are still essential to keep starvation away from millions of American families.

The leaflet is in answer to a flood of employer inspired phony statistics put out to show that the government can forget all about the unemployed, since in theory they don't exist. Incidentally, it uses government sources to refute the wishful thinking of the reactionaries.

FROM AMERICAN SOIL

"The CIO — an American Institution," uses quotations from convention speeches by Lewis and Van A. Bittner to disprove—again—the old lie that the CIO is un-American. As Pres. Lewis said in his concluding speech at San Francisco, the CIO is:

". . . an American organization, and our people are interested in American problems . . . motivated by American principles, and they derive their inspiration from American soil and American institutions. . .

"Those who say to the contrary are falsifiers and defamers, and the truth lies not in them."

* * *

"Organize the Unorganized," illustrated pamphlet, 48 pp. 10 for 45c; 100 for $4; 500 for $14.

"The CIO and the War," illustrated pamphlet, 24 pp. 100 for $2.50; 500 for $8.50.

"Shortage of Labor?" leaflet, 4 pp. 100 for 45c; 500 for $2 ;1,000 for $3.75.

"The CIO—an American Institution," leaflet, 4 pp. 40c. per 100; $3.75 per 1,000.

These publications can be obtained from the CIO Publicity Department, 1106 Connecticut Ave., NW, Washington, D. C. Pamphlets in preparation will be reviewed when issued.

Plan Council In Carolinas; Meet Feb. 3

Greensboro, N. C., Dec. 23 — Delegates from North Carolina's CIO unions will get together at High Point on Feb. 3-4 to form a state industrial union council.

At a meeting of union representatives here, definite plans were made for formation of the council, E. L. Sandefur of Winston-Salem, CIO regional director announced.

Clerks Quit AFL, Join CIO

Los Angeles, Dec. 23 — Another AFL retail clerks local has joined the swing to the CIO United Retail & Wholesale Employes.

Disgust with the activities of J. W. Buzzell, czar of the AFL city body, and with C. E. Varner, international representative of the AFL retail clerks union was cited as reason for the change by Clothing & Haberdashery Salesmen's Union local officials.

More than 100 clothing salesmen working in 19 credit stores here are affected by the change.

Steel Union Gets Pact

Duluth, Minn., Dec. 23 — A contract signed with the Cooler-ator Company, manufacturers of ice boxes, is announced by Henry A. Burkhammer, district director of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee. The agreement which provides for pay increases and morning and afternoon rest periods, was negotiated by SWOC Lodge 1096.

A news item in last week's CIO NEWS, reported in error that Lodge 1096 was affiliated to the United Electrical Radio & Machine Workers. The union concerned is the Steel Workers Organizing Committee.

SHORTER HOURS

Flint, Mich.—A closed shop contract has been won by the United Dairy Workers, CIO affiliate.

CIO's 1940 Legislative Program For Jobs, Security and Peace

This is the full text of the legislative program adopted by the CIO Legislative Committee at its meeting in Washington on Dec. 15, 1939. Members of the committee are Pres. John L. Lewis, Philip Murray, Sidney Hillman, R. J. Thomas, S. H. Dalrymple, Reid Robinson, Emil Rieve, James Carey and Lee Pressman, secretary.

Within a few weeks the Congress of the United States will convene in Washington for a regular session. It is of the utmost importance that this Congress formulate a constructive domestic program which will meet the economic and social problems which confront us today. The people of this country, whenever the occasion has presented itself, have strongly and pointedly demonstrated their desire to continue and extend the gains and benefits of the social legislation enacted during the past few years. There can be no retreat now, rather there must be a steady forward march to extend the social and economic program of the nation.

At the present time, the nations in Europe and Asia are convulsed by international warfare. Democratic institutions and civil liberties in those nations have been abolished. Labor in those countries has been compelled to carry the brunt of the wartime burdens; unions there are facing virtual extinction. Unfortunately, the time and energy of our own Government representatives during the past few months have been devoted almost exclusively to international affairs at the expense of the interests and needs of the American people at home.

JOBS—No. 1 PROBLEM

Today the American problem No. 1 is still the problem of the 9 to 10 million employable men and women who are without jobs in private industry. In spite of a most extensive acceleration of business activity during the past few months, the huge number of unemployed remains undiminished. These millions of unemployed men and women are ready subjects to the wiles of the demagogues who actually desire to undermine and destroy our democratic institutions.

The CIO urges for the serious consideration by the Federal Congress a legislative program based upon certain fundamental objectives, (1) the United States must keep out of any involvement in the foreign wars; (2) the attention of this country and the energies of our Government, industrial and labor leaders of this country, must be directed toward the immediate solving of the problem of unemployment; (3) the democratic rights and institutions of this country must be preserved and maintained; and (4) there must be continued assurance and protection of the rights of labor to organize and bargain collectively as the cornerstone for the preservation and extension of any economic and social program.

To this end the CIO urges the adoption of the following legislative program:

I – War

The United States must not become involved in the foreign wars.

There can be no justification for the United States being dragged into the quarrels of foreign nations. It has become clear that if the United States permits itself to become engaged in the wars of Europe and Asia there will be a complete blackout of all democratic American institutions. The people of this nation are united in their determination that we are not to have any part of the foreign conflicts.

Congress must not permit any policy to be adopted which may in any way lead toward the involvement of the United States in the foreign wars, for peace must be preserved for the people of the United States.

II – Unemployment

The problem of unemployment is with us today with the same intensity as a few years ago. During the past few months we have witnessed an amazing acceleration of industrial activity but today, in spite of that, there are at least 9½ million employable men and women who are still without jobs in private industry. At best not more than a million of these workers could be re-employed within the next year.

There cannot be any permanent prosperity or industrial peace in this nation as long as we have staring us in the face the misery and suffering of 9½ million unemployed people. The problem of unemployment must be still considered as our American problem No. 1.

URGE CONFERENCE

No group in this nation is in the position today of presenting any single formula for the solution of the ills arising out of unemployment. For this reason we recommend that the President of the United States immediately convene a conference of the responsible leaders from the Government, industry, labor and agriculture, who should be commandeered by the Government to work at this problem until some concrete plans have been formulated to solve America's problem No. 1.

Pending such conference and solution it is clear that a large portion of the unemployed must be employed on public works until they can be absorbed into private industry. The absolute minimum for a public works program right now is to furnish three million jobs. People cannot and must not be permitted to starve. Congress must appropriate sufficient funds to afford jobs for at least three million men and women. Persons on the work program should not be subject to the means test or to the rotation of work. The wages to be paid should be such that the American standards of living and the union wage structure will not be undermined.

NATION'S YOUTH PROBLEM

At least 4,000,000 of the unemployed are young men and women between the ages of 15 and 25. Their continued unemployment and inability to afford schooling constitutes a special unemployment problem. In their welfare and morale is involved the future of the nation. In addition to the establishment of a general program of public works there must be established a work program for such young men and women.

Such a program should be constituted of projects which contribute both to the needs of youth and to the public welfare. The program should be sufficient to employ all young people who are out of work and out of school. A substantial increase in the NYA appropriation for the next year is essential.

III – Wagner Act

The enactment of the National Labor Relations Act by Congress constituted one of the greatest achievements for organized labor. The powerful financial and industrial anti-labor leaders of the country have not slackened for a single moment since the enactment of this Act, in their attempt to repeal or emasculate its provisions. At the last session of Congress, leaders of the American Federation of Labor joined in this attempt. The CIO was successful in staving off this attack.

Unfortunately, two serious difficulties have arisen in the administration of the Act which have frustrated to some extent the efforts of organized labor to achieve the protection to which it is entitled under the Wagner Act. In the first place, the enforcement provisions of the Labor Act are not sufficiently severe to actually obtain enforcement from those corporations which are still determined to violate the rights of labor.

In the second place, the National Labor Relations Board, in an attempt to appease the reactionary interests, including the leaders of the American Federation of Labor, has issued decisions which have threatened the existence of the industrial unions of the CIO by carving out crafts in industrial plants organized by the CIO.

THREE AMENDMENTS

The CIO will endeavor to really obtain protection for its members and for the still unorganized workers by urging the following three amendments to the National Labor Relations Act:

1. A provision which will provide for criminal penalties to be imposed upon any employer found to have violated any of the provisions of the National Labor Relations Act. This will bring the National Labor Relations Act into line with the provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Railway Labor Act, violation of which permits the imposition of criminal penalties.

2. A provision which will prevent the Government from awarding any Government contracts to any employer found to have violated the National Labor Relations Act. At the present time the most reactionary and vicious anti-labor corporations such as Bethlehem Steel, Douglas Aircraft, and Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, are the most frequent beneficiaries of Government contracts while they are actually violating the labor law of the land.

3. A provision which will prevent the National Labor Relations Board from carving up any industrial units established by the industrial unions of the CIO.

This amendment will actually protect the present basic policy of the Wagner Act which is to further collective bargaining through the equalization of the economic bargaining strength of labor with that already enjoyed by the employers. Such equality can only be accomplished through the establishment of large powerful industrial unions. This purpose is negated by decisions of the Board which attempt to carve out craft units within the industrial union organizations.

ANTI-SPY BILL

The LaFollette-Thomas Oppressive Labor Practices Act, which will definitely outlaw the use of industrial spies and the purchase of munitions by private corporations, must be enacted at this coming session of Congress. Labor is fully justified in demanding protection against these abominable corporate practices which have been so universally used by the anti-labor corporations. No reasonable argument has ever been offered by anyone against the enactment of this legislation.

IV – Wage-Hour Act

The Fair Labor Standards Act is threatened with amendments which are actually intended to destroy the legislation. The minimum wage established under the Act which will only reach the sum of 40c an hour seven years after the passage of the Act and the maximum hour provisions which will only be reduced to 40 hours per week after two years, cannot be fairly called arbitrary burdens upon industry.

The CIO calls upon Congress not to pass any amendments to this legislation at the present time. These amendments are sponsored by the large processors of agricultural commodities who are merely using the guise of farmers to exclude from the Act industrial workers who are subject to the most severe exploitation. On the contrary, larger appropriations for administrative expenses must be made by Congress in order to achieve real enforcement of the provisions of the Act.

Rather than exclude from the Act employes now covered, as the present amendments intend to do, Congress should, after the Act has had a chance to operate, extend the benefits of the legislation to the millions of workers who are still deprived of its protection.

V – Social Security

The CIO program for social security dealing with old age, unemployment compensation and health is based upon the fundamental premise that any sound social security system must both provide protection for the American people against the inevitable hazards of modern industrial life and increase the national consumer income by defraying the costs of these services out of the excess wealth and income of the country.

It is imperative that the social security program relating to old age and unemployment compensation be expanded, simplified and liberalized through federal action.

The CIO Old Age Pension Program calls for pension payments of $60 per month at the age of 60, and an additional allowance of $30 to aged wives. The necessity for this program rises out of the inadequacies of the present system. Despite the considerable publicity that has been given to the federal old age insurance plan, the best estimates indicate that during the next year benefits will probably average around $15 a month and that during the next five years will range between only $15 and $25 per month at the most. What is worse is that only a small percentage of our aged people will be entitled to even these sums.

In the year 1940 it is estimated that only $75,000,000 will be paid out to about 400,000 individuals, including widows, dependent children and aged workers 65 or over. There are whole groups of individuals including farm workers and farmers, domestic servants, and small storekeepers and professional people who get no protection at all. And large numbers of workers theoretically covered by the law will never be able to qualify.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

The absence of definitive federal standards has resulted in a condition of chaos among the state unemployment compensation laws, and a complicated system with narrow coverage which includes high eligibility conditions, severe disqualifying clauses, small benefits and interminable red tape. In addition, employer schemes of merit or experience rating for tax rebates threaten to wreck the entire system.

Further standards must be placed in the federal law as conditions with which the states must comply in order to get the federal subsidies for their administrative expenses. The federal standards must simplify and liberalize the benefits paid, reduce the eligibility conditions, eliminate penalizing disqualfications and extend the coverage of the law. The threat of tax rebate schemes through merit or experience rating for employers must be removed.

(Continued on Next Page)

NLRB Probers Dish Up Dozen Duds

By HENRY C. FLEISHER

Washington, Dec. 23—The Smith Committee looking into National Labor Relations Board activities was in recess today until Jan. 5, while its corporation-lawyer general counsel, Edmund Toland, pawed through more of the Board's files in search of fodder for the nation's newspaper headlines.

Though Toland had arranged for two "sensations" daily — in time for afternoon and morning newspaper deadlines — the mass of evidence against the NLRB and its employes appeared today to have a cream puff consistency.

WANT AMENDMENTS

Equally obvious, however, was the fact that Chairman Howard Smith, lanky Virginian reactionary, and two of his colleagues on the committee, are already "satisfied" that the Wagner Act needs amendments. In a radio speech this week, Rep. Smith plumped for the 1936 program of the Natl. Association of Manufacturers and the Republican party — that workers should be free from coercion 'either from their employers or from any other source." During the 1936 campaign, it was pointed out that "any other source" would obviously be union organizers going about their business.

In the same speech, Smith indicated his fundamental hostility to the Wagner Act, claiming there is "widespread opinion, prevalent throughout the country, that the National Labor Relations Act, drafted, designed and adopted by Congress to free American labor, is being used to impose additional and heavier shackles upon the laboring man."

The committee, Smith announced, will hold hearings in Detroit some time next month.

MURDOCK ALERT

With Smith and his two Republican committee members and Toland in this mood of hostility to the Board and the Wagner Act, the hearings were prevented from becoming an out-an-out inquisition only through the activities of the committee's two New Deal members, Rep. Abe Murdock of Utah and Rep. Arthur Healey of Massachusetts.

Time and again Murdock brought Toland down to earth with his demands for a complete presentation of the issues involved, rather than the Coney Island mirror effects which the committee lawyer constantly seeks to produce.

5 CHARGES

Sifted out, the Toland's charges against the Board during the second half of the seven days of hearing, amounted to this:

1. That the independent union of NLRB employes is "company-dominated" — a point buttressed by no facts and quickly dropped.

2. That in the autumn of 1936, Board Member Edwin S. Smith had called to the attention of a Boston department store executive a union dispute with the Berkshire Knitting Mills. Smith denied he was aiding a boycott, explained that he hoped influence might be used to prevent a strike situation from developing.

3. That the NLRB had discharged James Miller, regional director in Cleveland, shortly after he attended a private banquet in New York as a guest of a corporation lawyer handling cases before the Board. Miller, now a "$150-a-day labor relations consultant" for Cleveland employers, admitted that his host had paid out the money for his transportation to New York, but claimed that he had later been reimbursed.

'SLEUTH': Rep. Howard Smith, head of the committee investigating the Natl. Labor Relations Board.

4. That Cincinnati regional director Phillip Phillips—a garrulous witness and, as the NLRB files seemed to indicate, an indefatigable if erroneous memorandum writer—believes the Wagner Act applies as much to Communists as to workers of any other political persuasion. That concept, contained in the Constitution, caused a flurry among the conservative committee members and sent the telegraph boys bustling off with more copy for the afternoon papers.

CONFERRED WITH SWOC

5. That Nathan Witt, NLRB secretary, conferred with Philip Murray, chairman of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, and Lee Pressman, SWOC general counsel, during the Little Steel strike of 1937, over methods of preparing for Labor Board cases against the struck firm.

Toland, veteran of many years practice before government agencies, held his tongue far up in the cheek as he dished up the story of the conference, a common procedure among all government administrative bodies.

Fuller Squashes Phony Tale About CIO 'Red Ties'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23—Efforts of Edmund Toland, Smith Committee attorney, to play up a supposed CIO "obligation to Communists" were quickly squelched here by Paul W. Fuller, CIO regional director in Cincinnati.

Fuller's wire was read into the record of the Labor Board investigation proceedings shortly after Toland had read a private memorandum from Philip Phillips, NLRB regional director in the Ohio city, alleging such a tie-up.

Fuller replied:

"The Cincinnati regional office of the CIO is willing at all times to bear full responsibility for any of its own actions and statements. We cannot, however, take responsibility for the prolific and melodramatic telegrams and letters of the local director of the Labor Board.

"Mr. Phillips' statement that we informed him that we had an obligation to Communists, is in line with many imaginary and garrulous remarks made by that gentleman.

"They are his responsibility, not ours. Only he can understand and explain them. Categorically we deny them. His statement is perfectly absurd. Nothing of this sort ever occurred."

Hail Action By Lehman

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 23 — "The best Christmas present that state civil service employes could have received" was the way District Pres. Mary McGorky of the State, County & Municipal Employes described Gov. Herbert Lehman's executive order guaranteeing collective bargaining rights to state employes.

"The efficiency of the state service is greatly enhanced by the maintenance of a just and friendly relationship between employes and administrative heads of the state," Gov. Lehman said.

CIO's Legislative Program

Continued from Preceding Page

SOCIAL SECURITY RESERVES

Both the federal old age insurance system and the unemployment compensation system at the present time are collecting more funds in taxes than are being paid out in benefits, thus piling up large reserves. As a result, there is a substantial withdrawal from consumer purchasing power.

Reactionary groups seek to use this excess reserve as an excuse for reducing taxes. The CIO demands that these reserves be used now to increase benefits and give the benefits to more people, in order to increase purchasing power and provide effective security to the American people.

VI – Health

The CIO national health program has four basic objectives:

1. The immediate construction of hospitals and clinics throughout the country subsidized through federal funds and under proper federal standards;

2. The expansion of the present public health services to take care of social diseases such as pneumonia, tuberculosis and syphillis;

3. The establishment of a system of medical care for the American people which would include medical care for all income groups, with free medical care to the low income groups, and cash benefits for temporary disability of workers, the funds to be derived from contributions from employers and from the government out of the general revenues.

The CIO is opposed to any scheme which would attempt to segregate the medical services available to the lower third of the population. A thoroughgoing scheme of medical care can more efficiently and more economically make adequate medical services available to the entire population including workers, farmers and professional people;

4. To carry out a needed program of industrial hygiene, the United States Department of Labor should be authorized to establish standards for the control and prevention of industrial diseases, requiring the elimination of industrial conditions which give rise to ill-health.

VII – Housing

The government should take steps at once to expand the construction of houses from the present low level of 450,000 per year to not less than 1,000,000 a year.

The U. S. Housing Authority programs should be enlarged from the present 50,000 homes a year to at least 300,000 a year which would involve the annual expenditure of approximately 30 million dollars. For this purpose Congress must adopt legislation far broader than that considered thus far, which provides for only 80,000 homes a year.

This program of government construction, designed for the lowest income groups, must continue to be the backbone of any national housing program. The lowest income groups are to be found not only in the cities, but in mill towns, mining towns, and in rural areas, and such changes should be made in the existing legislation as may be necessary to enable the program to reach these groups.

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING

Other steps should also be taken by the Government which will stimulate private residential construction to at least 700,000 dwellings a year against the present rate of less than 400,000. This is to be accomplished in part by the further lowering of private interest rates on construction loans and the extention of the repayment period for such loans through appropriate action by the Federal Housing Administration and the Federal Home Loan Bank Board.

These lines of action are necessary in order to provide housing for the middle income group below that now cared for by private industry, and above that cared for by the U. S. Housing Authority. In this middle income group fall the majority of the people of the country, including large numbers of CIO members.

A combined program of this kind will not only alleviate the existing housing shortage, but will provide extensive employment in both the construction industry and the building materials industries. About 750,000 construction workers would be employed in residential construction as against an estimated present employment on the site of 350,000.

Some 1,250,000 workers would be employed in the materials industries, as against a present estimate of 525,000 with the full realization of the program of 1,000,000 homes a year. About 2,000,000 would thus be employed in residential construction and related industries, as against much less than half that number at present.

VIII – Taxation

One of the changes that is most essential to the stabilization of our economy is a drastic revision of the tax structure. With the recent payroll and wage taxes for social security and the numerous sales taxes levied by States the proportion of governmental revenue derived by direct taxes upon wage earners has increased tremendously.

Of all the federal revenue collected in 1929, 30.2% came from taxes bearing primarily upon consumption such as excise taxes, customs, tobacco and liquor taxes, and 69.8% came from other taxes such as those on corporate incomes, incomes above $5,000 per year, estates and gifts. By 1938 the percentage of taxes based primarily upon consumption was 51.3% and the other taxes constituted only 48.7% of the total tax income. In other words, it is not business, but rather labor and consumer groups who are bearing the brunt of our increased expenditures for social welfare and national defense.

The national economy can never be healthy until a real and substantial adjustment is made in our tax structure.

TWO PRINCIPLES

There should be clearly established the principle that taxation must serve two fundamental purposes; first, to provide revenue, and second, to readjust the flow of national income to provide increased purchasing power for the great mass of people. Our present structure falls far short of carrying out these principles.

We are therefore determined that (1) there must not be any reason of taxes for the low income groups; on the contrary, the present tax burden upon the consumer groups and wage earners must be substantially reduced; (2) a far greater proportion of total tax revenue must be derived by tapping the large concentrations of income and savings through higher taxes.

The CIO tax program accordingly calls for such taxes as an excess profits tax to reach the swelling profits of industry resulting from increased industrial activity and war contracts, elimination of tax exemption for government securities, increased inheritance and gift taxes, and increased rates and elimination of loopholes in taxes upon upper bracket income.

Bare Associated Farmers' Violence

LaFollette Group Exposes War On Unions

By MIRIAM ALLEN DE FORD

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 23—Europe's western front is "all quiet" compared to California's sunny valleys, scenes of bitter strikes during the last few years, Senate Civil Liberties Committee investigators were learning today as hearings on Associated Farmers' activities went into its second week.

From a variety of witnesses who paraded before the hearing spotlight came these expressions of the philosophy of Associated Farmers and their allied "law enforcement" officers throughout the farm areas:

"There is no such thing as peaceful picketing."

"We are trying to break the picket line here by getting teamsters in this town riled up . . ."

"I arrested something like 60 men myself and of all of them, I only had to hit two or three."

PROBE STRIKES

Three typical agricultural strikes have so far been investigated by the LaFollette committee, and all show the same pattern of Associated Farmers cooperation with country sheriffs to deprive the workers of their civil rights and break strikes by sheer force.

First of the three incidents probed was the Earl Fruit Co. strike in Marysville earlier this year. Worker witnesses described being run out of the county.

From the company superintendent, Philip Newcomb, came admission that he pulled a shotgun on the strikers "because the sheriff was picking up only the ringleaders and I wanted all the picketing stopped."

"Sure, I hit them, but if they resisted being arrested," chimed in Deputy Sheriff Wilcoxen of Yuba county.

DESCRIBES VIOLENCE

W. M. Marvin, member of the CIO cannery workers union, gave this version of Newcomb's conduct:

"Newcomb got out of his coupe and started loading an automatic shotgun full of shells. He came down the highway to the picket line with Wilcoxen right behind him with a blackjack."

Newcomb told the pickets to drop their placards, Marvin continued, and then "he stuck the shotgun in my stomach and told me to drop my sign or he would kill me.

"I did and then Wilcoxen came up behind me and hit me with a blackjack. I fell down and he said, 'get up or I will beat you to death'."

Other victims of the deputy sheriff's club, it turned out, were a 60-year old striker and a cripple.

ILLEGAL RAID

Chief of Police LaFortune finished the Marysville narrative with a confession that he raided local CIO headquarters without a warrant "on complaint by a citizen that they were feeding and encouraging pickets." The complainant turned out, was "one of my own peace officers."

Next strike taken up was that of apricot pickets in Brentwood in 1934. Sheriff Miller, a self-styled "banker in souls", appeared at the hearing armed with a long statement, some movies which he was not allowed to show and a suitcase from which he dramatically pulled a workingman's outfit which he wore to interview all fruit pickers — who had no way of knowing that he was a county official.

Miller's schemes included a plan under which no one can pick fruit in Contra Costa county without a permit — no permits are allowed to get into the hands of "agitators" — and the use of labor spies, one of whom eventually became a disruptive head of a cannery local.

'CITIZENS COMMITTEE

Third episode of violence studied by the Committee was the 1937 Stockton cannery workers strike.

A "citizens' committee," it was proved, was organized by Associated Farmers, armed by Sheriff Odell with guns, tear and knockout gas purchased form Lake Erie Chemical Co., and ordered to attack AFL cannery workers even after the vigilante bosses knew the strike had been called off.

Indiana Dairy Signs With CIO

South Bend, Ind., Dec. 23—The Reliance Dairy Co., largest in this city, has signed its first agreement with the CIO, James Robb, CIO regional director, announced today.

The contract, negotiated by C. E. Whitman, CIO field representative, provides for a wage increase, vacations with pay and sole bargaining rights. Other dairies will soon be organized, Whitman predicted.

Reports

W. W. ALEXANDER, Farm Security Administrator, whose annual report calls for extension of FSA's program to aid nation's migratory farm workers.

Salesmen Get Closed Shop Pact

NEW YORK, Dec. 23—In marked contrast with the bitterness which existed at the end of a nine-month strike in 1938, friendly relations marked the signing of a closed shop agreement by the Collier Advertising Corp. and Local 906-B, United Retail & Wholesale Employes, CIO.

The pact, covering 411 newstand agents and assistants on the city's two privately owned subway systems, provided a 6-hour cut in the work week, pay increases ranging up to $4 a week, and war seniority provisions.

Steel Union Threatens To Cancel Contract; Cites Anti-Labor Plot

VERONA, Pa., Dec. 23—The Steel Workers Organizing Committee today served notice on the Ingalls Iron Workers here that its contract with the company will be cancelled if an executive of the firm does not stop attacking the CIO affiliate.

The SWOC letter, signed by Clinton Golden, eastern regional director, said the union had discovered that Donald Hershey, company manager, was attempting "to form an organization of employers in Pittsburgh and vicinity for the purpose of combatting the progress of the CIO in particular and trade unions generally . . ."

Golden made it clear that the SWOC has no objection to employers organizing for legitimate purposes, but added:

"We do challenge their right to organize for purposes of combatting the legitimate aims and aspirations of the labor movement.

"We particularly object when an executive of a corporation which is a party to a collective bargaining contract with the SWOC takes the initiative in forming such an unlawful and anti-social organization."

PLANS FAILED

The meeting at which Hershey tried to launch his anti-labor outfit was held at the William Penn Hotel on December 13. Many of the companies with whom the SWOC has contracts disclaimed all knowledge of the purpose of the meeting until they attended, refused to take part in the plan to fight the union, and so notified the SWOC office.

Demand U.S. Speed Housing Drive

By CECIL OWEN

Washington, Dec. 23 — Organization of construction workers on an industrial union basis was speeded this week with formation of a new CIO program to rehouse 1,000,000 families a year.

Pres. John L. Lewis' announcement of legislative plans placed housing high on the agenda of items to be sought in Congress. Such a program would mean about 2,000,000 jobs a year for workers in construction and allied industries.

Reorganization of the industry through bringing of the workers into industrial unions is an integral part of the CIO program for housing. Only by such a program can homes at low cost be provided for the millions of CIO members in urban and rural areas. Special need is pointed out in mining and textile towns.

TWO MILLION JOBS

Of the 2,000,000 jobs yearly that this expanded program would provide, it is estimated that 750,000 would be on the site of residential construction, and 1,250,000 off-site in the industries that supply materials for construction. Nearly all these industries are organized by the CIO.

Praise for the industrial union program of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee came this week to Chairman A. D. Lewis from a wide variety of sources in the construction industry itself.

Typical among favorable comments was the lead editorial in Engineering News Record, trade organ, which said:

"Now the establishment of a building industry union in the District of Columbia area and the attempt to organize on the same basis in New York City holds out a challenge to the established system. For clear perspective it should be kept in mind that industry or job organization is already practiced to some extent, as in compressed air work, and on some individual jobs where labor itself recognized that the craft differentiation was inefficient.

ATTACK CRAFT SYSTEM

"But a like conclusion applies to the organization set-up of many other construction jobs, where the craft system stands in the way of coordination and progress and is against the interests of the worker himself. Such conditions plainly favor the growth of an industry-union system."

Similar comments were made by other industry leaders in private correspondence with Chairman Lewis while the industry trade press generally showed keen interest in the plans of the UCWOC. All leading trade journals carried reports of UCWOC progress and the signing of the recent Washington contract.

A striking example of backward tactics of craft unions in the industry was brought to public attention in the nation's capitol when an AFL union plumber brought suit against his union to require it to let him work here. The plumber had come to Washington from the south and had been denied permission by the local union to go on a job here.

Describe Vigilantes' Terror

LAFOLLETTE COMMITTEE HEARD TALE OF WEST COAST TERROR from these three witnesses, members of the CIO's United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers. Left to right: W. H. Marvin, William Davis and Irvin Blackburn. Committee, working in San Francisco, has heard many witnesses link Associated Farmers, Inc., with violations of civil liberties.